

Metro

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Metro

Minutes

Thursday, April 6, 2023

10:30 AM

Metro Regional Center Council Chamber,
<https://www.youtube.com/live/-cKzqeCj2YU?feature=share>, <https://zoom.us/j/615079992>, or 877-853-5257 (toll free) (Webinar
ID:6150799920

Council Meeting

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Council President Peterson called the Metro Council Meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Present: 6 - Council President Lynn Peterson, Councilor Christine Lewis, Councilor Mary Nolan, Councilor Gerritt Rosenthal, Councilor Duncan Hwang, and Councilor Ashton Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Juan Carlos Gonzalez

2. Public Communication

Council President Peterson opened the meeting to members of the public wanting to testify on a non-agenda items.

There was one person that testified:

Lightning: stated that Multnomah County was not running their animal shelter well. Lightning wanted a tri-county office of Animal Services created, a tri-county euthanasia panel made, for SB883 to be in effect, and a new animal shelter built.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next agenda item.

3. Consent Agenda

3.1 **Resolution No. 23-5319**, For the Purpose of Amending the 2021-24 MTIP to Re-Scope the OR8/Canyon Rd Project to Reflect only the Beaverton Pedestrian Enhancement Portion Allowing it to Meet Federal Delivery Requirements

Attachments: [Resolution No. 23-5319](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)

3.2 **Resolution No. 23-5324**, For the Purpose of Appointing a New Member to the Tri-County Planning Body

Attachments: [Resolution No. 23-5324](#)
[Staff Report](#)
[Attachment 1](#)

- 3.3 Consideration of the September 8, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
Attachments: [090822c Minutes](#)
- 3.4 Consideration of the September 15, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
Attachments: [091522c Minutes](#)
- 3.5 Consideration of the September 29, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes
Attachments: [092922c Minutes](#)

Council President Peterson called for a motion to approve the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Councilor Nolan, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, to adopt items on the consent agenda. The motion passed by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

4. Resolutions

- 4.1 Resolution No. 23-5323, For the Purpose of Authorizing the Sale of General Obligation Refunding Bonds

Presenter(s):

Josh Harwood (he/him), Metro

Attachments:

[Resolution No. 23-5323](#)

[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson called on Josh Hardwood (he/him), Metro to present to Council.

Hardwood noted that staff has the chance to refinance some of the outstanding bonds from the 2008 Zoo Bond Program. Staff wants to shorten the maturities of some of the bonds and ultimately reduce interest payments that taxpayers pay. Metro has outstanding debt from 2006 Natural Areas Bond 2008 Zoo Bond, 2018 Affordable Housing Bond, and 2019 Parks and Nature Bond. Hardwood noted that staff regularly

looks at the debt for opportunities for savings and only moves forward with refinancing if there will be actual savings. Staff asked Council to authorize Resolution No. 23-5323.

Council Discussion:

Councilor Hwang asked how much the savings would be. He also asked if the savings are tied to current interest rates. Hardwood mentioned that they would be saving just under a \$1 million on about a \$50 million repayment. He mentioned that when issuing a bond, they forecast the tax base. If the tax base increases faster than expected, staff can maintain the same tax rates, capture more revenue, and pay back the bonds sooner. Hardwood noted that this is what staff is essentially trying to do.

Council President Peterson thanked staff for their work, so they can take advantage of these opportunities.

Councilor Rosenthal asked how often staff does this review. Hardwood noted that they do the review on an ongoing basis. He mentioned that it is at least annually because they have a contract with their financial advisors to monitor regularly.

Seeing no further discussion on the topic, Council President Peterson moved on to the next agenda item.

A motion was made by Councilor Simpson, seconded by Councilor Nolan, that this Resolution was adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

5. Ordinances (Second Reading and Vote)

- 5.1 **Ordinance No. 23-1492**, For the Purpose of Amending Metro Code Chapter 7.05 to Improve Clarity Regarding Penalties and Interest and Other Housekeeping Updates and Declaring an Emergency

Presenter(s): Josh Harwood, Metro

Attachments: [Ordinance No. 23-1492](#)
[Exhibit A](#)
[Staff Report](#)

Council President Peterson stated that the first reading and public hearing for Ordinance No. 23-1492, took place on Thursday, March 23.

Council President Peterson called on Josh Harwood (he/him), Metro to present to Council.

Council Discussion:

Council President Peterson thanked staff for their work to make these revisions because it is a new tax, and it was hard getting information out to the public. She was glad that they were not penalizing people for trying to do the right thing.

A motion was made by Councilor Lewis, seconded by Councilor Rosenthal, that this Ordinance was adopted. The motion carried by the following vote:

Aye: 6 - Council President Peterson, Councilor Lewis, Councilor Nolan, Councilor Rosenthal, Councilor Hwang, and Councilor Simpson

Excused: 1 - Councilor Gonzalez

6. Chief Operating Officer Communication

Andrew Scott, Deputy Chief Operating Officer, provided an update on the following events or items:

- There were no updates.

7. Councilor Communication

Councilors provided updates on the following meetings and events:

- **Councilor Rosenthal** gave an update on the MERC
-

meeting. He mentioned Travel Portland's report showed that travel is increasing, and Portland has more positive references in the media.

- **Councilor Nolan** gave an update on legislative activities. They mentioned a bill that would negatively impact SHS program. The legislature is studying the issue instead of moving forward with the bill. Councilor Nolan also thanked staff for their work.
- **Councilor Lewis** mentioned that the deadlines for First Chamber bill movement have passed. She believed that their priorities are still alive.

8. Adjourn

There being no further business, Council President Peterson adjourned the Metro Council Meeting at 10:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Jemeshia Taylor, Legislative Assistant

ATTACHMENTS TO THE PUBLIC RECORD FOR THE MEETING OF APRIL 6, 2023

No additional materials distributed.

PLEASE NOTE: Official copies of legislation will be available in electronic format via format via [Metro Online Records](#). For assistance, please contact Becky Shoemaker, Metro Records Officer at ext. 1740.