



**TALENT CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
- HELD AT TOWN HALL  
AND VIA ZOOM -  
July 17, 2024 – 6:45 PM**

*Study Session, Regular Council & TURA meetings are digitally recorded and will be available on the City website: [www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org).*

**1. Call to Order/Roll Call at 7:01 PM (00:01:49)**

| <b>Members Present:</b>  | <b>Members Absent:</b>                     |
|--|--|
| Mayor Ayers-Flood<br>Councilor Collay<br>Councilor Greider<br>Councilor Byers<br>Councilor Paré-Miller   | Councilor Pastizzo<br>Councilor Ponomareff |
| <b>Also Present:</b>   |  |
| Gary Milliman, City Manager<br>Dave Lohman, City Attorney<br>Hector Flores, City Recorder<br>Gaoying Vigoa, City Engineer, Public Works Administrator<br>Nick Schubert, City Planner |  |

**2. Additions / Corrections to Agenda (00:02:12)**

No additions or corrections made.

**3. Community Announcements (00:02:18)**

City Manager Milliman provided several updates, including a list of local music, art, and entertainment at [talentbusinessalliance.com](http://talentbusinessalliance.com) and a vacancy on the Urban Forestry Committee, with details on the city website. He noted that City Council election packets were available at City Hall, with an August 20 signature verification deadline. Updated emergency preparedness information, including maps and evacuation routes, available on the city website. He informed the council that the fire danger had been deemed extreme by the Oregon Department of Forestry, with more details at [swofire.com](http://swofire.com). He also mentioned that the Homeowners Assistance and Reconstruction Program (HARP) was open for applications, with information at [accesshelps.org](http://accesshelps.org).

**4. Speakers Heard on Non-Agenda Items (00:04:19)**

None requested.

**5. City Reports (00:04:37)**

**5.1 City Manager Report**

City Manager Milliman reported to the council on recent power outages in Talent, citing causes such as new wildfire detection devices and downed trees. He assured that the city was working with Pacific Power to improve the system and public information. In preparation for potential outages, the city was installing a new emergency generator at the police station, servicing portable generators, and enhancing the battery backup system to prevent IT network disruptions. Additionally, Milliman

mentioned partnering with the Talent Business Alliance to transition the Harvest Festival management to the nonprofit sector.

## 5.2 Urban Renewal Activities Report

City Manager Milliman reported to the council that the state had agreed to fully fund the city's PIER application. The city held several meetings with state staff and their consultants, as well as with Rogue Valley Council of Governments (RVCOG), which will administer the grant from the city's side. The meetings focused on grant management details, including fund drawdowns, grant agreement conditions, and compliance with federal guidelines. The city's project engineer was revising the budget to meet these guidelines. Additionally, Milliman discussed a meeting with state staff and Access regarding the Gateway transitional housing project. The discussions covered plans for trailer disposition and resident housing assistance. Legal clarifications were needed from the state's counsel, and the city attorney was preparing the necessary conveyance documents. Milliman anticipated resolving these issues within the next few weeks.

## 6. Consent Calendar (00:14:48)

### 6.1 Authorize City Manager to Pay City County Insurance Services Insurance Premium

**Motion (00:15:32):** Councilor Byers moved to authorize the City Manager to pay City County Insurance Services Insurance Premium in the amount of \$178, 023.89. Councilor Paré-Miller seconded motion.

**Discussion:** None.

**Vote:** 4 ayes (Collay, Greider, Byers and Paré-Miller) 0 nays. Motion carried.

## 7. Unfinished Business (00:16:18)

### 7.1 Adoption of Resolution 2024-096-R, Establishing Rental Rates on City Property

Mayor Ayers-Flood asked for any conflicts of interest on this agenda item.

Councilor Paré-Miller declared an actual conflict of interest because of their work for the Talent Business Alliance which is a non-profit that currently rents space from the City of Talent.

Mayor Ayers-Flood declared an actual conflict of interest as a paid employee of Micro Enterprise Services of Oregon (MISO) which is co-located with the Talent Business Alliance, and which rents space from the City of Talent. Mayor Ayers-Flood handed gavel to Council President Byers.

Council President Byers continued meeting as presiding officer.

City Manager Milliman delivered the staff report to the council, informing them about the new rate schedule for city-owned property. The council had previously discussed this topic. The new schedule formally adopted a rate of \$1.10 per square foot per month for nonprofit office use. Additionally, the city would continue the practice of negotiating rates individually for non-office spaces.

**Motion (00:18:01):** Councilor Collay moved to adopt resolution 2024-096-R, Establishing Rental Rates on City Properties. Councilor Greider seconded motion.

**Discussion:** None.

**Vote:** 3 ayes (Collay, Greider, Byers) 0 nays. Motion carried.

Council President Byers returned gavel to Mayor Ayers-Flood.

Mayor Ayers-Flood resumed role as presiding officer.

Councilor Paré-Miller un-recused and returned to full capacity as councilor.

## 8. New Business (00:19:07)

No items to report on.

## 9. Commission / Committee Reports (00:19:17)

Councilor Byers reported that the Parks Commission held a meeting last Wednesday. The primary discussion focused on the re-envisioning of Chuck Roberts Park, including the labyrinth project, community input for a larger dog park for large dogs, new tennis/pickleball courts, and an accessible playground. However, the Parks Commission decided not to make a recommendation to the council yet. Instead, they opted to hold a public hearing to gather more input from the community before making any recommendations.

Councilor Collay reported that the Urban Forestry Committee met last week. Several members had been assisting with watering trees on city property, including both recently planted trees and those planted in previous years that still require care. The councilor commended the members for their efforts and thanked the City Manager for providing a city water source. Concerns were raised about irrigation systems not working properly at various parks and city properties, which have been communicated to city administration. The committee also discussed ongoing questions about Title 17 and 18 codes, particularly concerning the tree code and the consultation process. This issue is expected to be addressed at the next city council meeting. Additionally, a motion was made regarding a Citizen Science Project involving air quality monitoring related to trees.

Councilor Pare-Miller reported that the Public Arts Committee met at the beginning of July. On June 30th, they held arts open house at City Hall featuring current artists. Recently, committee members gathered at City Hall to install new artwork by Megan Young, an oil painter. The committee is planning more events and will reach out to staff about a potential donation of two paintings by Sarah Burns. More details on these events and donations will be forthcoming.

## 10. Other Business and Future Agenda Items (00:23:30)

### 10.1 Review of Look-A-Head

City Manager Milliman informed the council that the water meter replacement purchase had been delayed several times due to necessary clarifications with the contractor. After resolving these issues with the City Attorney's assistance, he was confident that the matter would be ready for inclusion on an upcoming council agenda.

Mayor Ayers-Flood requested an update on the Foss Road project.

Councilor Greider asked for clarification on the upcoming Talent Urban Renewal meeting. City Manager Milliman explained that the meeting is a study session and that the time can be adjusted to accommodate councilor schedules.

## 11. Written Communications

None submitted.

## 12. Adjournment 7:27 PM (00:26:25)

Respectfully submitted by:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Hector Flores, City Recorder

*Note: These minutes and the entire agenda packet, including staff reports, referenced documents, resolutions and ordinances are posted on the City of Talent website ([www.cityoftalent.org](http://www.cityoftalent.org)) after each meeting. The minutes are not a verbatim record: the narrative has been condensed and paraphrased to reflect the discussions and decisions made.*

