



CITY OF LYONS

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CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

July 22, 2025

Council Present: Councilors: Eric Gjonnes, Diane Hyde, Jessica Ritchie, & Amy Thrasher, & Mayor Mike Wagner

Council Absent:

Employees Present: Lib. Dir. Michele Ray, PW Richard Berkey, PW Jerry Faber, CM Micki Valentine

Public Present: John Thrasher, Kevin Crowell (*arrived late*)

Opened w/pledge: @ 6:30 pm by Mayor Mike Wagner

Roll Call: Taken

Announcements (Additions to Agenda/Conflict of Interest/Ex-Parte/Bias):

- Amy Thrasher declares conflict of interest for the Safe Routes to School project.

Presentations: Mayor Mike Wagner presents Councilor Jessica Ritchie with a certificate of appreciation for ten years serving on the council. Mayor Pro Tem Jessica Ritchie presents Mayor Mike Wagner with a certificate of appreciation for ten years serving on the council.

Sheriff's Report: Report was reviewed. They were short on hours but did say they will make up the hours in the coming months.

Public Comment: John Thrasher addresses the council with his concerns of the sidewalk being placed along his property, stating that it will block access to his backyard and utilities. He is also concerned about damaging the drainage area. He is aware that ODOT has denied the additional driveway two times. He would like an access point, not necessarily a driveway. (*He exits the meeting.*)

Consent Agenda: Council Meeting Minutes June 24, 2025 and Bills Paid June 24, 2025 – July 22, 2025. *Councilor Hyde motioned to approve – Councilor Ritchie second – Wagner, Gjonnes, Ritchie, Thrasher, Wagner, Ritchie in favor – none opposed - approved.*

Public Hearings: none

Unfinished Business:

- **Safe Routes to School Update** – Update report provided. Mari-Linn summer lunch program moved to city hall parking lot. We have had a change in engineers. The new engineer reported that he inspected the project and noted that the sidewalk will be 17 feet wide. Comments from nearby property owners concerning bushes were received. Council consensus approved of replacing any damaged bushes. Discussed second driveway vs

access point at Thrasher property. *Councilor Gjonnes motions to direct Mike Wagner and Jessica Ritchie to meet with ODOT and the engineer to discuss concerns from the council and neighboring property owners – Hyde second – Wagner, Ritchie, Hyde, & Gjonnes in favor – none opposed – approved – Thrasher abstained.* Mayor Wagner will contact the planner. A meeting will be arranged with the engineer and ODOT.

- **Review Commissionerships** – Discussion. Mayor Mike Wagner reassigned commissionerships: Diane Hyde – Transportation, Eric Gjonnes – Parks & Recreation, Jessica Ritchie – Library, Amy Thrasher – Cemetery, Mike Wagner – Building, Utility, Police & Safety. *Ritchie motioned to approve – Thrasher second – motion carried with all in favor – none opposed – approved.*

New Business:

- **North Santiam Watershed Council** – They held a Paddle & Pull event, on July 16th, to pull the invasive plants Ludwigia & Parrot Feather, from the ponds. They are spraying this week.
- **Radar Signs** – Reviewed quotes, from “radarsign” company for a portable battery-operated unit \$3,405 and a solar-powered sign \$4,215. Theft is a concern.

Correspondence:

- none

Library Director Report: Library Director, Michele Ray, provides the monthly report. The new Assistant Librarian, Nicole Murray, is in training and doing well. Lots of participants with the Summer Reading Program. There are only three programs remaining. There is a vacancy on the library board. They don’t meet again until September. Councilor Ritchie would like to see if there is a way to make the basement ADA accessible so that it could be used. A restroom and wheelchair accessibility would need to be added.

City Manager Report: CM Valentine provides report. Salem Seal Coating has been through town and the city hall parking lot, to fill cracks. One urn burial. The two new employees are doing a great job and learning quickly. Four building permits with one new home. The Summer Sun Sale will be August 16th. The audit is in progress. City hall will be closed on Friday. Vacation is planned for the week of Thanksgiving. Civil West provided a preliminary quote to do a sewer location identification at \$30,000 and a full study at \$80,000. Complaints were reviewed. Congrats to employee, Jerry Faber, on winning first place, in the cars category, in the Mill City 4th of July parade.

Planning Commission Report: none

Financial Reports: Reports were available for review and no questions were asked.

Commissioner Report/Councilor Questions/Comments:

- Mayor Wagner, Building Improvements, Utility, Police/Safety – No comments.
- Councilor Ritchie, Library – No comments.
- Councilor Hyde, Transportation – No comments.
- Councilor Thrasher, Cemetery – No comments.
- Councilor Gjonnes, Parks & Recreation – No comments.

Executive Session: none

Public Comment: Kevin Crowell addresses his concerns regarding the Safe Routes to School project at the intersection of Elm Street and 5th Street. He is concerned that the changes may cause flooding to the neighboring private property.

Requests – Councilor Requests/Future Agenda Items/Announcements: none

Next Meeting: Tuesday, August 26, 2025 Regular Council Meeting at 6:30 pm.

Adjourned @ 8:21 pm

Summarized by CM Valentine