

The City Council for the City of Junction City, met in a work session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 28, 2026, in the Council Chambers, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon and in a virtual meeting format via internet and phone.

PRESENT: Mayor, Kenneth Wells; Council President, Karen Leach; Councilors Sandie Thomas, Sidney Washburne, and Ken Hancock; Excused Absence, Councilor Andrea Ceniga; City Attorney, Carrie Connelly; Police Chief, Mark Waddell; Public Works Director, Gary Kaping; and City Recorder, Kitty Vodrup.

1. Call to Order, Pledge of Allegiance, and Roll Call

Mayor Wells opened the work session at 6:30 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and took roll call. He called for a minute of silence in honor of Councilor Ken Jamieson, who passed away on April 24, 2026.

2. Complaint from Mr. Jack Sumner

Mayor Wells stated that the entire Council received a letter dated March 3, 2026 from Mr. Sumner and since the Council received that letter, Mr. Sumner had conversations with Mayor Wells, a Councilor, and Administrator Nebel.

Mayor Wells noted that Administrator Nebel had prepared the Agenda Item Summary (AIS) for this item, and Mayor Wells read a paragraph that Administrator Nebel had written, "During our discussion, he [Mr. Sumner] was concerned that this position was created simply to keep the Administrator employed until he qualified for retirement and that is not the proper role of the city. I indicated to him that it was my opinion that creating a Project Manager position was a valid option for the Council. The City will be investing millions of dollars with consultants and contracts for construction to address the MAO and for coordinating issues with the Metro Wastewater System, impacting the City for generations. Having a person who has served as Public Works Director and City Administrator and who is very familiar with the City's wastewater system to focus full time on the critical community is a rare opportunity."

Mayor Wells gave the floor to Mr. Sumner.

Mr. Jack Sumner, 1061 Quince Drive, Junction City, stated that his letter had been written at the time after he had spoken to Councilor Hancock, the Mayor, and Director Kaping. What Mr. Sumner had gleaned from those conversations was exactly what he had written in his letter. The City was creating a job for someone who was not happy with the City and the operation of his command, and he had several complaints against him about his status as a City Administrator. The City was not in the business of creating jobs for people so they could retire, which was exactly what the Council had done. It was an honorable thing to do, he guessed, to help a good person out who had served the City well, but who had his problems like they all had. Mr. Sumner worked with him for well over 20 years. Mr. Sumner did not agree that they should have a committee of the Mayor and Councilor Hancock to discuss with the lawyer to see whether or not the City should do this and then come back the next meeting and have a fully drafted resolution to do this job. At that same meeting, there were other people there and Mr. Sumner was not at that meeting, but watched it about three weeks later. Mr. Sumner did not understand how the City could come up with an extra \$145,000 to pay someone to do a job that was already being done very well by the Public Works people. The Public Works Director had told Mr. Sumner that they had two people and they were doing a good job, so why hire someone to do the job and pay him an extra \$145,000. Where the City got the money for this he did not understand. His and every citizen of Junction City's tax dollars should be used a little more wisely. If they had a job being done properly and well, why hire someone else to do it. Mr. Sumner did not agree with what the Council had done. He thought the Council should be shameful for spending taxpayer dollars like they had. He noted that he would be happy to answer any questions.

Mayor Wells asked if Councilors had any questions or input.

Councilor Thomas stated that she was going to bite her tongue and be professional. She added that the Council did the right thing.

Councilor Leach shared that the Council did exactly what they were supposed to do. She was with Councilor Thomas and was not going to say anymore. She added that they did the right thing and did it the right way.

Councilor Hancock noted that he did talk with Mr. Sumner, and did not agree with what he was saying. He had told Mr. Sumner that the City was making the most positive steps they could to take care of this community, and Councilor Hancock still believed that was exactly what they did and that the hearts of the five elected officials believed that this was the best approach to take care of their community when they had multi-millions of dollars at stake. Councilor Hancock continued that he too had spoken with Director Kaping about this at a meeting, and Director Kaping was in agreement that this was the right direction to do in. Also previous Administrator Knope had shared comments and you just had to recap all of those meetings. The reality was they were doing the best they could for their residents and maybe not every decision resonated, but they did it based upon what they believed was best.

