City Of Cove Council Meeting Minutes April 1, 2025

Call to Order

Mayor Sherry Haeger called the regular session of the Cove Common Council to order at 7:00 p.m. located at City of Cove City Hall, 504 Alder St., Cove, Oregon, 97824. Remote access to the meeting was active.

Council Members Present: Council President Matt McCowan, Councilors Shawn Parker, Alexis Cannon, Jason Hagey, and Youth Councilor Emma Carson.

Council Members Present Remotely: There were no councilors present remotely.

City Staff Present: City Recorder Lana Shira, Public Works Director Dave Johnson, and Billing Clerk Kerri McCowan.

City Staff Present Remotely: There were no city staff present remotely.

Council Members not Present: Councilors Eric Stone and Boss Parker.

City Staff not Present: All city staff were present.

Public Present: Maxine Parker and Dave Coleman.

Public Present Remotely: There was public present remotely. See City of Cove Meeting Info printout.

Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Haeger.

Council Roll Call

Roll call was performed by Lana Shira, City Recorder. A quorum was determined to be present.

Additions/Changes to the Agenda

 Appointment and Council Consent of Citizen Members of the 2025-26 Budget Committee (See New Business)

Public Comment

No public comment was made at this time.

Consent Agenda

- Council Minutes March 4, 2025
- Approval of Bills to Be Paid

Motion: Council President McCowan moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilor Shawn Parker seconded. Motion carried.

Correspondence

Lana reported she received a nuisance ordinance complaint about chickens running at large and disturbing the decorative bark and plants at a neighbor's house. She sent a letter to the owners of the chickens indicating a complaint had been made, stated the ordinance and asked that the nuisance be remedied as soon as possible. Councilor Hagey noted he received a complaint from the chicken owners about the letter they received.

Old Business

Community Beautification Program
 Lana noted there is nothing to report at this time. She thought it might be a good idea to consider using the proceeds from clean-up day as the reward for the beautification program.

Public Hearing

Open Hearing

Mayor Haeger opened the hearing at 7:30 pm.

Max Kvern and Miranda Glenn were present online as representatives from T-Mobile. The mayor noted all the council members present have declared their actual potential conflict of interest, and she made the hearing disclosure statement and staff report available for review.

Staff Report

Lana provided a verbal overview of the staff report. The site plan was made available for review.

Applicant's Testimony

T-Mobile's representative's response to the additional findings is outlined below:

- They noted generator noise will only be during an emergency outage and during testing of the equipment.
- No gas lines are proposed.
- Service lights will not be on at all times.
- The maintenance window will be during normal business daylight hours. The city can set a specified time window if preferred.
- The diesel will be for the generator that has a fuel tank within. It was questioned how often the generator will need to be refilled. They noted they will reach out to the construction manager to find out, but it shouldn't be more than every few months.
- Installation should take a month, during normal business hours. They will notify the city when they know when and who will be doing the installation.

Proponent's Testimony

There was no proponent's testimony, or neutral testimony.

Opponent's Testimony

Lana reported she has not received written testimony in favor or opposition.

Applicant's Rebuttal

There was no applicant's rebuttal.

Close Hearing

Mayor Haeger closed the hearing at 7:45 pm.

Council Deliberation & Final Decision

Motion: Council President McCowan moved to approve the conditional use permit for the T-Mobile/US Cellular tower. Councilor Cannon seconded. Councilor Shawn Parker abstained. Motion carried.

New Business

 Appointment and Council Consent of Citizen Members of the 2025-26 Budget Committee Mayor Haeger reported that the Budget Officer has had the following community members volunteer to be on the Budget Committee: Amy Jayne, Sandy Stephenson, Reme Allen, Drex Shira, Dave Coleman, Brenda Overton and Mykiah Lay.

She asked if any council member wanted any of the names removed from consideration. There were no objections by the councilors.

The mayor appointed the volunteer community members of the 2025 budget committee, and noted the appointments require the consent of the council.

The appointments stand unopposed. All councilors present were in favor of the appointments.

City Council Working Committee Report

TSP – Land Use Chapters 6 and 7
Dave has agreed to make a final version of the TSP - Land Use Portion. The council will have two months to review it. If there are any questions please send them to Lana, Dave or the Mayor before the meeting. The final version will be sent out at the next council meeting in May, so in July the decision will be made to approve or not approve.

City Recorder Report

Lana provided a verbal report:

- Cove clean-up day is scheduled for the 17th of May. On April 16th she will attend the Union County Commissioner's meeting and ask for matching funds.
- She signed up for Mandatory Public Law on-line training on April 9th. Councilors will need to attend Mandatory Public Law training as well.
- For budget prep she has transferred all the amounts to the new budget document. We need to set the date for the Budget meeting.
- SEI- Council President McCowan, Mayor Haeger, Councilors Boss Parker, Eric Stone and Alexis Cannon have submitted their SEI's.
- The Annual Cove Spring Run Off for the Cove Education Foundation is set for April 16th.
 She provided a letter of support and received the certificate of insurance.
- Employee evaluations have been done except for Jason Jayne.
- LOC has an online training on government contracts. The cost is \$79, and she would like to attend. The council agreed she should attend the training.
- The Budget Committee meeting will be scheduled for May 22nd at 7:00 pm. Dinner will be served at 6:30. An alternate date will be May 20th.
- Income reports were provided and verbally reviewed.

Public Works Director Report

Dave provided a verbal report:

- He has been busy this month with the Geni/Susie overlay preparation.
- He is attending a Wastewater Operator Conference in Pendleton this week.
- Anderson Perry is finalizing the bid package for the lower reservoir coating project. He
 hopes to start the bidding in the next couple of weeks.
- He is waiting on the Forest Service to see if the draft plans check their boxes to repair the road to the hydro plant.
- Hydro is starting to pick up on production. There have been some issues with receiving
 data which might affect billing. There was an outage and issues with reclosure. He had a
 late night with OTEC trying to get it fixed.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Haeger provided a verbal report:

She received a call from Nella Mae who informed her she has received a grant for \$7k.
 Conditions of the grant require her to interview people about the food supply and sources in Cove. There will be a community meal this Saturday where Nella Mae will share her findings. She asked if the mayor would come and listen to the report.

Youth Councilor Report

Emma provided a verbal report:

- The Easter Egg hunt has been advertised.
- She spoke to Brett Dunten who oversees the reader board at the school, and he is more than willing to advertise what the city needs.

Good of the Order

No good of the order was presented at this meeting.

Public Comment

No public comment was made at this time.

Suggestions for Future Workshops & Meeting Agendas

No suggestions for future workshops or meeting agendas.

Upcoming Meetings

- Regular Council meeting scheduled for May 6, 2025.
- Budget Meeting scheduled for May 22, 2025, at 7:00 pm with an alternate date of May 20, 2025.

Adjournment

Mayor Haeger adjourned the meeting at 8:08 p.m.

Sherry Haeder, Mayor

Lana Shira, City Recorder