



Randy Lauer, *Mayor*

David Ripma

Alison Caswell

Geoffrey Wunn

Glenn White

Jordan Wittren

Sandy Glantz

Agenda January 16, 2024

Special Meeting | *Immediately following the Urban Renewal Agency Meeting*

Troutdale Police Community Center – Kellogg Room

234 SW Kendall Ct, Troutdale, OR 97060

1. Roll Call

2. Public Comment: Public Comment on non-agenda and consent agenda items is welcome at this time. *Public comment on agenda items will be taken at the time the item is considered. Public comments should be directed to the Presiding Officer and limited to matters of community interest or related to matters which may, or could, come before Council. Each speaker shall be limited to 5 minutes for each agenda item unless a different amount of time is allowed by the Presiding Officer, with consent of the Council. The Council and Mayor should avoid immediate or protracted responses to citizen comments.*

3. Resolution: A resolution reconstituting the ad hoc Public Safety Services Delivery Working Group. – *Ray Young, City Manager*

4. Resolution: A resolution creating a Council study group to assist staff in determining options for future fire and emergency service to protect Troutdale. – *Ray Young, City Manager*

5. Adjournment

Randy Lauer, Mayor

Dated: January 10, 2024

Meeting Participation

The public may attend the meeting in person or via Zoom. Please email info@troutdaleoregon.gov by **5:00pm on Monday, January 15th** to request Zoom meeting access credentials. You may also submit written public comments via email to info@troutdaleoregon.gov no later than **5:00pm on Monday, January 15th**.

Further information and copies of agenda packets are available at: Troutdale City Hall, 219 E. Historic Columbia River Hwy. Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.; on our Web Page www.troutdaleoregon.gov/meetings or call Sarah Skroch, City Recorder at 503-674-7258.

The meeting location is wheelchair accessible. A request for an interpreter for the hearing impaired or for other accommodations for persons with disabilities should be made at least 48 hours before the meeting to: Sarah Skroch, City Recorder 503-674-7258.

MINUTES
Troutdale City Council – Special Meeting
Troutdale Police Community Center – Kellogg Room
234 SW Kendall Court
Troutdale, OR 97060

Tuesday, January 16, 2024

1. ROLL CALL

Mayor Lauer called the meeting to order at 8:16pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Lauer, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Caswell, Councilor Wunn, Councilor White, Councilor Wittren and Councilor Glantz.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Ray Young, City Manager; Sarah Skroch, City Recorder; Ed Trompke, City Attorney and Erich Mueller, Finance Director.

GUESTS: See Attached.

2. PUBLIC COMMENT: Public comment on non-agenda and consent agenda items is welcome at this time.

None.

3. RESOLUTION: A resolution reconstituting the ad hoc Public Safety Services Delivery Working Group.

Ray Young, City Manager, gave a brief overview of the staff reports for agenda items 3 and 4.

Councilor Glantz stated the more she looks at the resolution the more she's not sure it's good to split them. They are interdependent in terms of financing. Her other concern is that only Councilor Ripma and Councilor Wunn are ensured of still being on Council, everybody else is up for re-election. She thinks splitting 3 councilors would be good so it's not the same people doing the same thing. She stated the optics of doing this behind closed doors does not make her feel comfortable.

Ray Young stated the resolution on fire was written very carefully with Ed Trompke's input to make sure that it wasn't an elected body making decisions. They were simply going to be advising staff to work through the issues regarding fire. It was also made sure that nothing was done in the dark and that every single month Council would get an update on both endeavors.

Councilor Wunn stated he's under the understanding that the 2 groups will only be fact-finding groups. They're not making decisions or contracts. He thinks it's important to have 2 groups looking at very different issues.

Mayor Lauer stated in a simple way, they are 2 separate fact-finding missions to bring information back to Council to make decisions.

Councilor Glantz stated that being able to go back and look at some of the PSWG meetings is great, not being able to do that and having no one that was in the room at the time makes for a far more difficult perspective. She's concerned about the meetings not being recorded and not public.

