

**City of Scio  
City Council Minutes  
September 12, 2022**

**LOCATION:** SCIO CITY COUNCIL CHAMBER, 38957 NW 1<sup>ST</sup> AVENUE, SCIO  
Public was allowed to attend in person or via Zoom.

**Time Start:** 6:00 P.M.

**Time End:** 7:30 P.M.

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm by Mayor Debbie Nuber. Everyone stood for the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken by Cathy Martin, Administrative Assistant.

**COUNCIL MEETING ATTENDANCE LOG**

COUNCIL	SCIO STAFF
Mayor Debbie Nuber	Ginger Allen, City Manager – Via Zoom
Councilor Karen Eckhart	Cathy Martin, Administrative Assistant
Councilor Joey Ferguson	Lebanon Justice Court Judge Jessica Meyer – Via Zoom
Councilor Tom Gray	LaVonne Murray, Librarian
Councilor Tom Meyer	
Councilor John Whalen	
Councilor Luke Zedwick	

**AUDIENCE MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE**

Lea Hackler	Pat Schrunk
Dennis Shaffer	Dean Schrunk
Rebecca Shaffer	

AGENDA	ACTIONS
<p><b><u>CONSENT AGENDA</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• August 8, 2022 City Council Minutes</li> <li>• August 2022 Statement of Revenue &amp; Expenditures</li> <li>• August 2022 Payment Journal</li> </ul>	<p>Eckhart asked about the bill from the University of Oregon \$6K – Grant from Oregon State Library will reimburse.</p> <p>Motion from Councilor Ferguson, seconded by Councilor Whalen, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. <b>Motion passed 6:0</b></p>
<p><b><u>CORRESPONDENCE</u></b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Letter from Accuity, LLC</li> </ul>	<p>Allen stated that this is a letter that is received every year regarding the audit requirements. The difference this year was that we were requested to place it in the council packets for public viewing.</p>
<p><b><u>PRESENTATIONS</u></b></p> <p><b>Linn County Sheriff's Report</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>a. August 2022 Report – Sgt. Steven Frambes</li> </ul>	<p>Sgt. Steven Frambes reviewed the report for August.</p> <p>August was busy, traffic stops, hit and run accident, dog complaints, etc.</p>

Unlocked vehicle with keys left in ignition was stolen and recovered within 2 hours.

Sgt. Frambes spoke about monitoring the Facebook - Scio Community Happenings. Encourage neighbors to call if there are situations. Scio monthly reports in comparison to other cities, the city is doing well.

Nuber encourage people to call the sheriff.

Whalen appreciate the work on abandoned vehicles.

### **Library Statistics**

a. Presented by – LaVonne Murray, Librarian

Ms. Murray presented statistics for the library usage.

The report includes the summer months June-August. She recapped the summer reading program. Steady participation throughout the summer.

Lake Oswego Reads Art Exhibit is here for the month of September

The grant – LSTA ODNP – Oregon Digital Newspaper Project – some of the newspapers were digitized, now available for viewing free of charge, on the Historic Oregon Newspapers website.

Upcoming Programs:

- Toddler Preschool
- Genealogy 101 in 5-week course beginning in October
- Pumpkin Decorating Contest
- Gingerbread Contest

Gray asked for information to be placed on city website and Facebook page.

Ferguson asked how the genealogy class will be advertised, if there was a cost and how many people could attend.

Murray responded that the advertising would occur through flyers, Facebook and website, there is a cost and up to a dozen people could be accommodated.

**REGULAR SESSION**

**Use of Unauthorized Use of Vehicles on Public Streets**

- a. Presented by – Mayor Debbie Nuber

Nuber asked if the council had read the memo from Tre’ Kennedy. Discussion was held regarding the memo.

Judge Meyer stated that if the low speed vehicles were licensed, and registered, they would be allowed under state law.

Further discussion was held.

Nuber concern with golf carts, if changed the laws, what would the city liability be.

Judge Meyer stated that the city is not able to change the laws to allow golf carts on the city roads, as there is not a golf course nearby. Under

Zedwick stated that all questions seem to be answered.

**Proposed Bid Award for Thomas Creek Park Tree Removal**

- a. Presented by Jack Mochnick, Scio Tree Committee Chairman

Ms. Martin reviewed the handout provided on the bid award proposal to remove trees at the Thomas Creek Park from the Parks & Tree Committee as Chairman Mochnick was unable to attend the meeting. She reviewed the bids that ranged from \$16,950 to \$29,280. The recommendation of the Parks & Tree Committee to award the bid to Santiam Tree Service.

Whalen asked why the city was wanting to remove the trees. Martin responded that the city is planning on removing the cottonwood trees which are tall and when they break are dangerous. Approximately 10 trees are proposed to be removed.