Mayor Wells stated that he would just like to follow up and say that yes they did work with legal because it was a hiring process, and they had to make sure that what they did was done the right way to minimize any losses that the City may incur. So they used the attorney who was specialized in HR and also helped the City was negotiations and Counselor Connelly was also involved. As far as the "committee" of Councilor Hancock and the Mayor, they were directed by Council and they followed the direction they were given. They did the right thing for the right reasons, because there were all kinds of meetings that were going to require time and they had to make a decision to do the right thing. Prior to this change, the Administrator was working very close in conjunction with Director Kaping and his people in Public Works and all of them spent a lot of hours and there were things that were not getting done. It was the right thing to do to get a Project Manager to be in charge of that multi-million dollar project, and it was somebody who had the background and the expertise. Somebody had asked why there were no comments after Mr. Sumner submitted his letter, and any of the Councilors could have said something if they felt it was the right thing to do. At the February 10th meeting, a question was asked very directly to Councilors on if they had spoken with Director Kaping and the answer was yes. In that meeting, the Council asked if Director Kaping agreed with the decision that was being discussed. The decision was not made until a vote took place, and of course they also spoke with the City Administrator at the time to make sure he felt what was being done was right for the City. They did not come into a meeting and do this quickly. They spent hours on this just like they should have because they wanted to make sure that it was done right. Mayor Wells stated that he appreciated Mr. Sumner's time and the discussions they had had. Mr. Sumner had the right to question what the Council did, just like any citizen did, and he thanked Mr. Sumner for making the time. He asked Mr. Sumner if he had any other comments that he felt needed to be made.

Mr. Sumner responded that he thought everything had been pretty well pointed out. He recognized that Councilors were withholding their personal views about what was said and done on his part. He did not quite understand, having served with this community for some 20 odd years. He worked with the gentleman in concern and he and another Councilman sat in the office in the old building and discussed the MAO in 2008, 2010, and the City just kicked the can down the road until finally the state and federal authorities said you have to get off this kicking the can down the road. The City spent millions of dollars or will spend millions of dollars doing a job that would have been considerably cheaper had they done that 10 to 12 years ago. He knew that hindsight was 20/20 but he was privy to the conversations at that time and nothing was done other than they let us off for another year and we would wait to see what the MAO said next year. Mr. Sumner said that he appreciated the Council's time and for allowing him to speak. He noted that this was a free country but it was still his tax dollars that the Council was squandering when hiring somebody when Director Kaping had perfectly good people doing the job.

3. Policy – Complaints against the City Administrator

Mayor Wells stated that Administrator Nebel had put together this AIS, and this topic had been discussed at a couple of work sessions. Administrator Nebel had worked with legal counsel to prepare this policy, and updates had been made on how to handle complaints against the City Administrator. Administrator Nebel also responded to the questions about using Local Government Personnel Services and provided their response and pricing. Mayor Wells asked if there were any comments about the updated draft policy.

Councilor Leach shared that she thought the draft policy was well done and provided several options for someone on filing a complaint. If they were uncomfortable with going to the City Administrator, they could go to the Mayor or Council President. This did not happen very often, and she thought this was a great way to handle it.

Councilor Washburne thought the policy was well written and self-explanatory.

Councilor Thomas noted that the City had not had anything in place before. Councilor Leach confirmed there had been nothing.

Mayor Wells noted that Administrator Nebel had also written in the AIS about evaluations for the City Administrator. Mayor Wells had spoken with Administrator Nebel and they both agreed that not only should evaluations be done annually, but they should also have quarterly meetings that could be with the Council President, Mayor, and City Administrator so that feedback could be given, both positive and negative. That way, there would be no surprises for anybody. Also, if the person did not receive a stellar evaluation, not only would there be follow ups, but if needed, action plans could be generated so that the improvement could actually be seen. Administrator Nebel also thought it would be excellent if they could work on this and have a draft by the time the City hired the new City Administrator.

Councilor Hancock noted that he was not able to access the packet while on Zoom, but his only concern was that the Council should be advised when there was a complaint against the City Administrator and be aware of the outcome. Attorney Connelly noted that language had been added to the updated draft and read, "will forward a copy of the complaint to members of the Council." Councilor Hancock responded that was great.

Mayor Wells noted that was a great point and the draft policy included that no matter who the complaint went to, when it got to the Mayor, his next step would be to contact all of the Councilors. Mayor Wells asked if there was a consensus to move this forward and if so, it would come back on another agenda for them to discuss and vote on.

The Council consensus was to move forward and for staff to bring the policy back to Council for consideration of approval.

4. Ordinance Review and Discussion on Operations of the RV Park

Director Kaping noted that at the January 27, 2026 meeting, Council reviewed a draft ordinance to amend the City Code to allow an RV Park at Lyle Day Park. At that meeting, the Council provided answers to policy questions, and Attorney Connelly incorporated those changes into the draft that was before Council tonight. Administrator Nebel had asked that Council also talk about the RV Park operations and how the park would be administered. Things to be looked at were what software to use for the online reservations, who would review those, do refunds, etc. Staff had obtained information on a few software vendors and would be following up with other communities who used those programs. The development costs with prevailing wages were estimated to be \$136,114.56. Yet to be determined were the RV Park rental fee and operational costs, such as garbage collection, cleaning, water, electricity, reservation software, etc. Director Kaping added that he would be happy to throw out some ballpark numbers on what the operational costs could be.

Mayor Wells asked if Councilors had any questions.

Councilor Leach stated that getting ballpark costs sounded good to her. One of the main things they needed to determine also was how much to charge for each spot. She asked Councilor Hancock about Lebanon's fees.

Councilor Hancock responded that he thought it might be around \$40, but they could check Lebanon's website to see current fees. He noted that the Council had had lengthy conversations about the RV Park and thought that the consensus was to have reservations managed online so that it would not be labor intensive. He also thought the City currently had the ability to take payments online. Director Kaping responded that the system the City currently had did not have the ability to take reservations for RV spots. He added that Parks reservations did not use an online system and were managed directly by Recorder Vodrup.

Councilor Hancock thought the Council was getting a little deep in the grass on this and that the operational piece would be something that Administrator Nebel and Director Kaping could develop and then bring recommendations back to Council on how staff would like to see this handled. Director Kaping responded that he would be happy to do that, if Council would like him to. He could estimate what the operational costs would be to run the RV Park and then to meet with Administrator Spencer and develop an operational plan to bring back to Council for review.

Councilor Hancock suggested that Administrator Nebel touch base with the City Administrator in Lebanon on the RV Park operations.

Councilor Leach responded that made sense to her.

Councilor Washburne asked how the City would advertise the RV Park. Director Kaping responded on the City's website. He added that some reservation programs also had advertising to share about RV Park sites.

Councilor Leach asked how the City did rentals for the Community Center and pool. Director Kaping responded that people rented and paid directly at the facility site.

Mayor Wells noted that this past year the City did a lot of upgrades to parks. Director Kaping responded yes. Mayor Wells asked if there was enough money in the Parks SDC fund to do the development work of over \$136,000. Director Kaping responded yes, if they could use SDCs for all of this work.

Mayor Wells asked how much would be left in that fund, if they had issues at other parks in the coming year or years. Director Kaping responded that the Parks SDC fund was fairly healthy because you could only spend those funds on expansion and on projects in the SDC CIP. What needed to be determined was how much of the development work could be funded by the Parks SDC fund. If it could not be funded totally out of the Parks SDCs, he was not sure where funding would come from, as the Parks capital and operating funds did not have available funding.

Councilor Hancock noted that would be a separate conversation and all they had ever discussed was using SDC funds. He did not think anybody on Council showed an interest in using the capital outlay funds. He continued that it was noted at the last meeting that something needed to be done to be able to use SDC funds for this RV Park, so the City did need to know that the SDC funds were available and that they could be used. He continued that he would like to see RV Park funds received go immediately into the Parks wages line item and asked if that should be identified in the ordinance. Attorney Connelly responded that it could be identified in the ordinance, in which case it would be written in stone or it could be something the Council decided during the budget process on an annual basis in the event that some other use comes up that the Council thought it would make sense to use RV income for something else.