Councilor Ripma stated the PSWG was originally set up to study law enforcement and fire services in Troutdale. The discussion at the last Council meeting raised the issue of whether they could do both. He stated that what persuaded him was both would be too much of a burden. He would be interested in hearing from anyone on that committee to see if they can handle looking into both.

Mayor Lauer stated he doesn't think it was too much for them to handle, just a lot of information all at once. He thought it would allow each group to hyper focus and get more accomplished.

Rich Allen stated the suggestion to separate did not come from the working group. The fire and law enforcement share a common financial aspect. He stated the government doesn't have the trust of the citizens. If the first move is to take it out of citizen involvement, it doesn't set a good signal.

Ray Young stated the committees are trying to come up with information so that the Council and the citizenry can make decisions.

Carol Allen stated she thinks this needs to be in the public. It's a lot but she thinks the working group would be willing. She was aghast about fire being taken out of the group. She likes to be involved in the City as much as she can.

Taney Staffenson stated they all serve at the pleasure of the Council. When he suggested there be a group tasked at looking the contracts, breaking them apart into 2 groups is not what he envisioned. Fire and police are about as intertwined as you can get.

Mayor Lauer stated no decisions are being made in either of the groups. It is a fact-finding mission. The groups will be gathering information so that the Council can make a decision later.

Councilor Ripma stated Council is consulting with the PSWG now and they seem to be willing to continue. He would prefer another resolution being brought back reconstituting the PSWG at the next Council meeting, then assign them the tasks.

Victoria Rizzo stated she thinks the PSWG can keep it together and not make it 2 separate committees.

Ed Trompke stated the second group is not a committee. It is specifically set up because a committee would fall under the public meetings laws. This is simply 3 council members talking to staff. That is one of the exemptions from what falls under the City Council public meetings laws now.

Victoria Rizzo stated she would rather have just the one working group as it has been.

Councilor Caswell stated she wanted to re-highlight about no decisions are being made and it's just a fact-finding mission to gather information. This is a really big deal and the more we stall over things like this the more it puts the entire process behind. Having the 2 groups is a good way to get the issues moving forward faster.

Ray Young stated staff will do whatever Council wants them to do. He stated he's still working behind the scenes on these topics. The police decision is a General Fund issue. The City needs to decide what it wants to buy, what it can afford to buy and who it wants to buy it from. Fire is more of a political decision and has to be made in cooperation with Wood Village, Fairview, Gresham and Fire District 10. A big piece of the Fire equation has to do with the other political issue which is the public's desire to want to join Fire District 10 or form a new fire district. The City needs to be fully open and fully transparent and give the citizens all the benefits and detriments to it. Each issue needs to be approached very differently.

Councilor White stated that Ray's last statement kind of emphasized to him the importance of that citizen group because that might not be the only options. The citizen group is looking at all sorts of different options. The group has a councilor involved in the working group. The last time there were 3 councilors working in a group was on Charter amendments during an election year and it became very political. It didn't go over very well. He stated he feels like staff and the Mayor, and a few Councilors already have a plan that the rest of Council doesn't know about. The optics are pretty bad.

Councilor Wunn stated he doesn't think there is any preconceived notions or any ulterior motives whatsoever. He takes a little bit of offense to the comment that there's already a plan. He doesn't have any idea of what anything costs or entails or how they would affect the people of Troutdale. He feels like the PSWG is already behind the ball in terms of getting Council the information that they need to give to staff and to negotiate. He feels like the working group hasn't done their job and his job is to hold everybody accountable, so the citizens get what they need. It needs to be expedited and get the information to Council. He's new to Council and he hopes he's given the opportunity to do right by the citizens.

Councilor Glantz stated she agrees with Councilor Caswell and Councilor Wunn. There's a lot of work to be done and it needs to be done quickly. Given the political nature, then switch the groups where the PSWG works on fire and the 3 Councilors work on law enforcement. That way the most politically obvious is still open and visible in most cases.

Councilor Ripma stated the PSWG was constituted over a year ago. They issued their final report in December 2023. The Council decided to ramp up their work in this resolution. The PSWG is willing to do the work and take it on and have worked hard on it. He doesn't want to

go forward with splitting up fire and police. He would like the PSWG reconstituted with a standing report at every Council meeting.

