



City of Warrenton City Commission Minutes

City Hall, 225 S. Main Warrenton, OR 97146
Tuesday, May 13, 2025

1. City Commission meeting called to order at 6:00 pm.
2. Pledge of Allegiance

Commission Members	Present	Excused
Gerald Poe	X	
Jessica Sollaccio	X	
Tom Dyer		X
Paul Mitchell	X	
Henry Balensifer, Mayor	X	

Staff Members Present	
City Manager Esther Moberg	City Recorder Dawne Shaw
Police Chief Mathew Workman	Public Works Director Kevin Gorman
Library Director Josh Saranpaa	

3. Consent Calendar

*Items on the Consent Calendar have previously been discussed and/or are considered routine. Approval of the Consent Calendar requires a motion, a second, and no discussion, unless requested by a member of the City Commission.

- A. City Commission Work Session Minutes 2025.04.08
- B. City Commission Joint Work Session Minutes 2025.04.22
- C. City Commission Meeting Minutes 2025.04.22
- D. Marina Update – April 2025
- E. Parks Advisory Committee Minutes 2025.02.10
- F. Monthly Finance Report – March 2025
- G. Warrenton Community Library Computer Grant

Motion:	Move to approve the consent calendar as presented.				
Moved:	Mitchell				
Seconded:	Poe	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recused
Vote:	Poe	X			
	Sollaccio	X			
	Mitchell	X			
	Balensifer	X			
Passed:	4/0				

4. Commissioner Reports

Commissioner Mitchell stated he attended the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) conference and noted highlights and laws regarding the homeless. He also gave a kudos to the Public Works trash dept for going above and beyond.

Commissioner Sollaccio reviewed and discussed meetings she attended.

City Manager Esther Moberg noted her thoughts are with the family of Capt. Ralieggh boat and noted a piling on E dock is compromised.

Mayor Balensifer echoed Commissioner Mitchell and City Manager Esther Moberg. He also noted he attended LOC conference and that May 28th is the preliminary court date for FEMA BiOp lawsuit.

5. Public Comment – None

6. Public Hearings

- A. Mayor Balenisfer stated the City Commission is not required by law to hold a hearing on the matter, they are doing so to allow public comment and for public transparency. Mayor Balensifer opened the public hearing on fluoride supplementation. Formalities followed. No conflicts of interest or ex parte contacts were reported. Public Works Director Kevin Gorman reviewed his staff report outlining the existing issues with fluoride supplementation. He explained the reason the city's fluoride supply comes from China. He noted the differences between the powdered and liquid forms and discussed why the city uses the powder. He noted that he misspoke at a prior meeting, and that fluoride requires a full hazmat suite, and the sodium hypochlorite requires less personal protective equipment (PPE). Mayor Balensifer asked for public comments. He noted the packet of comments received via email and also a comment Commissioner Poe entered into the record.

Scott Santos, a dentist from Seaside, spoke in opposition to the removal of fluoride in city water.

Matthew Sanchez, spoke in regard to national security matters regarding fluoride from China, the tariffs and the US based alternatives.

Jackie Sanchez, spoke in opposition to the removal of fluoride.

Jeremiah Shakespear, dentist in Astoria, spoke in opposition to the removal of fluoride.

There were no comments in favor of the fluoride removal or neutral. Mayor Balenisfer noted the number of comments for and against (verbal and emailed). There being no further comments, Mayor Balensifer closed the public testimony section of the hearing. Commissioner Poe asked if we see the price coming down with the pause on tariffs; Gorman stated they will monitor it. Mayor Balensifer asked if we had to go to liquid what would that entail; Gorman stated it would be diluted first and put into the system he also noted concerns with cost and safety risks. Commissioner Sollaccio noted the cost saved versus saving costs elsewhere; Gorman responded. Mayor Balensifer closed the public hearing.

Mayor Balensifer noted a lot of people have stopped him to talk to him about the matter and noted how other cities have handled it. Commissioner Mitchell noted his thoughts and information he has received. Commissioner Sollaccio noted the downstream effects if we remove the fluoride. She noted data and risks of removal. Commissioner Poe noted it came to them as a cost cutting measure and it has turned into something else. He noted that they could take it to the voters. Mayor Balensifer agreed that it went from a cost cutting issue, to something else. He noted how many comments received that were actually from Warrenton residents. Commissioner Sollaccio noted the non-residents that submitted comments. Discussion continued.

Motion:	Move to continue fluoridation until such time voters have decided in the earliest election.				
Moved:	Poe				
Seconded:	Balensifer	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recused
Vote:	Sollaccio		X		
	Poe	X			
	Mitchell	X			
	Balensifer	X			
Passed:	3/1				

7. Business Items

A. Consideration of Raw Waterline RP-2 Project Contact Award:

Gorman reviewed his staff report. There was brief discussion on why the bid was so low; Gorman noted the bid was reviewed with a fine tooth comb.

Motion:	Move to approve the award of the construction contract for the Raw Waterline RP-2 Project to Trench Line Excavation, Inc., in the amount of \$898,191.				
Moved:	Sollaccio				
Seconded:	Poe	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recused
Vote:	Sollaccio	X			
	Poe	X			
	Mitchell	X			
	Balensifer	X			
Passed:	4/0				

B. Consideration of Revised Amendment #3 – Hammond Transmission Waterline:

Gorman reviewed a revision to amendment #3 of the safe drinking water revolving loan fund agreement for the Hammond Transmission Line Project.

Motion:	Move to authorize the Mayor to execute the revised Amendment #3 to the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund Agreement for the Hammond Transmission Waterline Project.				
Moved:	Poe				
Seconded:	Sollaccio	Aye	Nay	Abstain	Recused
Vote:	Sollaccio	X			

	Poe	X			
	Mitchell	X			
	Balensifer	X			
Passed:	4/0				

8. Discussion items – None

9. Good of the Order

Commissioner Sollaccio noted the Library grant and gave kudos to staff. She noted ballots are due May 20th.

Moberg noted that she appreciated the discussion around fluoride.

Mayor Balensifer noted the experimental aircraft association will have an event for adults this Saturday.

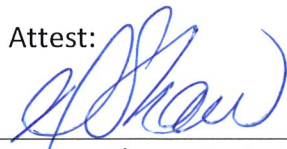
10. Executive Session

At 7:00 pm, Mayor Balensifer announced the Commission will meet in Executive Session *Under the authority of ORS 192.660(2)(i); to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.*

11. Adjournment

At 7:26 pm, Mayor Balenisfer reconvened the meeting, and noting no further business, adjourned the meeting.

Attest:



Dawne Shaw, CMC, City Recorder

Approved:



Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor