



# City Council Meeting

## Minutes

Monday, July 12, 2021 at 6:00 pm

### Meeting Location

320 N Main St. Falls City, OR 97344 (or Web Application, in writing)

### How to Attend and/or Participate:

1. In Person: 320 N Main St. Falls City, OR 97344
2. Call-in:
  - a. 1-253-215-8782
  - b. Meeting ID: 878 7406 4319
  - c. Passcode: 099970
  - d. You will be muted but may "raise your hand" to indicate you wish to comment.
3. Web Application: Zoom Webinar  
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/87874064319?pwd=QXIudIRTY3N5VGtqNkY2ZlplLZ1lNdz09>
  - a. Meeting ID: 878 7406 4319
  - b. Passcode: 099970
  - c. You will be muted but may "raise your hand" to indicate you wish to comment during Public Comments.
4. Write-In: Using regular mail or email.
  - a. [info@fallscityoregon.gov](mailto:info@fallscityoregon.gov); 299 Mill St. Falls City, OR 97344

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

#### Minutes:

The meeting was called to order at 6 PM.

Councilor Lori Jean Sickles called in at 6:10 PM. Councilor Drill called in at 7:05 PM.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. MOTION TO ADOPT THE ENTIRE AGENDA

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Councilor T. Meier and seconded by Councilor T. Bailey to adopt the entire agenda. Motion carried. Ayes: Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 4 / Nays: 0

**4. ANNOUNCEMENTS, APPOINTMENTS, APPRECIATION, PROCLAMATIONS**

**a. Laura Evans- Parks and Recreation Committee**

**Minutes:**

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and seconded by Councilor T. Bailey to appoint Laura Evans to the Parks and Recreations Committee Motion carried. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey.

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

**b. Pride Month Proclamation**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Gordon read the Pride Proclamation (See exhibit A) Proclaiming that the month of August, beginning in the year 2021 and in every year thereafter, will officially be recognized as Pride Month in the City of Falls City.

A motion was made by Councilor T. Bailey and Seconded by Councilor T. Meier that the City Council of the City of Falls City use funds to display Pride Flags throughout downtown the third (3rd) week of August. Motion carried. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, TJ Bailey. Nays:

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

**5. COMMUNITY & GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATIONS**

**a. Falls City Public Works Report**

**Minutes:**

No Comments

**b. Falls City Fire Report**

**Minutes:**

No comments

**c. Polk County Sheriff's Report**

**Minutes:**

No Comments

**6. REPORTS**

**a. Mayor Gordon Report**

**Minutes:**

Mayor Gordon gave his final report expressing his gratitude to all of Falls City

Staff for their continued hard work. Gordon wanted to leave the council with a few "to-do" list items to stay focused on after he leaves. 1. Support the City Manager and Staff Management at all costs. Do not tolerate unprofessional behavior.

1. Look further into Water Projects, The city is still eligible for \$2.5 Million in grant funding.
2. Code Enforcement, setting a focus area on N. Main St. and the South end of town. Hold people accountable.
3. Wastewater, remember that rates need to be increased again, and will need to be done annually to cut back on the amount financed.

No Motions Made

#### **b. Council Reports**

##### **Minutes:**

Councilor A. Houghtaling stated that the school district is working on hosting a sports physical type of event. She will get back to the council after a meeting she has scheduled in the upcoming week.

#### **c. Manager Report**

City Manager's Report July 12, 2021

##### **Minutes:**

City Manager Foscoli read his Managers Report (see exhibit A)

### **7. CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **Minutes:**

A motion made by Councilor T. Meier and Seconded by Councilor T. Bailey that the City Council of the City of Falls City accepts the consent agenda approving May 10, 2021, City Council, June 14, 2021, Budget Committee Minutes, and the Bills. Motion carried 5-0-0-1. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, TJ Bailey. Nays:

##### **Vote results:**

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

#### **a. Approval of the Minutes**

##### **Minutes:**

A motion was made by Councilor T. Meier and Seconded by Councilor T. Bailey that the City Council of the City of Falls City accept the consent agenda approving Bills. Motion carried 5-1-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, TJ Bailey Nays:

##### **Vote results:**

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

#### **b. Approval of the Bills**

### **8. PUBLIC COMMENTS & LETTER COMMUNICATIONS**

##### **Minutes:**

Mike Bowman, Falls City Resident Wanted to talk to the council about the possibility of developing the land next to the trailer park. Wanted to see what steps it would take to subdivide that land. Council referred him to make an appointment with the City Manager Aj Foscoli.

Foscoli agreed to schedule an appointment with him.

## 9. NEW BUSINESS

### a. Group Camping Permit-John and Nancy Hibbs

#### Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and Seconded by Councilor T. Meier to move that the City Council of Falls City approve the camping permit for Nancy and John Hibbs Motion carried 5-0-0-1. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey

#### Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

### b. Noise Permit- Mountain Gospel Fellowship

#### Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilor A. Houghtaling and Seconded by Councilor T. Bailey to move that the City Council of Falls City approve the noise permit for Mountain Gospel Fellowship. Motion carried 5-0-0-1. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey

#### Vote results:

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 0

## 10. OLD BUSINESS

### a. Mayor Vacancy

#### Minutes:

A motion was made by Councilor A. Houghtaling and Seconded by Councilor D. Sickles to move that the City Council of Falls City declare the Mayor seat vacancy as of July 12, 2021. Motion carried 6-0-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey.