Councilor White stated having 3 Councilors do a fact-finding mission for fire, there was a university that did an in-depth study on that very subject, and it answered a lot of questions. Rich Allen was on Council then and he was the liaison for the police negotiation team and Tanney was on the negotiation team for fire. There was a pretty successful result with fire during that time. There are only so many options so it's not that complicated. A lot of the work has been done and the people that worked on it are willing to do it a second time.

Mayor Lauer stated that he would argue that it is very complicated and it's a big decision coming up.

Mayor Lauer opened public comment at 9:02pm.

Tanney Staffenson stated that being a member of the PSWG he would like to say if it's going to be restructured, it would have been good if the group was involved. A number of the people in the group have said they would like to continue the work. The comment that the group hasn't done their job is insulting. The group was tasked in January, they met for the first time in August, and they weren't to make any distinct recommendations. He asked what the group did not do or what mission was not fulfilled for the City. Whether anybody likes it or not, history plays into everything that goes on.

Shirley Prickett stated she agrees with most of what everybody has said but perception is what the residents look at. If you expect people to vote or agree on adding more money to the tax base, it will be hard if the citizens don't see and understand things ahead of time. Both fire and police should be kept in the same group.

Paul Wilcox stated he hasn't heard what the meetings would look like if a Council subgroup is formed. It sounds like there is an implication of meeting behind closed doors. He stated the subgroup for Charter were done in public and he attended those meetings.

Mayor Lauer closed public comment at 9:06pm.

Councilor White stated he believes the resolution is stating that the meetings would not be public meetings.

Ed Trompke stated yes, right now 1, 2 or 3 members could meet with Ray Young privately. Those members couldn't discuss with other Councilors, only themselves. This would not be a committee, it's something that is already allowed.

Councilor Ripma stated in item #4 of the resolution, it identifies a specific set of Councilors that will be doing the fact finding.

Ed Trompke stated it is to inform the staff, the City Manager, so he can come to Council with a recommendation.

Councilor Ripma stated he understands it was done with care, so it doesn't violate the meetings laws but it's all being done behind closed doors. He doesn't like the idea of doing it that way. The PSWG should be allowed to continue to do what they were formed to do. The group is willing to keep doing the work.

Councilor Wunn stated in response to Tanney, he doesn't think he was saying the members of the PSWG didn't do their job. He thinks they did the best they could with what they were given. The work needs to be done quickly and there shouldn't be arguments over this.

Ed Trompke stated there are 2 options with each of the resolutions. In item #3 of the resolution, Council could either adopt it as written. It reconstitutes the PSWG until July 2025 and then it could be said that that is what is in Section 1. You could leave in Sections 2-5 or not. They could be stricken or not. If they aren't stricken, they are simply giving some guidance to what the City Council would like to hear back from the group at least as one of their priority matters. With respect to the second resolution, Council could adopt it as written and the Mayor would appoint 3 Council members or some other selection method, or not adopt at all.

Ray Young stated if Council adopts #3 as written he doesn't think that's inconsistent with anything anybody said tonight. For the next meeting he could reword #4 so that it's worded exactly as #3 except to insert the fire services investigation and leave out the 3 Councilors and just assign it to the PSWG.

Mayor Lauer asked if Council decides to take a vote on agenda item #3 as written and they vote it down because even though as written in the agenda and with the attached resolution it says yes but it kind of doesn't say yes about fire. If it's voted down, can there be another vote with an amendment and strike everything except for Section 1 in resolution #3?

Ed Trompke stated his personal preference would be is if you were to do it and leave in 1 and 6, 7 and 8 including the reporting, the expiration date in July 2025 and then it takes immediate effect. You would do it through this mechanism.

MOTION: Councilor Ripma moved adoption of a resolution reconstituting the ad hoc Public Safety Services Delivery Working Group and that the resolution in the packet being amended as follows; Sections 2, 3, 4 and 5 are omitted. The resolution will have Sections 1, 6, 7 and 8 only as set forth in the Council packet. Seconded by Councilor Glantz.

