

SHERWOOD CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES 22560 SW Pine Street, Sherwood, Or (Joint City Council and Sherwood School District Work Session) November 8, 2023

WORK SESSION

- 1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tim Rosener called the meeting to order at 6:04 pm.
- COUNCIL PRESENT: Mayor Tim Rosener, Council President Keith Mays, Councilors Kim Young, Taylor Giles and Dan Standke. Councilors Renee Brouse and Doug Scott were absent.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith D. Campbell, Police Chief Ty Hanlon, Community Development Director Eric Rutledge, Senior Planner Joy Chang and City Recorder Sylvia Murphy.

SCHOOL DISTRICT BOARD: Chair Abby Hawkins, Director Harmony Carson, Director Hans Moller, and Director Matt Thornton. Vice Chair Krista Thorne was absent. SSD Executive Team: Superintendent Jeremy Lyon, Executive Assistant to the Superintendent Christine Andregg.

3. WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

Mayor Rosener welcomed participants and audience in attendance; all participants introduced themselves.

4. UPDATE FROM SHERWOOD SCHOOL DISTRICT

Dr. Lyon provided an update on behalf of the Sherwood School District. Topics included ongoing fiscal work and the implementation of levy funds, the Celebrate Sherwood Schools Initiative, efforts to increase student attendance, and the recent fall high school athletics season.

5. UPDATE FROM THE CITY OF SHERWOOD

Mr. Campbell provided an update on behalf of the City of Sherwood. Topics included partnership with the school district, economic development and work to diversify the tax base, and progress on the pedestrian bridge.

Dr. Lyon and Mr. Campbell additionally provided an update on the high school student advisory group. There was general discussion about the impact of student absenteeism on school funding, newly implemented fiscal controls at the school district, and appreciation for the student advisory group.

6. SRO UPDATE

Chief Hanlon provided an update on the topic of school resource officers (SROs). He shared that the second SRO -- Officer Preston Neumann -- had begun working at Sherwood Middle School, while Officer James Wolfer would continue working at Sherwood High School, with both supporting the elementary schools. Chief Hanlon additionally discussed the relational focus of the work of the SROs. There was general discussion in appreciation of the work of the SROs and their positive presence in the school district, as well the overall status of staff retention at the police department.

7. SAFE ROUTES TO SCHOOL UPDATE

Ms. Chang provided an update on the Safe Routes to School Program. She shared an overview of the program and discussed progress in implementing the components of the program. She further identified actions for future program implementation and reviewed the grant funding available to support the program. Ms. Chang provided an example of a sidewalk improvement project within two school walk zones, noting the impact that project completion would have for the school district and highlighting how a competitive grant would assist in offsetting the project cost. She reviewed additional potential funding sources.

There was general discussion about the degree to which competitive grant funds were being awarded and clarification that Safe Routes to School grant funds could not be awarded for projects already underway. Ms. Chang noted that implementation of the full Safe Routes to School program elements would improve scoring for grant funding applications. There was general discussion about the importance of being "grant ready," as well as the process to identify potential safety projects. The role of the Traffic Safety Committee was discussed by Mayor Rosener, and he additionally highlighted collaboration with the state and county to address speed issues in the area of Elwert Road and Edy Road. Jim Rose, Chief Operations Officer for the Sherwood School District, shared from the audience that busing must occur within walk zones when safety hazards prevent walkability, increasing the school district's transportation costs. There was general discussion about the volunteer/staff needs related to the implementation of school action plans, as well as the potential for a bike rodeo event.

8. ROUNDTABLE

Chief Hanlon discussed upcoming work around fentanyl education for the community, and there was discussion about hosting a parent education night on that topic, as well as how to best provide information to students. Mr. Bennett highlighted that there has been a fentanyl curriculum provided to students at the middle and high school levels within the school district for three years.

There was general discussion about safety drills (such as lockdown drills) and challenges with having parents observe/participate in those drills. It was noted that having large numbers of individuals observe details of security measures can actually decrease the security of those measures, as well as the impact for students of having unknown adults in the building during drills. There was general discussion about how drills operate and refine the security process through active learning and observation, as well as the functionality of entry vestibules.

There was general discussion about the new automated parent notifications from the schools related to book and technology checkout, the timeline for the pedestrian bridge project, the addition of the downtown plaza and its use, the Sherwood Broadband project, and appreciation for the high school campus and the ability to host large-scale regional or state events at that location, as well as the need for additional hotels to support bringing those types of events into the community.

9. ADJOURNED:

Mayor Rosener thanked the meeting participants and adjourned the meeting at 7:34 p.m.

Attest:

Sylvia Murphy, MMC, City Recorder

Tim Roseper, Mayor

Record Note: Minutes transcribed by Christine Andregg, Sherwood School District Executive Assistant to the Superintendent.