A motion was made by Councilor T. Meier and Seconded by Councilor D. Sickles to move that the City Council of Falls City nominate TJ Bailey to fill the role of Falls City Mayor for the remainder of Jeremy Gordon's term. Motion carried 5-1-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey  
Nay: Jennifer Drill

A motion was made by Councilor J. Drill to nominate herself to fill the role of Falls City Mayor. The motion was not seconded. Motion died on the floor.  
City Manager Aj Foscoli swore TJ Bailey in as Mayor.

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and Seconded by Councilor T. Meier to move that the City Council of Falls City nominate Amy Houghtaling as Council President. Motion carried 4-1-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles. Nay: Jennifer Drill

A motion was made by Councilor A. Houghtaling and Seconded by Councilor T. Meier to move that the City Council of Falls City declare TJ Bailey's Council Seat vacant. Motion carried 6-0-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey Nay:

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and Seconded by Councilor T. Meier to move that the City Council of Falls City hold council seat interviews at the August 16, 2021, Regular council meeting. Motion carried 6-0-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Amy Houghtaling, Dennis Sickles, T.J. Bailey Nay:

**Vote results:**

Ayes: 5 / Nays: 1

**11. CITIZEN COMMITTEES**

- a. **Parks & Recreation, Public Works, Historic Landmarks are all back to in person meetings located at the Community Center.**

**12. GOOD OF THE ORDER**

**Minutes:**

Councilor T. Meier asked the council to have Public Works Committee should look into ordinances from other cities and see how they handle residents who have multiple cars parked on the street. He believes it is a hazard.

Councilor J. Drill added that the fire department responded to a call where there were multiple cars parked in the street and they couldn't safely access the property safely the situation escalated into a confrontation. She believes the city should do something sooner than later.

Councilor D. Sickles asked for the council's help in getting better community support with the SOLVe river and park clean-up.

Lynn Bailey, Falls City Reisednet thanked the council for the continued support with getting the clinic building tenants up and running.

**13. ADJOURN**

**Minutes:**

ADJOURN 7:33 p.m. No motion was made

Contact: Jamie Ward, City Recorder (jward@fallscityoregon.gov 503-787-3631)

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor, TJ Bailey

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder,  
Jamie Ward





City of Falls City  
299 Mill Street  
Falls City, OR 97344  
Ph 503.787.3631

## City Manager's Report July 12, 2021

### Introduction

Since our last meeting, we experienced an unprecedented heat wave that hit the Mid-Willamette Valley, taxing communities and individuals alike. Long range weather forecasts predict that there may be several more extended hot weather events that will affect our residents and the regional electrical grid. It is therefore important that we be prepared for these eventualities, so that the health and safety of our residents is not compromised. Thanks to our longstanding partnerships with regional service organizations, we were able to have a cooling center to assist those without air conditioning. As with the most recent heat wave, the city will proactively coordinate and collaborate with our regional service organizations, and to the best extent possible, with our regional power providers, to ensure that our residents are properly informed on how to deal with these disrupting events.

**Wastewater Project** – I have been continuing to attend the regular meetings with the multi-organizational team putting together the ultimate application for financing through USDA-RD. As specified in previous city manager's reports, we are still working through the logistics of securing a grant award to cover the costs of the Cultural Resource Survey. The review process has now reached the USDA's regional level of scrutiny and we should know whether we will receive this grant later in the summer.

As previously stated, the extension of our deadline and modification of the contract for completion of work under the CDBG Grant with the State of Oregon (Resolution 05-2021 approved by council at the March 29 Special Council Meeting) is allowing us more time to cover the cost of the Biological Assessment required by USDA. The determination of the additional CDBG request has been conditionally approved, and will be official once all the documents have been signed by Falls City and returned to Business Oregon.

**IT Project** – Thanks to the more than 70% of the Oregon population having received at least one COVID-19 vaccination shot, restrictions on in person meetings have largely been lifted. In surveying other communities, in-person or at least hybrid meetings have now become the norm and the same goes for Falls City. As everyone will be able to attest, the council chambers will be filled with people again, where we will be livestreaming the council meeting using laptops, and microphones. This hybrid system should help to increase civic engagement that has been impacted in the past year due to restrictions on indoor participation & social distancing.

Note: If you have questions/concerns, please respond to me individually by email, phone, or in person. This way we avoid violating any public meetings laws with a "reply all" response, or multiple councilors discussing on the same thread.

**Doctor's Office Renovation** – We have initiated temporary agreements with several tenants to allow them time to get their individual spaces ready until entering into formal agreements from July 1 (we have yet to sign contracts with the tenants, but will be doing so as schedules allow in July). We are in still talks with Salem Health to see if they can provide direct health and wellness and/or telemedicine services to Falls City. The conversation is ongoing, and I will update the council as more progress is made.

**Vaccination Event** – Oregon Health Authority and Bi-Mart brought a vaccination event to Falls City on June 18<sup>th</sup>. It was held at the Community Center and though up to 100 people could have received the first dose of the Pfizer COVID-19 vaccine, only 4 individuals opted to participate. We will be following up with Salem Health for possible future comprehensive vaccination clinic/events to be held at the High School that will include medical screenings. We hope that residents will take advantage of the various services, including sports physicals that Salem Health is planning on providing for our community.

**Hot Weather Power Outages** – The city of Independence has organized a presentation by Pacific Power to highlight the increasing challenges of maintaining electrical service to its customers during high use events precipitated by hot weather. The State PUC has recently created a process to allow power providers the ability to turn off power (brownouts) if there is a concern over potential fires from weather related events, which in turn will lead to more frequent impacts to our communities. As the possibility of longer-term power outages increases with the intensity and duration of the hot weather events, the burden on the grid increases commensurately, potentially affecting more and more of our residents.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "AJ Foscoli". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

AJ Foscoli

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