Councilor Hancock stated that part of the problem was that parcel of land was donated to the City with an agreement that the City would use it for parks, so he was not sure if it would be appropriate to use that money for something other than that. Attorney Connelly responded that she had not seen the agreement or deed restriction and thought it would be important to review that. Recorder Vodrup noted that she would send that document to Attorney Connelly.

Attorney Connelly asked if Council had any questions on or changes they would like to make to the draft ordinance.

Councilor Leach responded that she did not have any.

Attorney Connelly noted that the ordinance draft was in staff's hands to finalize or she could finalize, but it sounded like they would delay until the operational questions were addressed and she asked if that was what Council wanted to do.

Mayor Wells responded that was what he thought they should do. The ordinance draft was done well but he thought they should wait until they had all of the pieces and questions answered.

The Council consensus was in favor.

Councilor Thomas asked if a community volunteer could help with the RV Park, to offset labor costs or have a RV Camp host. Director Kaping responded they could try that.

Mayor Wells asked if Director Kaping had the direction he needed. Director Kaping responded yes and he needed to get through the budget season first and then would work on this. He added that he would have Superintendent Tracer assist.

5. Grants to Social Services/Non-Profit Agencies

Mayor Wells stated that Administrator Nebel had drafted this AIS and noted that there would be two groups for funding: One would be for the non-profits and the other would be for groups

associated with tourism, such as the Chamber and Historical Society. Administrator Nebel had suggested that for both groups, there would be “x” amount of funding set aside that people could apply for as grant.

Councilor Thomas asked for confirmation that the City already had a line item in the budget for this. Mayor Wells responded they only money for the Chamber and the Historical Society before. He continued that Administrator Nebel had suggested setting a policy and guidelines to create a functional program and when the money was gone it would be gone for that year. They would turn this over to the Budget Committee to see if funds were there.

Councilor Leach responded that she liked having “x” amount of dollars and when it was gone it would be gone. Mayor Wells added until the following year.

Councilor Leach continued that years ago the City had a program to help people but the City had discontinued that. Director Kaping responded that what Administrator Nebel was suggesting was probably the right way to do it and when the funding was gone it was gone. Councilor Leach added and people would have to apply for it. Mayor Wells responded yes and this was not for individuals but for the non-profit groups.

Attorney Connelly noted that the program Councilor Leach had referenced was the Ratepayer Assistance Program to reduce utility amounts, so this would not substitute for that. Director Kaping responded that was correct.

Attorney Connelly continued that in reading the AIS, she wondered how the City would accept applications and if it would be on a rolling basis throughout the year or if there would be an application period. She thought setting an application window, such as accepting applications from July to August or September would be a good approach, so all the applications could be compared at the same time and after the budget was adopted. That was another element of the program, and the Council could provide direction or consensus on tonight, if desired.

Councilor Leach said she thought that was a good idea and wanted to address the questions on why did one group get it but another did not. Attorney Connelly responded that the process would make it as fair and even playing field as possible.

Mayor Wells stated that he liked what Attorney Connelly had suggested that after the budget had passed and they knew funding was available and how much, they could use the fiscal year starting in July. Then they could have a month of so to accept applications, and those would then go to a committee, which would be comprised of the City Administrator and a couple of people. The committee would review applications and make a recommendation to Council. He added that it what was nice about the grants for the Chamber and Historical Society was they would be from the Tourism Room Tax and that figure was pretty concrete on what the City would receive. Funding for the Historical Society had stopped a few years ago as they had not requested funding and the organization was having issues. Councilor Leach responded that was right.

Councilor Hancock stated that he would love to hear Attorney Connelly’s input on this, as it had always been that Council sets policy. (Councilor Hancock lost connection to the meeting for a few minutes.)

