

City of Newberg

City Council Meeting Minutes

August 18, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Rosacker at 6:01pm.

Present were: Councilor Mike McBride, Councilor Robyn Wheatley, Councilor Elise Yarnell-Hollamon, Councilor Peggy Kilburg, Mayor Bill Rosacker. Councilor Turgesen arrived at 6:07 pm during the City Manager's Report.

Excused Absence: Councilor Derek Carmon

City Manager's Report

City Manager Will Worthey gave a statistical report for the month of June.

Public Comments

Council received public comment from Casey Banks, Chair of the Affordable Housing Commission, in opposition to Council's decision to award Construction Excise Tax funds to the SPARK Newberg project. She shared several reasons why the commission felt the money should not have been awarded and asked council to reconsider awarding the funds.

Megan Markel, a member of the Affordable Housing Commission, spoke in support of Casey Bank's comments.

Councilor Yarnell-Hollamon asked if this can be added to a future agenda so that the legal team can give advice on this subject.

Mayor Rosacker answered in the affirmative.

Consent Calendar

A consent calendar was introduced including Resolution 2028-3985 authorizing the Police Department to purchase two new Chevy pickups for use in drove deployment.

Councilor Robyn Wheatley made a motion to approve the consent calendar. Councilor McBride seconded the motion.

Councilors McBride, Wheatley, Yarnell-Hollamon, Kilburg, Turgesen, and Mayor Rosacker voted yes.

Councilor Carmon was absent.

Jodi Court Street Art Project

A representative of the Jodi Court Street Art project presented on the progress of the project including a proposed design, timeline, materials that will be used and community support. Council spoke favorably of the project.

Council Liability Insurance Training

A representative from Brown and Brown insurance provided training on Council Liability Insurance, explaining that the city's policy under the Oregon Tort Claims Act covers council members for torts committed within the scope of their duties, with \$30 million aggregate and \$10 million per occurrence. Coverage is contingent on defining a member as acting within their official duties, and acting individually could void insurance. The Act limits recovery from public entities to \$855,000 for single incidents and \$1.7 million for multiple claims, increasing annually. Ethics complaints coverage is \$7,500 per official, capped at \$15,000 per year, requiring CIS notification within 30 days, cooperation, and a favorable complaint outcome. Recommendations included acting with a quorum, appointing spokespersons for specific topics, and exercising caution in public statements.

Nuisance Ordinance Change (NMC 8.15.150(1)(j))

Community Development Director Scot Siegel and Capital Engineering's Brian Kershaw presented a proposed change to the city's nuisance code regarding construction hours.

Currently, construction is only permitted from 7am to 7pm on weekdays. The police department has been receiving and approving requests for extended hours, typically for weekend work. Comparing Newberg's regulations with other communities showed Newberg was more restrictive, as other cities generally allow Saturday construction.

Staff recommended extending construction hours to include Saturdays and possibly limited hours on Sundays to help facilitate project completion and reduce the duration of construction impacts. Council members expressed support for the change, noting that most contractors operate on Saturdays regardless of the current restrictions.

Council reached consensus to direct staff to prepare an ordinance allowing construction on Saturdays beginning at 7am, with staff to return with the proposed ordinance at a future meeting.

Repealing Outdated Code

City Recorder Rachel Thomas presented three outdated code sections for consideration of repeal:

1. Cigarette vending machine regulations (not legal under state law)
2. Dance permit regulations, specifically the requirement that minors under 15 must have a parent or guardian physically present at public dances
3. Cable Communications Commission, which has been inactive for many years

The Council expressed support for repealing all three sections. Additionally, they indicated support for removing requirements for police security at dances. These changes will be brought back as ordinances at a future meeting.

LOC Voting Delegate Selection

The League of Oregon Cities requires the city to designate a voting delegate for their annual meeting. Mayor Rosacker will be attending the conference in person.

Councilor Yarnell-Hollamon moved to approve Mayor Rosacker to represent Newberg as the delegate for League of Oregon Cities annual conference with Elise Yarnell-Hollamon as the alternate to attend only if Mayor Rosacker is not attending. Mayor Rosacker seconded the motion.

Councilors McBride, Wheatley, Yarnell-Hollamon, Kilburg, Turgesen, and Mayor Rosacker voted yes.

Councilor Carmon was absent.

Adjournment

The City Council meeting was adjourned at 7:18pm.


Rachel Thomas, City Recorder

Attested By:


Bill Rosacker, Mayor