Allen stated that the project started over a 1 ½ years ago when the city received some Covid \$ for park improvements. Allen reviewed the reasons that the Thomas Creek Park was chosen to use the Covid funds. She stated that in order to provide a clean slate to develop the land as a residential park the trees would need to be removed. Also, the Cottonwood trees are dangerous to the public and are not park type trees. The committee will be coming back with a development recommendation. Want to clear the site now, window of opportunity is closing. The funds must use within this year. Asking for permission to start clearing. The committee is also planning on doing a survey to see what

the community wants done with the site, but the first thing that has to be done is clear it.

Nuber will they re-plant trees. Allen yes, these will be park-type trees, these would be shade type, ornamental trees.

Eckhart asked if there was money put in the budget for this project. Allen stated that funds were placed in the budget to cover this cost.

Further discussion was held and the consensus of the council was that more information was needed on the number, and location of the trees to be removed. They asked that the trees be marked so that they could see which ones are proposed to be removed.

**COMMUNICATIONS FROM CITY STAFF**

a. City Manager's Report

Ms. Allen gave a City Manager's

- Education on Public Right-of-ways continues.
- Public Works Shop – signs are up on fence line, heavy equipment on location, building materials are arriving
- PW Utility Worker Recruitment – 23 public works positions open in Linn County – Scio is comparable with other small cities with our benefit plan. 6 applications were received. All applicants for the position were entry level applicants, none qualified for the PW Worker Level 2 – reducing job description to PW Worker Level 1 – all 6 are still interested. Interviews set for Wednesday & Thursday.
- Council seats – more candidates filed for the positions than those that are available. Positions are at large position with no designated zoning attached to an open position. Ballot will be asking for people to vote for 3 of 4 people to fill the seats. Whalen stated that he will not be able to fulfill a full 4 years if elected. Allen stated that she appreciated his candor –
- Ms. Allen stated that a letter has been sent to the owner of the feed store, who also owns the property adjacent to the memorial park regarding the vegetation. Particular owner knows about the ordinance requirements
- Ms. Allen – called Derrick Mottern about the flower baskets – agreement to take them down on September 14<sup>th</sup>, the committee stopped watering earlier.

<p>b. City Attorney's Report</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Ferguson asked about Certification of PW staff. Allen stated that Knurowski is scheduled to take his first test on October 13, 2022. Allen stated that we have a contract for oversight. Ben Jones is doing the oversight on the Water system. Whalen – is there a mechanism to increase pay, as certifications are received. Allen yes.</li> </ul> <p>None</p>
<p><b><u>ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL</u></b></p>	
<p>a. Councilor Meyer</p>	<p>Meyer reported on the cleanup for S Main property. Allen thanked Mr. Meyer for his work. Staff went back and removed additional limbs to make the traffic signs visible.</p>
<p>b. Councilor Gray</p>	<p>None</p>
<p>c. Councilor Ferguson</p>	<p>She stated that she appreciated LaVonne coming to the meeting. She asked for all committee meeting minutes to be included. Martin apologized for not getting the minutes for the Parks &amp; Tree committee minutes.</p>
<p>d. Councilor Whalen</p>	<p>Thank you to the staff for hard work</p>
<p>e. Councilor Zedwick</p>	<p>Would like to talk about ability for pedestrian accessibility, and walkability – around town.</p>
<p>f. Councilor Eckhart</p>	<p>Thanked Ginger for cleaning Main Street. Asked if we received any bids for the bathroom. Allen did not receive any, will move forward with a pre-fab building.</p>
<p>g. Mayor Nuber</p>	<p>None</p>
<p><b><u>PUBLIC COMMENTS</u></b></p>	
<p>a. Pat Schrunk, 38587 SW Filbert Street</p>	<p>Asked if the Bike Path on 6<sup>th</sup> Street can be painted.</p> <p>Nuber stated that it is only goes 3 blocks.</p> <p>Ms. Allen stated the city will add it the list of projects, that public works has, but there are many projects that have a higher priority.</p>
<p>b. Dean Schrunk, 38587 SW Filbert Street</p>	<p>Read an article from Apple News about golf carts.</p>

c. Dennis Shaffer, 38625 SW Filbert Street

Zedwick responded that the reason the golf cart issue came before city council was as a safety concern, the city can't change the state law.

Asked if the basketball hoops that are located on the city streets will be asked to be removed as well as those blocking sidewalks.

Allen stated that we are talking to the property owners of the ones that are located on streets as well. Trying to use education.

Zedwick asked which concern was more important, sidewalk or street?

Shaffer stated both.

Allen stated that the city is having to change direction, as during covid they were allowed, so trying to re-educate, we can make it a higher priority if council directs.

**Meeting was Adjourned at 7:19 p.m.**