Attorney Connelly shared that she was reminded of something else that over the years when different requests came in, the Council was sort of at a loss because there was no criteria on how to award and did the Council say yes to someone and no to someone else. That had been awkward, leading the Council generally to just say no across the board because they recognized they needed a process if they were going to do this at all. The proposed process would fill that gap.

Mayor Wells stated that he thought it was good that Administrator Nebel had written that for an organization to qualify for these funds, they would need to be a qualified non-profit 501(c)(3), which an organization had to go through a lot of hoops to receive. Attorney Connelly responded yes and they had to maintain that at the federal level, so that gave the Council the assurance that they were meeting this criteria.

(Councilor Hancock was able to rejoin the meeting).

Councilor Hancock stated that he thought the Council should retain all policy decisions. The Budget Committee should review the budget to make sure that it was fiscally sound.

Attorney Connelly noted that if there was a consensus of the Council interested in this, it would next go to the Budget Committee to determine could the City even fund this, and then the Council could formulate a more concrete policy that followed these guidelines.

Mayor Wells and Councilor Leach responded yes.

Councilor Hancock asked if when it went to the Budget Committee, if it would go as a line item and that line item would be reviewed like pretty much everything else in the budget. Attorney Connelly responded ultimately if the policy was approved, yes. She thought the initial ask of the Budget Committee was the Council was interested in adopting a policy like this and was this something that the City could take on. If the Budget Committee said in general yes and added it in as a line item, then the Council would act to enact this policy, so it dovetailed with what the Budget Committee was bringing forward to the Council, and it could all be completed in July. She asked if that sounded right.

Mayor Wells responded yes.

Councilor Hancock noted that he disagreed with using that process, but he was only one vote.

Mayor Wells asked if the Council wanted to pass this on to the Budget Committee for them to see if there were funds available to do this.

Councilor Leach responded yes.

Mayor Wells noted that Administrator Nebel had suggested \$10,000 would be needed, and Mayor Wells thought that was a pretty good amount. That way, they could fund four grants up to \$2500; however, they needed to determine if there was money in the budget.

Councilor Thomas shared that they did not even have \$2,000 for the Historical Society.

Councilor Leach responded that the \$10,000 would be from a totally different pot of money and would not involve the Historical Society or Chamber.

Councilor Thomas noted that you could have every church apply.

Councilor Leach responded that everyone would need to go through the hoops to be a 501(c)(3).

Councilor Thomas stated that they did not even know if the City had the money to do this.

Mayor Wells responded that would be the next step. Then the Council would discuss policy and some of the other issues they talked about tonight after that. He continued that they did not want to put in all that time and effort into this if they did not have the money. He added that the other thing was that if they did not get this into this year's budget, this would not happen for a whole year anyway. Councilor Leach responded that was right.

Attorney Connelly stated that to address Councilor Hancock's point, she thought what he was saying was Council could just go ahead and adopt this as policy and then not fund it if the City did not have the money; however, what she was hearing from the group was not to spend time developing it and they would have another year to develop if there were truly no funds.

Mayor Wells and Councilor Leach responded exactly.

Attorney Connelly stated that she thought it was right on a policy basis and on a practical basis it did not make sense to pass this now if it was not going to be funded.

Councilor Hancock responded that he had just never known the Budget Committee to determine whether or not they could fund something before. The Budget Committee always reviewed the budget that was prepared by a professional finance person from the City, then reviewed by the City Administrator, saying to the Budget Committee that this was the budget they were recommending. Then the Budget Committee reviewed the budget in its entirety, which would include a line item for what they were discussing tonight if that was what the City

wanted to do. He had just never heard of it going to a Budget Committee and asking them if they thought the City could fund this and had never seen the Budget Committee used in that way. Attorney Connelly responded that she could not weigh in on that part, as she had not been involved in the City's budget process.

Mayor Wells stated that Administrator Nebel had seen this process work in other locations, and Mayor Wells thought that was where Administrator Nebel came up with some of these ideas.

Mayor Wells asked if the Council was in consensus.

Councilors Washburne and Leach responded yes.

