



COUNCIL WORK SESSION

City Hall Council Chambers, 10722 SE Main Street
& Zoom Video Conference (www.milwaukieoregon.gov)

MINUTES

AUGUST 2, 2022

Council Present: Councilors Adam Khosroabadi, Lisa Batey, Desi Nicodemus, Council President Kathy Hyzy, and Mayor Mark Gamba

Staff Present:

Steve Adams, City Engineer	Nicole Madigan, Deputy City Recorder
Joseph Briglio, Community Development Director	Ann Ober, City Manager
Kelly Brooks, Assistant Finance Director	Peter Passarelli, Public Works Director
Bonnie Dennis, Administrative Services Director	Laura Weigel, Planning Manager

Mayor Gamba called the meeting to order at 4:04 p.m.

1. Clackamas Cities Association (CCA) Dinner – Discussion

Madigan provided a brief update on the planning process for the CCA dinner that included caterer availability and issues obtaining a venue. The group discussed possible venue locations.

2. Broadband Study Completion – Report

Dennis introduced Dave Stockton with Uptown Services, LLC. **Stockton** stated the presentation would focus on the four cornerstones of the study: market research and stakeholder outreach, potential partnership options, network and conceptual design and capital budget, and financial analysis. **Stockton** explained that over one in ten households within the community participated in a survey about broadband services and most participants said they would like to see lower prices followed by increased internet speed.

Mayor Gamba asked how much participants were paying for services and **Stockton** responded that while participants did provide that information, it was included in the full report not the presentation. The group discussed where the information was located. **Stockton** and **Mayor Gamba** discussed the prices participants paid for internet. **Councilor Batey, Stockton, and Mayor Gamba** discussed the graph data and noted what the differences in colors meant and how participants were allowed to answer the question asked.

Stockton presented information on the federal broadband funding program, how survey participants were asked to provide qualification data, and how many surveyed participants would be eligible to participate in the program. The group discussed how thresholds for qualified consumers were set depending on if the city provided service versus other providers, how providers are reimbursed the \$30 discount, how Council should raise awareness about the program whether the city would provide broadband service or not, if the providers in the area participate in the federal program, and other programs providers have offered.

Stockton presented that 59% to 74% of surveyed participants stated they probably would to definitely would purchase broadband services from the city depending on the cost. **Stockton, Mayor Gamba, and Councilor Batey** discussed the summary of residential research findings. **Stockton** and **Council President Hyzy** discussed low density underground construction costs. **Gamba, Batey, and Stockton** discussed area

median income (AMI) versus federal poverty level and how increasing the threshold would affect the number of those interested in the city as their broadband provider.

Mayor Gamba mentioned the City of Sandy, Oregon's broadband program and **Stockton** stated Milwaukie could look to similar programs like Sandy and local improvement districts as options. **Councilor Batey** and **Stockton** commented on the language used on the design sample. The group discussed the initial five-year capital expenditures for building out the city's fiber network. **Stockton** presented different options for operating business models. The group discussed the 20-year forecast for debt to income and what variables may increase income and how businesses which were not included in the survey, factor in.

Councilors Batey and **Khosroabadi** and **Stockton** clarified that the initial five-year capital expenditures were based on the city's 75% aerial, 25% underground costs for building. **Batey** asked how apartment complexes factor in to cost and benefit as the city has 1,500 apartments in development. **Stockton** responded that because of the higher density, apartment complexes can be cost effective but also prohibitive due to retrofitting older apartment complexes.

The group discussed the study conclusions and next steps and cited why the city did not qualify for the federal grant build out program due to services Comcast cable offered, and how either a large amount of equity could help offset costs or the city could wait to see if construction costs decrease. **Council President Hyzy** thanked **Stockton** for sharing knowledge and expertise. **Mayor Gamba** and **Councilor Batey** provided feedback on the report. **Councilor Khosroabadi** mentioned it would have been helpful to have included more localized data from projects such as Sandy.

Dennis asked Council if they wanted to revisit the broadband discussion in four years and Council discussed taking time to further review the report provided, conduct personal research, revisit the discussion in a couple months, and have staff promote to the community what current programs are available. **Ober** advised Council there was no current staff capacity to research what programs were currently available, but Council was welcome to use the Milwaukie Pilot to educate the community.

3. Transportation System Plan (TSP) Advisory Committee (TSPAC) – Discussion

(Moved to the August 2, 2022, regular session)

4. Adjourn

Mayor Gamba announced that after the work session Council would meet in executive session pursuant to Oregon Revised Statute (ORS) 192.660 (2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Mayor Gamba adjourned the meeting at 5:33 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Nicole Madigan, City Recorder