

**Redmond City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes**

July 9, 2024

Council Chambers & Remote Video Conferencing
<https://www.redmondoregon.gov/government/city-council>

Present: Tobias Colvin, Clifford Evelyn, Ed Fitch, John Nielsen, Kathryn Osborne, Shannon Wedding, Cat Zwicker

Excused: None

Staff Present: Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff, City Attorney Keith Leitz, Interim CDD Director Kyle Roberts, City Recorder Kelly Morse, Police Chief Devin Lewis, Homeless Prevention and Response Coordinator Natalie Lantz, Network Administrator Christian Armatas, Network Administrator Dan Schroedl, Finance Director James Wood, Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan

Media Present: Central Oregon Daily News, Z21 News

CALL TO ORDER/ESTABLISH A QUORUM

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum was established.

BLESSING

Pastor Thomas Benge of Redmond Community Church led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Osbourne led the Pledge of Allegiance.

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

A. Council Statement on Public Testimony

Mayor Fitch read the statement regarding merging the two public comment periods into a single comment period at the end of the meeting.

B. Council Statement on Proclamations

Mayor Fitch read the statement explaining the Council revised the Patriot Month proclamation to American Independence Month. The floor was opened for public comment.

- **Dennis Guthrie, VFW Member**, questioned the differences between the original proclamation and the City's revised version.
- **Liz Goodrich, Resident**, thanked the Council for changing the proclamation to make it more inclusive.
- **Scott Stuart, Resident**, believed the Council was disingenuous not to contact the proposer of the proclamation before revisions and was not elected to be the public's moral authority.
- **Rachel Nordenhok, Daughters of the American Revolution**, read the email she sent about the Council's revision of the proclamation, which she helped submit.
- **Jamie Hampton, Resident**, thanked the Council for reorganizing the public comment structure.
- **Karim Bouris, Resident**, stated that as a naturalized citizen, his definition of patriotism was reflected in the Council's revision of the proclamation.

Mayor Fitch apologized that, due to a scheduling problem, the Council was only able to review the proposed proclamation the day before the meeting.

- C. Redmond Police Department Review of 4th of July Weekend Calls for Service

Chief of Police Devin Lewis and **Fire Marshal Tom Mooney** presented an overview of fireworks complaints and other incidents from around 5:00 pm on July 3rd until 6:00 am on July 5th, noting Fire responded to seven fires on the 4th of July, four of which were indeed fireworks-related.

The Council extended its gratitude to the law enforcement officers who saved five lives from a house fire.

- D. FairWell Festival Update

Geoff Hinds, Director, Deschutes County Fair and Expo, updated the Council on the 2024 FairWell Festival planned for July 19-21, briefly reviewing Live Nation and producer C3 Presents' study on the economic impact of last year's festival and highlighting significant changes for this year's festival.

- E. Reservoir Drive Project Update

Public Works Director/City Engineer MacClanahan reviewed ongoing and upcoming capital projects, highlighting construction at SW Reservoir Drive, new underground utilities, new retaining walls and handrails, 4th Street improvements, SW 12th Street improvements, and street preservation. She stated she would look into Councilor Zwicker's suggestion for a crosswalk at SW Umatilla Avenue and SW 27th Street.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of May 14, 2024, Council Meeting
- B. Minutes of May 28, 2024, Council Meeting
- C. Proclamation Declaring the Results of the May 21, 2024, Primary Election

Councilor Wedding moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilor Colvin seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

ORDINANCES

- A. Ordinance #2024-10: An Ordinance declaring a two-year ban on psilocybin service centers. **Public Hearing**

City Attorney Leitz stated this item and the following two items relate to referring ballot measures to the next statewide general election in November, two of which required ordinances. Ordinance #2024-10 would declare a two-year ban on psilocybin service centers within the city.

Mayor Fitch opened the public hearing. Seeing no public comment, he closed the public hearing.

Councilor Evelyn moved to have a first and second reading of Ordinance #2024-10 by title only. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

City Attorney Leitz provided the first and second reading of Ordinance #2024-10 by title only.

Councilor Colvin moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-10. Councilor Osborne seconded the motion.

Ayes: Colvin, Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Wedding, and Zwicker

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 to 0.

- B. Ordinance #2024-11: An Ordinance Imposing a Three Percent (3%) Tax on the Sale of Marijuana Items by a Marijuana Retailer. **Public Hearing**

City Attorney Leitz noted for Ordinances #2024-10 and #2024-11, as well as the Action Item on marijuana dispensaries, another resolution will be brought before the Council in two weeks for the ballot titles. If the City Code changed to allow marijuana dispensaries, the measure would enact a 3 percent tax on sale for items containing marijuana.

Mayor Fitch called for public comment.

- **Arman Kluehe, Resident**, opined it was bizarre for the City to set a tax to sell marijuana before there were any such shops.

Seeing no further public comment, **Mayor Fitch** closed the public hearing.

Councilor Osborne moved to have a first and second reading of Ordinance #2024-11 by title only. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

City Attorney Leitz provided the first and second reading of Ordinance #2024-11 by title only.

Councilor Evelyn moved to adopt Ordinance #2024-11. Councilor Osborne seconded the motion.

Ayes: Evelyn, Fitch, Nielsen, Osborne, Wedding, Zwicker, and Colvin

Nays: None

Motion Carried: 7 to 0.

ACTION ITEMS

- A. An Advisory Ballot Measure to Provide Public Input on Whether to Allow Marijuana Dispensaries Within City Limits

City Attorney Leitz explained that the Council directed Staff to seek the public's input on whether to change Redmond's Code prohibiting issuing a license to retail recreational marijuana dispensaries, clarifying the ballot measure was only advisory, not for approval to allow dispensaries in the City.

Councilor Zwicker moved to approve an advisory ballot measure to provide public input on whether to allow marijuana dispensaries within city limits. Councilor Nielsen seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

- A. Written Comments from Redmond Collective Action

- **Tony Blackwell, Resident**, advocated for his fiancée who lived next to the Spencer Court housing project and described the property dispute with the developer and threats of being sued.
- **Donna Abelein, Resident**, described differences between June's Pride Month proclamation and July's American Independence Month proclamation.
- **Mr. Stuart** asked the Council to be considerate of members of the public who speak and reminded them their job was to listen, not rebut.
- **Mr. Kluehe** expressed concern that the Council edited the Patriot Month proclamation he submitted, described how the City's spending outpaced his income, and opposed further fireworks restrictions.
- **Jay Patrick, Resident**, wished the Council was not bringing up the idea of putting marijuana within city limits but was glad the people would vote on the matter.
- **Joe Strong** said it was disrespectful of Councilor Osborne to leave the room both times Ms. Abelein spoke. He questioned how inclusive it was to declare June as Pride Month.
- **Elaine Walthenson, Resident** explained why the city should support businesses that make creative things, not ones that sold marijuana.
- **Ms. Nordenhok** asked the Council to pass the Patriot Month proclamation as written or give a detailed and official denial of the proclamation.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Neff commended staff and the Police Department for their work, noting the 4th of July was a success. He also commended the great work by the Airport Operations staff and Redmond Fire & Rescue (RF&R) on the fire east of the Airport.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Colvin urged everyone to be safe and hydrate in the hot weather.

Councilor Osborne thanked everyone online for bearing with the technical difficulties throughout the meeting. She also thanked wildland firefighters and encouraged everyone to practice fire safety.

Councilor Wedding thanked City staff, especially for the heroics of the Police Department.

Councilor Evelyn thanked everyone for being at the meeting and reiterated the importance of respecting one another.

Councilor Zwicker thanked the Police Department and RF&R. She agreed the Council and the public need to act with decorum. She reminded people to slow down while driving, especially with kids out of school.

Councilor Nielsen echoed comments about safety and thanked the Police Department. He reported on the groundbreaking for the St. Charles Cancer Center, meeting with Senator Jeff Merkley's staff to advocate for federal funds for the Airport, and getting data from Republic Services to rate their service. He congratulated Mayor Fitch on his good work hosting the town hall for Senator Ron Wyden.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fitch opined the City is making progress on the future of water in the community and hoped to have more information in the next month or two. He explained how a system development charge increase to \$13,000 would not be imposed right away but rather in steps. He emphasized how much the Council has on its plate, which delayed the review of the Patriot Month proclamation.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

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

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 13th day of August 2024.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder