

**Redmond City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes**

March 10, 2026

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

Present: Clifford Evelyn, Ed Fitch, Kathryn Osborne, Jay Patrick, Cat Zwicker

Excused: John Nielsen, Shannon Wedding

Staff Present: City Manager Keith Witcosky; City Recorder Kelly Morse; City Attorney Keith Leitz; Airport Director Zachary Bass; Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff; Communications Director Heather Cassaro; Finance Director James Wood; Police Chief Devin Lewis; Planning Director Kyle Roberts; Human Resources Director Jason Bavuso; Budget Analyst Herlinda Corn; Network Administrator Dan Schroedl; Deputy Director of Human Resources Katie Graham; Procurement & Payables Manager Scott Brang; Public Works Operations Manager Ryan Kirchner; Economic Development/Urban Renewal Program Manager Chuck Arnold (Virtual)

Media Present: None

[Due to technical difficulties with the audio recording, some components and/or discussion from the meeting may be missing or incomplete.]

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

BLESSING

Pastor Thomas Bengé from Redmond Community Church led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Osborne led the Pledge of Allegiance

CITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Fitch stated there were no City Announcements. He allowed Deschutes County Commissioner Tony DeBone to address the Council regarding CORE3. Commissioner DeBone shared the “big picture as he sees it” for the \$100 million project and a private partnership for the pursuit track. This private investment would allow private individuals to race their personal vehicles around the track. He expressed concerns with ongoing operational costs of CORE3 and asked the Council to keep an open mind of possible options for public/private partnerships. Mayor Fitch explained the multiple reasons this proposal should be reviewed by the CORE3 board and not the Redmond City Council.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of January 12, 2026, Council Workshop**
- B. Minutes of January 13, 2026, Council Meeting**
- C. Design Contract Amendment #1 with Hickman, Williams & Associates Inc. for the Cinder Hollow Improvements Project: WA2501: \$25,000**
- D. Redmond Wetlands Complex Project (WW2001) Change Order #3 to the Contract with Taylor NW Construction: \$75,598**
- E. March Recognitions**

Councilor Evelyn moved, seconded by Councilor Osborne, to approve the Consent Agenda. The motion passed. (Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Nielsen-absent, Osborne-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

PRESENTATIONS

- A. Housing Works Annual Report**

Housing Works Executive Director Lynne McConnell provided the Council with a background on the creation of the organization and their purpose as a governmental agency. She shared details on their core programs, partnership development, consulting services, and program statistics. In partnership with RootedHomes, Housing Works is developing a five-acre campus at NW Antler Avenue and NW 17th St, that will house their new offices.

B. Desert Rise Industrial Park Update

Deputy City Manager/Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff provided the Council with the history of Desert Rise which was purchased approximately 20 years ago from Deschutes County for organized development of industrial land. There's an estimated 53 acres of land remaining for development.

Redmond Economic Development, Inc Senior Manager Steve Curley added the area focuses on owner-operated businesses with the goal of bringing jobs to Redmond. There are currently seven businesses located in Desert Rise, bringing in over 437 jobs and \$18 million in private investment.

Police Chief Devin Lewis shared that the number of calls for service his department receives for this area has steadily increased over the last few years. A disproportionate number of calls involve violent crimes and fires. Communication has started with service providers to provide outreach to the homeless population as the managed camp opening draws closer and cleanup of Desert Rise occurs. Additional discussion took place on the logistics involved for clearing the homeless population off of Desert Rise.

C. Redmond Wetlands Complex Project Update

Public Works Operations Manager Ryan Kirchner provided an update on construction of the Redmond Wetlands Complex, noting that we are currently at 30 percent completion for construction and currently on schedule.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Authorize to Purchase an Oshkosh Striker 6X6 for Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting: \$1,555,515

Airport Director Zachary Bass requested approval to purchase an Airport Rescue and Fire Fighting (ARFF) Oshkosh Striker 6X6. The Federal Aviation Administration requires that ARFF have at least one vehicle available at all times with a response time of no more than three minutes to anywhere on the airfield. The newest Oshkosh Striker 3000 is approximately 13 years old. The older vehicle is 31 years old and not operable. The Airport does not want to put any additional funding into the older vehicle, with is currently costing on average \$55,000 per year for the last three years.

Councilor Evelyn moved, seconded by Councilor Zwicker, to authorize the purchase of an Oshkosh Striker 6X6 Roof Turret SO291 from Hughes Fire Equipment for \$1,555,515 and authorize the City Manager to sign the agreement. The motion passed. (Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Nielsen-absent, Osborne-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

B. Contract Award for Health Benefits Broker Request for Proposal to Alliant Insurance Services for \$275,000

Human Resources Director Jason Bavuso requested approval of a contract award to Alliant Insurance Services for Health Benefits Broker in the amount of \$275,000. The City received three proposals in response to a formal Request for Proposal process. After review by an evaluation committee, the proposal submitted by Alliant Insurance Services received the highest average point total. Mr. Bavuso described the role of a health benefits broker.

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Osborne, to award a two-year contract with three optional one-year extensions for Health Benefits Broker Services to Alliant Insurance

Services and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract. The motion passed. (Evelyn-yes, Fitch-no, Nielsen-absent, Osborne-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

C. Special Event Street Closure Request for the Wild Ride Classic Car Show on April 18, 2026

Economic Development/Urban Renewal Program Manager Chuck Arnold requested approval of a public assembly permit and street closure for the Wild Ride Classic Car Show. The application requests the closure of SW 5th Street between SW Forest Avenue and SW Black Butte Boulevard from 5:00 a.m. through 5:00 p.m. on April 18, 2026. It is estimated that approximately 500 people will be in attendance.

Councilor Osborne moved, seconded by Councilor Evelyn, to approve the Public Assembly Permit and fee schedule for the Wild Ride Classic Car Show on April 18, 2026. The motion passed. (Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Nielsen-absent, Osborne-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

Redmond resident Trevor Johnson addressed the Council regarding the lack of compliance, by some retail establishments, with the ban on plastic bags. He encouraged the Council to pass a municipal environmental ordinance for clear education, monitoring, and enforcement.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Keith Witcosky recognized the work of the Redmond Police Department for locating a missing 17 year old female. Central Oregon Cities Organization Lobbyist Doug Riggs will attend the March 24, 2026, Council meeting to provide a legislative update. Mr. Witcosky shared information regarding current Airport art solicitations.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Zwicker clarified that there is a stakeholder committee that will review the art proposals the Airport received.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Fitch shared that he and Mr. Arnold met with the Chamber of Commerce Board today on the 250th celebration. He added that the Chamber of Commerce indicated they will not be managing the fireworks this year so the City will need to sign a contract with the fireworks vendor soon. Mayor Fitch discussed the Central Oregon Irrigation District's canal piping project which will have a significant impact on Redmond.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 7:06 pm.

Prepared by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 28th day of April 2026.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kayla Duddy
Kayla Duddy, Deputy City Recorder