VOTE: Councilor Wittren – Yes; Councilor Glantz – Yes; Councilor Ripma – Yes; Councilor Caswell – Abstained; Councilor Wunn - No; Mayor Lauer – Yes and Councilor White – Yes.

Motion passed 5-1-1.

4. RESOLUTION: A resolution creating a Council study group to assist staff in determining options for future fire and emergency service to protect Troutdale.

Ray Young stated he's taking from the majority of Council that the duties listed in #4 should go to the Public Safety Working Group.

Mayor Lauer opened public comment at 9:24pm.

None.

Mayor Lauer closed public comment at 9:24pm.

MOTION: Councilor Ripma moved to postpone the resolution indefinitely. Seconded by Councilor Glantz.

VOTE: Councilor Wittren – No; Councilor Glantz – Yes; Councilor Ripma – Yes; Councilor Caswell – No; Councilor Wunn - No; Mayor Lauer – Yes and Councilor White – Yes.

Motion passed 4-3.

5. ADJOURNMENT

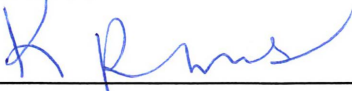
MOTION: Councilor Ripma moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Wunn. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:26pm.



Randy Lauer, Mayor
Dated: February 29, 2024

ATTEST:



Kenda Rimes, Deputy City Recorder

**January 16, 2024 URA Joint Meeting w/ TCAB and City Council Special Meeting - Zoom
Guests**

Name (Original Name)	User Email	Join Time	Leave Time	Duration (Minutes)
Sarah Skroch	troutconf@troutdaleoregon.gov	1/16/2024 18:45	1/16/2024 21:26	162
JLeamy (Donna)		1/16/2024 18:50	1/16/2024 20:18	88
Ray Young	troutconf@troutdaleoregon.gov	1/16/2024 18:52	1/16/2024 21:26	155
Shirley		1/16/2024 18:52	1/16/2024 19:17	25
abefarkas		1/16/2024 18:54	1/16/2024 20:16	82
Carol Allen		1/16/2024 18:54	1/16/2024 21:26	153
Alison Caswell		1/16/2024 18:55	1/16/2024 21:26	152
Paul Wilcox		1/16/2024 18:55	1/16/2024 21:26	151
E. Mueller		1/16/2024 18:55	1/16/2024 20:16	81
Dave Ripma		1/16/2024 18:56	1/16/2024 21:26	151
Jordan Ramis Information Technology		1/16/2024 18:56	1/16/2024 21:26	151
Rich Allen		1/16/2024 18:56	1/16/2024 21:26	151
Jeff Hutchinson (jeffhutchinson)		1/16/2024 18:57	1/16/2024 21:26	150
Taney Staffenson		1/16/2024 18:57	1/16/2024 21:26	150
Jordan Wittren		1/16/2024 18:57	1/16/2024 21:26	149
TESTIFIER 8-Nickeia Hunter		1/16/2024 18:58	1/16/2024 18:59	2
William Knight		1/16/2024 18:58	1/16/2024 21:26	149
Randy Lauer		1/16/2024 18:58	1/16/2024 21:26	149
Victoria's iPhone		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 21:26	148
Erika		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 20:36	97
Heather Jones (City of Troutdale)		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 20:16	78
Geoffrey Wunn		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 21:26	148
Sandy Glantz		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 21:26	148
Zach Andrews		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 19:03	4
GLENN WHITE		1/16/2024 18:59	1/16/2024 21:26	147
Diane		1/16/2024 19:00	1/16/2024 20:16	77
Observer (TESTIFIER 8-Nickeia Hunter)		1/16/2024 19:00	1/16/2024 20:14	75
Chris Nelson		1/16/2024 19:00	1/16/2024 20:16	76
Marlee Boxler		1/16/2024 19:01	1/16/2024 20:16	76
Lauren Jones		1/16/2024 19:01	1/16/2024 20:16	75
Zach Andrews		1/16/2024 19:03	1/16/2024 20:32	90
Shirley		1/16/2024 19:18	1/16/2024 21:26	129
Observer		1/16/2024 20:15	1/16/2024 20:16	1
Erika		1/16/2024 20:36	1/16/2024 21:26	50