

MINUTES

COUNCIL MEETING



Date: February 04, 2026
Time: 6:50 pm
Meeting called to order by: Mayor Anderson at 6:52 pm

IN ATTENDANCE

Council: Mayor Witt Anderson, Noah Estes, Lydia Koerner, Charlie Cannon, Ron Wright, Gary Lindemyer, Brenna Campbell

Staff: City Manager Andrea Rogers, City Recorder Amy Szilagyi, Special Projects Coordinator Colleen Coleman, City Planner Jaime Crawford, Finance Director Monica Morris, City Attorney Lura Westmeyer

AGENDA CORRECTIONS/ADDITIONS: Andrea requested to add an item for approving the City Manager to enter into a construction contract with Dreamland, which will be discussed alongside the volunteer agreement.

SUMMARY: The City Council approved the January 7th meeting minutes as amended. Scott Hagee informed the council that the Mosier Emergency Operations Plan was approved, and he offered to share the document. Nicole Beechler introduced herself as a candidate for County Commissioner and expressed interest in the city's affairs. Jayne Elkin mentioned an email she sent regarding questions that will be forwarded to the City Council. Charlie raised concerns about Google's data centers and their impact on the Columbia River's temperature. Scott clarified that the centers do not use Columbia water. Lydia discussed ongoing issues with mail being returned due to incorrect addressing, and Witt offered to address the problem with Senator Merkley or postmaster Joe Atwood.

APPROVAL OF 01.07.2026 MINUTES: Mayor Anderson reported minor typographical corrections to the January 7 minutes, including correction of "Joint Youth Facility" and the spelling of a name.

MOTION: Councilor Lindemyer moved to approve minutes as amended. Councilor Wright seconded. The motion carried with the following votes.

Ayes: Anderson, Estes, Koerner, Cannon, Wright, Lindemyer, Campbell

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

OPEN MEETING

Public Comment

- Commissioner Scott Hege: Reported that Wasco County approved its Emergency Operations Plan, which includes Mosier, and offered to share the document with the City; the plan outlines community and agency responses to future emergencies.
- Nicole Biechler: Introduced herself as a candidate for County Commissioner and highlighted her family's long-standing ties to Mosier.
- Jayne Elken: Noted she had submitted questions via email; Mayor Anderson confirmed that he and the City Manager had reviewed the email, and a response would be provided and shared with Council.
- Councilor Charlie Cannon: Inquired about environmental oversight regarding Google data centers in The Dalles and potential impacts on Columbia River water quality. Commissioner Hege explained that Google draws water from municipal and well sources, not directly from the Columbia, and that discharges meet EPA requirements; he offered to provide additional information.
- Councilor Lydia Koerner: Raised concerns about local postal service, including returned packages addressed with both street addresses and PO Boxes. Mayor Anderson and Councilor Ron Wright noted similar experiences,

discussed possible escalation through Senator Merkley's office, and considered direct contact with postal officials. A member of the public suggested residents may qualify for a free PO Box and recommended speaking with the Mosier post office manager.

1. **Resolution: FY 2026-27 Budget Calendar:** Finance Director Monica Morris presented the proposed Fiscal year 2026-27 City Budget Calendar. She requested Council approval to schedule an additional Budget Committee meeting on April 15, which Council confirmed as feasible. City Manager Rogers invited residents to volunteer for the Budget Committee, emphasizing limited time commitment, and Morris indicated she would provide a notice for the City's website, local newspaper, and radio to recruit volunteers and outline participation requirements.

MOTION: Made by Councilor Estes that City Council meet for a Budget Committee meeting on April 15th. Councilor Cannon seconded. The motion carried with the following votes.

Ayes: Anderson, Estes, Koerner, Cannon, Wright, Lindemyer, Campbell

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

2. **Stormwater Plan Update:** Jody Behr, of YSM Solutions, provided a status update on the City's stormwater management plan, reporting that all stakeholder comments have been received, addressed, and responses are being returned. She outlined next steps, including coordination with Willamette Partnership planners on development code revisions, with adoption targeted for May–June. Behr highlighted Section 17, which lists recommended projects to support future funding, including education, water quality testing and treatment, addressing direct pipe discharges to Mosier and Rock Creeks through potential county and ODOT partnerships, capturing and using downtown spring water for vegetation and development solutions, and ongoing maintenance and education initiatives. Councilors were encouraged to review stakeholder comments and contact staff with questions.

Mayor Anderson asked about arranging a field site visit for Council to view priority stormwater project locations and about Council's opportunity to review stormwater code revisions prior to adoption. Behr agreed to coordinate the site visit and stated planners will prepare draft code language and developer guidance templates and recommended a Council work session for detailed review.

Planner Jaime Crawford asked about the code revision process, noting this was her first notice that Willamette Partnership would draft code changes. Special Projects Coordinator Colleen Coleman explained that Willamette Partnership will prepare draft code language, conduct public outreach, and assist with adoption due to grant funding limitations. Crawford indicated she will assist with adoption as needed.

Councilor Lydia Koerner asked about ODOT's role and timeline. Councilor Ron Wright asked whether stormwater requirements would apply to residential development. Jody explained the City coordinated early with ODOT to establish compatible stormwater criteria, noted the Washington Street project will serve as a test case, clarified that DEQ funded the planning grant and ODOT is supportive but not a formal stakeholder, and stated the plan applies to all new development citywide while encouraging voluntary retrofits for existing development.

Councilor Wright expressed support for the concept but emphasized the need to distinguish mandatory and recommended measures and ensure requirements remain cost-conscious. Mayor Anderson added the need for clear examples, cost comparisons, and thorough Council review before adoption. Coleman noted the plan is intended to provide consistent and cost-effective compliance options and suggested using recent residential projects as case studies. Crawford added that stormwater requirements must meet nexus and proportionality standards under federal law. Behr agreed to provide project examples, cost comparisons, and additional project labeling in the plan for clarity. Council consensus was to proceed toward adoption with additional workshops, site visits, and detailed review of code language and cost implications before final decisions.

3. **General Planning Updates:** Planner Jaime Crawford provided a planning update, noting staff are resolving several code violation cases administratively, with appeals coming to Council. She reported that Mosier received a \$45,000

DLCD grant from the Housing Accountability and Production Office to prepare housing-related development code amendments, explaining that recent state housing laws have left many communities, including Mosier, out of compliance. Because residential development is allowed in all zones, the City can simplify and streamline its code, moving content better suited to policy documents, as demonstrated in the June transportation system plan amendment. Jaime requested that Council consider appointing a Technical Advisory Committee for the project and asked councilors to identify community members, inside or outside Mosier, to advise on future development over the next 25–50 years.

Mayor Anderson expressed support for using a committee approach similar to the skate park rules working group, requested a clear definition of the TAC's mission, scope, expected deliverables, and meeting schedule, asked that assignments be summarized for potential members, suggested posting the TAC description and meeting expectations on the City website, and encouraged councilors to consider serving. City Manager Rogers noted the \$45,000 budget requires a carefully scoped project, and she and Jaime Crawford committed to preparing a detailed scope outlining tasks, timelines, and outputs within the grant. Councilors, including Ron Wright, expressed interest and requested clarification on what is achievable with available funding. Crawford estimated approximately six TAC meetings, including a workshop and formal Council adoption hearing, and confirmed the project will be tailored to stay within budget. Crawford requested councilors identify potential members and confirmed a written scope will be provided at a future meeting.

4. **Volunteer Project Management Agreement/Construction Agreement – Jacobs Park (Skate Park Project):** City Manager Andrea Rogers explained that this is the City's first use of volunteer project coordinators, describing the qualifications of consultants John Grim and Lee Campbell, and recommended Council approve the agreement to provide volunteer project management for the skate park project. Mayor Anderson and Councilor Ron Wright expressed support, noting the model provides professional assistance at no cost and could be used for future projects. Councilor Noah Estes asked for clarification on liability coverage for volunteers; Rogers confirmed that volunteers are covered under a safe policy, with nominal costs, and that the agreement establishes proper liability protections for the City. Council consensus was reached to proceed, and Mayor Anderson called for a motion.

City Manager Andrea Rogers reported that, following prior council approval of grant funding and the skate park budget, she has been working with the City Attorney to prepare a formal construction contract with Dreamland Skateparks that defines scope of work, roles, and required protective language for the City. She requested authorization for the City Manager to enter into that contract once drafting is complete due to time constraints.

MOTION: Made by Councilor Cannon that Council authorize the City Manager to enter into volunteer service agreements with John Grim and Lee Campbell for project management at Jacob's Park. Councilor Koerner seconded. The motion carried with the following votes.

Ayes: Anderson, Estes, Koerner, Cannon, Wright, Lindemyer, Campbell

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

MOTION: Made by Councilor Lindemyer that the City Council authorize the City Manager to enter into contract with Dreamland for construction of the Skate park as outlined in the contract to be developed by the City Attorney. Councilor Estes seconded. The motion carried with the following votes.

Ayes: Anderson, Estes, Koerner, Cannon, Wright, Lindemyer, Campbell

Nays: None

Abstentions: None

5. **City Activities Updates/Reports:**

- City Manager Rogers: Reported on ongoing initiatives, including weekly coordination with staff and Finance Manager Monica Morris on finance and administrative processes, adding the Mosier Streetscape project to

ODOT's regional priority list, and attending the CIS conference on risk management and HR practices with City Recorder Amy Szilagyi.

- Mayor Anderson: Noted that the League of Oregon Cities spring conference will be held in Pendleton and encouraged councilor attendance, noting potential scholarship support and past benefits from similar events. He reported that he and Fire Board representative Rob Miller plan to visit the state Capitol to advocate for joint-use facility funding and that Representative Helfrich has submitted a \$4.5 million capital construction request for the Mosier Joint Use Facility as his top priority, with Senator Drazen also supporting it. He cautioned that success would depend on the legislative process, economic conditions, and lottery revenue forecasts but described the request's priority status as very positive news.

Meeting Adjourned 8:00 pm

ACTION ITEMS:

City Manager Rogers:

- Work with Jody/Colleen to schedule and conduct a site walk for Council to review high-priority stormwater management projects
- Work with Jody/Colleen to organize a working session for Council to review and discuss proposed stormwater code updates prior to adoption.
- Work with Jody/Colleen to provide examples and cost information for nature-based stormwater solutions for Council review.
- Post notice/inquiry on city websites and local media to recruit citizen members for the housing code update advisory committee.
- Post notice/inquiry on city website and in local media to recruit citizen members for the housing code update advisory committee.

City Planner Crawford:

- Draft and provide a clear scope of work and role description for the housing code update advisory committee, including expected time commitment and deliverables, for Council and public recruitment.

Witt Anderson

Witt Anderson (Apr 3, 2026 19:47:15 PDT)

Witt Anderson, Mayor

Amy Szilagyi

Amy Szilagyi, City Recorder

Approved by City Council on: April 01, 2026






02.04.26 Meeting Minutes

Final Audit Report

2026-04-04

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