
**City of Newberg
City Council
April 1, 2024**

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: Mayor Bill Rosacker, Councilor Mike McBride, Councilor Robyn Wheatley, Councilor Elise Yarnell Hollamon, Councilor Peggy Kilburg, Councilor Molly Olson, Councilor Derek Carmon

Staff Present: City Manager Will Worthey, City Attorney James Walker, City Recorder Rachel Thomas, Graphic Design Specialist Emily Salsbury, Finance Director Kady Strode, Library Director Korie Jones Buerkle, Chief of Police Jeff Kosmicki

ROLL CALL

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation Declaring Welcome Home Vietnam Veteran's Day

Mayor Rosacker declared March 29th as National Vietnam Veteran's Day as a way to honor and thank our Vietnam Veterans for their courageous military service and sacrifice.

RCA-INFO Hometown Hero Award

Council recognized the actions of Ed Hatch, Sarah Larison, Jacqueline Hanley, Nicole Lewelling, Sarah Pickell, and Rachel Lane, who saved the life of Robert Bass on February 27, 2024. Council expressed their gratitude toward the six and hopes this event helps to raise awareness of AED locations and CPR/AED Heart Saver training.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Newberg by the Numbers—City Manager’s Report

City Manager Worthey provided an overview of Newberg by the Numbers, which included a breakdown of the city’s budget, how the city is funded, its expenses, and provided an example of how a household’s tax dollars are spent amongst public service utility.

Worthey also expressed a desire to expedite paying the Communications debt by early 2026, saving each resident \$31.08 per year.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Jesse Cats, Newberg Resident

Cats provided public comment to commend City Council on deciding to remove the tree.

Cherice Bock, Newberg Resident

Bock expressed understanding about removing trees that need to come down but said that removing large, established trees changes the feel of the neighborhood. Bock also said there is still a lack of answers to questions she and her group have about the tree removal at Memorial Park. Bock requested the exploration of solutions that will delay or halt the removal of the redwood tree in Memorial Park.

Mary Jo Hernandez, Newberg Resident

Hernandez is asking City Council to work together with the Sustainable Solutions group for creative solutions to save the Redwood tree in Memorial Park. Hernandez asked to stop the tree removal until 2025 while they explore alternatives and explore existing financing options. Largely, Hernandez was seeking facts so the group could seek grant funding.

Dawn

Dawn said she understands that nobody wants to cut down a tree, but she feels it’s the only reasonable option given the circumstance about the tree’s roots damaging a stormwater pipe near Memorial Park. She continued to thank the city leaders for handling city resident concerns and making the decision.

Steve

Steve commended the City Council, the City Manager, and the Mayor for their transparency and decision-making regarding the Memorial Park tree removal.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

1. Presentation of Resolution 2024-3919 Increasing Utility Billing Assistance to Military and Veteran Families

City Manager Worthey provided a presentation to increase Municipal Services Assistance Program Military Assistance Allotment from \$3,600 to \$6,000. In 2023, Mayor Rosacker requested the Military Assistance Allotment be updated. Currently, the budget includes 12 individuals. The increase would allow the program for 20 applicants to be in the assistance allocation.

Action: Approve Resolution 2024-3919
Motion: Councilor Carmon
Second: Councilor McBride
Vote: 7 Yes, Passed Unanimously

2. Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue State of the District Report

Representatives from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue (TVF&R) provided an update on the past year's performance, major emergency operations, and EMS updates. They provided an endorsement of measure 34-332 where TVF&R is seeking a five-year levy for \$.69 per \$1,000 of assessed valuation to help fund the growth of staff, purchase specialized medical equipment, purchase vehicles, and more.

COUNCIL BUSINESS:

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.



Rachel Thomas, City Recorder

ATTEST:



Bill Rosacker, Mayor