Councilor Hancock responded no.

Councilor Thomas asked about the comments that it would be a waste of time. Councilor Leach responded that until they found out if they had the money, there was no sense in putting in time on the policy.

Attorney Connelly noted that in the Council options, it read, "If there was a majority consensus, then a request should be made at the Budget Committee to add funding for this program with a request to develop a program for Council consideration at a future regular meeting or work session, if further discussion is necessary on developing program criteria." She asked if there was a consensus around that path forward.

Councilor Thomas responded okay, as long as they were not giving out any money.

Mayor Wells stated that it would go to the Budget Committee, which consisted of all of the Council and the citizen members. Even if included in the budget and approved, funding would not be approved to be spent until it came back to Council. Then they would develop the program at that time, and the Council would have not yet given out a dime.

Councilor Leach noted that the budget was not adopted, until the Council adopted it. If the Council did not want this to happen, it would not happen. Mayor Wells responded right.

Mayor Wells asked what the Council consensus was on the Council option that had been read.

Councilor Leach responded yes.

Councilor Hancock responded no.

Councilor Washburne noted that they could not do anything until they knew where they stood. He was afraid in some ways that if they did this, everybody would come out of the woodwork and want money, but once it was gone, it was gone. Councilor Leach responded right and that was her thing.

Mayor Wells said that the Council would still control the use of the money.

Councilor Washburne shared that he did like the fact that Attorney Connelly had brought up, to have a timeframe to receive applications and if you missed the application window, that was it.

Councilor Leach responded that the rules that everyone needed to follow just needed to be written down.

Councilor Washburne expressed his agreement and so everything was in black and white.

Councilor Leach stated that they had gone too long with no rules. Councilor Thomas responded yes.

Mayor Wells noted that there were three Councilors in favor and one against.

Attorney Connelly stated that she wanted to follow up on as part of that consensus, as she was not hearing anybody ask to develop additional program criteria and it seemed the Council was happy with this framework if there was money for it. She asked if this program criteria

would come back to a regular Council meeting, after Budget Committee review and did not need to be reviewed at another Work Session.

Mayor Wells and Councilor Leach responded yes.

6. Administrator Projects Update

Mayor Wells read the list of items that Administrator Nebel had listed on his AIS:

- While Administrator Nebel was on vacation, he appointed Recorder Vodrup as Acting in Capacity (AIC) City Administrator April 23-26 and Director Kaping as AIC April 27 – May 3.
- Conducted a dozen stakeholder interviews to get input on their view of the City and what was important for the Council to consider in hiring the next City Administrator. Folks had appreciated the Council reaching out to them to get feedback on these important issues.
- He would be compiling stakeholder input (Council, staff, citizens) for Council review in developing the job profile for the next Administrator.
- Developed a community survey to get public feedback on various issues related to the City, in understanding what type of person would be a good fit to handle the challenges and opportunities for Junction City. He appreciated the technical assistance from Rachel to digitize the survey and get it out to the public. A flyer had been included in the water bills for people on the survey and paper copies are available at City Hall, the Library, and the Senior Center. As of April 21st, the City had received 50 completed surveys. Survey would close May 4th.
- He participated in four Community Meetings to provide updates on Police, Public Works, and the City Administrator recruitment. 19 citizens participated. Good feedback received. He appreciated Mayor Wells, Councilor Leach, and Councilor Thomas participating. Thanks to Chief Waddell and his staff, Director Kaping, and Superintendent Tracer for presenting at these meetings.
- He spoke at the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce breakfast about the recruitment process and had shared the same at the Ministerial Association.
- He participated with Director Kaping and Superintendent Tracer at two regional meetings on wastewater issues. Travelled to Creswell and met with counterparts there to get up to speed on their efforts. Their MAO came about two years earlier than Junction City's, so they had had a headstart on things. Also met with Lane County Public Works to discuss jointly hiring a facilitator to work through the regional policy issues that would be needed to be addressed by the five different public bodies.
- Executive Staff were meeting twice a month to review the agenda prior to each Council meeting, follow up on previous agenda items, discuss issues of mutual concern, and foster stronger communications between departments on issues affecting the City. These had been good meetings.
- He was working with Director Green on various aspects of the budget, and the first Budget Committee meeting would be on Monday, May 4, 2026. The budget prep was going down to the wire. He was reviewing as much of the budget that was ready for review prior to leaving on vacation. He would continue his review after the first Budget Committee meeting for any refinements that may need to be made prior to the second budget meeting on Monday, May 18, 2026.
- He appreciated having the opportunity to work for the City of Junction City.

Mayor Wells noted that Administrator Nebel had been very busy and Mayor Wells thought everyone in this room appreciated his assistance and guidance. The City was making progress, thanks to each and every one.

7. Public Works Projects Update

Director Kaping reported:

- Superintendent Tracer and Dan Scalas from Adkins Engineering met with Springfield about the MAO and hooking up to MWMC. There may be a change from the City hooking up at Enid Road to hooking up further down toward to the pressure main. Not hooking up at Enid Road would eliminate having to do upgrades to that station and as a result the costs to extend further down toward the pressure main would end up being a wash.
- Staff also met with Lane County and Creswell, to make sure everyone was on the same page. They assured Creswell that the City would not get in their way and were trying to gain information since they had already been through this.
- The contract with Galardi Rothstein was signed and City Recorder Vodrup had been given a copy for the contract files. They would start working on the SDC portion of costs to hook up to MWMC next month.

Councilor Leach expressed appreciation for all of staff's hard work on this. Director Kaping noted that he had asked Superintendent Tracer to attend meetings while Director Kaping was on vacation, to not hold anything up. Mayor Wells responded that was the right thing to do and expressed appreciation to Superintendent Tracer.

8. Police Department Projects Update

Chief Waddell reported:

- Lieutenant Hiring Process. Had five highly qualified applicants. The Lieutenant was slated to replace the Deputy Chief who would retire in October. Ended up selecting a current Lieutenant from Eugene and were working to get the background completed. Projected start date would be August 1st. Super excited to see that happen.
- Said goodbye to longtime dispatcher and front counter person Bobby Baird. Had a BBQ, gave him a present and wished him well.
- Have an open police officer position for an entry or lateral. Had 4 or 5 applicants so far.
- Have three Reserve applicants in backgrounds. This agency has a long history with reserves and were currently without any, so trying to restart that program.
- Looking to get some more VIPS. (Volunteer in Police Services). Anybody over the age of 18 that wanted to come out and volunteer to help us with parking issues, parks, filing, etc.
- Laundry room was completed. The reason they needed a laundry room was they hand washed every police car so needed towels and there were uniforms that needed to get washed. Other departments were going to bring some of their laundry to be washed.
- Created a lactation/wellness room in the Police Department and an interview room in a secure location.
- Armory was complete where they could store firearms and weapons, including non-lethal weapons. The PD had never had a secure location before.
- Would be conducting an inventory of all PD equipment in the next couple of months.
- Would be looking into less lethal weapons, such as an extended range impact weapon (bean bag gun, etc.)

Councilor Thomas asked how many officers the City currently had. Chief Waddell responded 10 ½ and were budgeted for 11 ½. Councilor Thomas said she had been asked why there was only one officer on duty, with the PD having 10 ½ officers. Chief Waddell responded that the School Resource Officer, detective, Deputy Chief, and Chief and a patrol officer all worked during the day. As much as they had 11 potentially sworn officers, the amount of people it took to run a 365/24 hour operation that included people having days off, vacation days, training, etc. was significant and you could not staff that with the amount of people they had right now. If the Lieutenant worked nights and the Sergeants were currently working overlapping shifts, you would have partial shifts with 2 officers. In order to get 2 officers on every shift they would need at least another 3 or 4 bodies.

Councilor Thomas asked what happened with the fire under the bridge on Ivy Street. Chief Waddell responded a homeless camp had caught on fire.

9. Other Business

None.

10. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the work session was adjourned at 7:47 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kitty Vodrup, City Recorder

Kenneth Wells, Mayor