

THURSDAY, SEPTEMBER 24, 2026, 6:00 PM - CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF ROGUE RIVER, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

CALL TO ORDER The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Pam VanArsdale at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION Brian Bouteller with the Gospel Rescue Mission delivered the Invocation.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor VanArsdale led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

QUORUM **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Pam VanArsdale
City Councilor Sherrie Moss
City Councilor Grace Howell
City Councilor Mark Minegar
City Councilor Barb Hilty
City Councilor Barb Gregory
City Councilor Dee Copley

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT:

Paige Chick, Administrative Services Director

PRESS PRESENT:

Brian Mortensen with the Rogue River Press.

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

AGENDA ITEM 1 -

MOVED (HOWELL), SECONDED (GREGORY), AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF August 27th. All approved with a modification needed on Page 8: Hilty is correct instead of Gregory for invitations to Chamber of Commerce event.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations; Chamber of Commerce: City Councilor Barb Hilty reported that the October mixer is at Abby's Pizza.

Community Relations; Community Center: City Councilor Dee Copley reported that Community Center did not hold a meeting; there is no report.

Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon: City Administrator Ryan Nolan was not present to report to the Council.

Finance Committee: City Councilor Sherrie Moss reported that over the last 30-day period, the Finance Committee signed sixty-six checks and eight ACH transactions totaling over \$180,000 in disbursements.

Tree City Committee: City Councilor Dee Copley was absent from this meeting but reported the committee will meet again on October 8th.

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization: Mayor attended a brief meeting and reported that a project that will be subtracted, instead of added, to the 2027-2028 project list. Over \$670,000 for charging buses would be better used somewhere other than ports at the bus hub.

Planning Commission Liaison: City Councilor Barb Gregory reported that there was no meeting.

Rogue River School District: City Councilor Mark Minegar reported that the new Superintendent April Harrison is very engaged on the school campuses. 798 students last year, compared to this year's enrollment of 822 students. FFA has fifteen students going to competitions at \$1500 a person (this would be for National Convention). High School Homecoming is September 28th through October 2nd. The parade is scheduled for Friday, a bonfire on Wednesday. An RCC Family night was held; pickup at RRES was successful and they thanked the city for that.

Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation: Mayor Pam VanArsdale shared that a brief meeting was held and covered aligning RVACT protocol to better align with ODOT protocol.

Rogue Valley Council of Governments: Mayor reported a brief meeting held a presentation of a bike street map, based on MRMPO needs in Medford, but interestingly indicates which streets are safer and more frightening. A new Finance Director was hired at the COG, and a new bank account was authorized, with the possible intent of being able to transfer stock for proceeds to benefit Food and Friends.

Jackson County Fire District #1: Grace Howell reported that the RRFD held a regular meeting where they shared balanced finances and a large number of calls. Upcoming events for the district include Chief's candidate Meet and Greet (held last night); Captain test in November; Fire Test in December.

PUBLIC INPUT: Brian Bouteller approached the podium to say he was glad to have the opportunity to visit the council. He appreciates seeing volunteers in the community and named some of the places that he is involved in, especially in Grants Pass. Mr. Bouteller also offered to continue to be involved.

AGENDA ITEM 2 – Proclamation:

Mayor VanArsdale read a Proclamation extolling the benefit of Water Professionals and their benefit to communities. The first full week of October 2026 is the time to recognize and thank these people for their public service.

AGENDA ITEM 3 – Resolution R-1485-R, accepting the Financial Audit for Fiscal Year 2025, and a Corrective Action Plan to accompany it.

Paige Chick reported that the auditors and councilors (and staff) had all heard and discussed the issues that were found – however, a more formal action had been needed and that was what this resolution and Corrective Action Plan will accomplish. Paige described the practical actions that have already been taken (Cash Receipt categories, new worksheets, quarterly Accounts Payable balancing, and real-time feedback at this Fiscal Year Ending and Audit) and described the manual nature of Accounts Receivable at Fiscal Year End, which complicates the year end closing.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (HOWELL)

ROLL CALL VOTE

HOWELL-YES

MOSS-YES

GREGORY-YES OF COURSE

HILTY-YES

MINEGAR-YES

COPLEY-YES AND CARRIED TO APPROVE.

AGENDA ITEM 4 – Resolution R-1486-R, indicating delegates for the League of Oregon Cities regular meeting.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (HOWELL) TO APPROVE PAM VANARSDALE
AND ALTERNATE BARB HILTY

ALL AYES, NONE OPPOSED, CARRIES TO APPROVE

AGENDA ITEM New – Appointment to Tree City Committee of volunteer Sharon Rockefeller.

The mayor noted this had been left off the agenda and asked if the Council would like to make a motion to entertain it. MOVED (GREGORY), SECONDED (HOWELL) AND CARRIED TO CONSIDER THE APPOINTMENT.

There was no discussion about the volunteer offering to serve on the committee.

MOVED (MOSS), SECONDED (COPLEY) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE SHARON
ROCKEFELLER AS A VOLUNTEER TO TCUSA

AGENDA ITEM 5 – Accept Tree City Committee Minutes from September 10, 2026.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (MINEGAR)

ALL AYES, NONE OPPOSED, CARRIES TO APPROVE

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilor Gregory asked if grant funding was supposed to be on the agenda. Paige Chick said staff did not have anything prepared for this evening, and that more would be discussed in the future (and at a Special Meeting if needed).

COUNCIL ITEMS:

- Sherrie Moss shared that all should take a walk around the city at the Portal and Palmerton Park; Public Works has “done an amazing job to make this an inviting City.”
- Dee Copley shared she has an incident with a dog to report at Rooster Park. A woman at the park said the internet shows that dogs are welcome at that park. City staff will verify this can't be found from their official site.
- The stop sign at Foothill and Pine needs reflective tape now that it is getting dark, per Barb Hilty. Councilor Mark Minegar pointed out the safety congestion at the corner of Fourth and Oak Street.
- It was confirmed that there was only one Council workshop in the month of October.
- Paige Chick emphasized the Public Works Director's invitation to the parks in advance of Ride the Rogue event this weekend.
- Public Works Director Michael Bollweg and Postmaster Sarah Schluter walked some City blocks with Paige Chick and Engineer Loree Pryce, in an effort to identify where we can place shared cluster mailboxes and remove existing unsightly ones. More plans will be made.
- “Play in the Parks” day last year is expected to repeat this year on October 9th. Staff haven't yet put everything into ‘play’ just yet but anticipate organizing it similarly to last year.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the City Council and upon motion duly made (MINEGAR), seconded (HILTY) and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Pam VanArsdale _____ Date _____

ATTEST:

Paige Chick
Administrative Services Director _____