

SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD MAY 20, 2024, IN THE EXECUTIVE CONFERENCE ROOM.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Tobias Colvin – Ed Fitch – John Nielsen – Kathryn Osborne – Shannon Wedding – Cat Zwicker

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT: Clifford Evelyn

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith Witcosky – City Attorney Keith Leitz – Deputy City Manager/CFO Jason Neff – Interim CDD Director Kyle Roberts – Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan – Finance Director James Wood – City Recorder Kelly Morse – Special Projects & Natural Resource Program Manager Maria Ramirez

MEDIA PRESENT: None

Mayor Fitch called the workshop to order at 3:00 pm.

Mayor Fitch reported the current golf course contractor, CourseCo, will come to the Council with a proposal to continue the current contract another five years.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Central Dry Canyon Project Update

Special Projects & Natural Resource Program Manager Maria Ramirez presented an update on the Central Dry Canyon Project in advance of bringing the project back to the Council in August or September for contract approval for construction.

Questions from the Council were addressed with input from Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan including confirmation that flashing crossing lights will be installed at Black Butte Avenue and Rimrock Way.

The consensus of the Council was to move forward with the project.

B. Psilocybin Decisions in 2024 and Timing

City Attorney Keith Leitz reviewed the City's psilocybin history and timeline, seeking direction from the Council on next steps. He noted the Council has no action to take on the City's permanent ban on manufacturing unless they want to revisit the matter.

The moratorium on service centers will expire at the end of 2024 which would then allow the service centers in Redmond starting in January of 2025. The Council's options are to have another ballot measure extending the moratorium, do a permanent ban, or let the moratorium sunset for which he recommended creating Time, Place, and Manner (TPMs) regulations as to where the service centers could be located.

Key items discussed by the Council included available treatment and abuse data that psilocybin was elitist and expensive which made it hard to be utilized by those who could benefit from it, and whether to limit centers to the Medical District.

Mayor Fitch requested a public hearing be set on the matter for June.

C. Marijuana Status and Council Check In

Mr. Leitz reviewed the history and timeline of marijuana dispensaries, seeking direction from the Council on next steps. The City excludes dispensaries via the business license section in the Code which requires business to comply with federal law. A previous Council passed a tax on retail and medical marijuana. The recreational tax was set at 15 percent, but since then, the state has capped the tax at 3 percent.

Mayor Fitch pointed out the Council had been firm in its intention to hold an advisory vote.

Questions from the Council were addressed including confirmation that TPMs were already drafted.

The Council discussed and supported leaving the decision up to the voters, also discussing whether to forego the 15 percent tax and go with the 3 percent.

Mayor Fitch suggested the Council hold a discussion in July about putting dispensaries on the November ballot. Councilor Zwicker stated the Council should be prepared to talk about the TPMs. She and Councilor Colvin suggested drafting a ballot measure for the 3 percent tax.

Mayor Fitch reported on meeting with Redmond Economic Development Inc (REDI) on potential changes to the Transportation System Development Charge (SDC). The City will meet with Central Oregon Builders Association (COBA) on Wednesday.

Councilor Colvin announced interviews for the Tourism agency are being held on Wednesday.

Mayor Fitch reported on today's meeting with Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO), noting a letter will go into the record for the Water Resources Commission. Councilor Zwicker opined that moving forward, it is critical to invite the Warm Springs Tribe to the table regarding water.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:47 pm.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Services
Reviewed by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 11th day of June 2024.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder