MINUTES
KEIZER CITY COUNCIL
Monday, January 26, 2026
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
930 Chemawa Road NE
Keizer, Oregon

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as follows:

Present:
Cathy Clark, Mayor
Shaney Starr, Council President
Soraida Cross, Council Vice President
Kyle Juran, Councilor
Daniel Kohler, Councilor
Marlene Parsons, Councilor
Lore Christopher, Councilor

Absent:
Felicia Guptill, Youth Councilor

Staff:
Adam Brown, City Manager
Tim Wood, Assistant City Manager
Shane Witham, Planning Director
Joseph Lindsay, City Attorney
Keare Blaylock, Public Works Director
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
Andrew Copeland, Police Chief
Garrett Klever, Human Resources Director
Melissa Bisset, City Recorder

DISCUSSION

a. City Council Goals and 2026-2030 Strategic Plan Review

City Manager Adam Brown presented the 2025-2026 City Council Goals and the 2026-2030 Strategic Plan on the following topics, which were included in the packet in great detail:

<u>Review of 2025-2026 Council Goals:</u>

Urban Growth Boundary (UGB)

- Two Town Halls have been held.
- An online survey was conducted.
- The next steps were to review the public engagement results as a Council and determine next steps.

Councilor Christopher shared that she would like the community to have discussion and decide if they would like to expand the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB). She was most concerned about the Southeast Keizer Neighborhood Association without a UGB expansion. She thought there would be apartments interspersed in the neighborhood without a UGB expansion.

Councilor Juran thought the older homes would be sold to developers.

Mayor Clark suggested adding a housing capacity and production to the next steps.

Councilor Kohler felt the UGB was an important conversation to have.

Transportation System Plan (TSP)

- The City was waiting for the Department of Justice approval of the contract. The process would be 18 to 24 months.
- The plan was to have it kicked off by the end of the year.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Revision

- The EOP was reviewed by emergency management professionals through a grant applied for by Marion County.
- The next steps were for the Emergency Management Planning Committee (EMPC) to meet and provide a recommendation to Council for adoption.
- The EMPC would meet in February or March.

Parks Master Plan Revision

- An intercept survey was conducted.
- A stakeholder meeting was conducted.
- The Parks Board presentation was made.
- There would be one more town hall meeting on February 23rd.

Gold Star Memorial

- The concept, fundraising, grants and construction were all within 18 months.
- Thanks were called out to Matt Lawyer, Mark Callier, Tim Berry, Jeff Anderson, Kevin Dial, and the Keizer Rotary Club.
- The ribbon cutting would be February 7, 2026.

Discount Program for Under 60 and in Need

- The Program would come to Council in February or March for consideration.

Sidewalk Gap Program

- A Council Work Session was held.
- The Program guidelines were presented to City Council.
- Funding was planned for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.
- Staff was in the process of making the program and application materials.
- Funding would be formalized in the budget.

There was a suggestion to formalize the Program by resolution. The Program would come before the Council to be adopted by May.

Willow Lake Settlement Agreement Options Review

- Salem and Keizer legal staff have spoken.
- Some Salem and Keizer elected officials have spoken.
- Salem conducted a study, which determined measures to reduce odor would be cost prohibitive to return land for residential use.
- There would need to be more discussion on the matter.

City Attorney Lindsay would check with City of Salem staff to make sure that the related document that Salem provided could be released publicly.

Traffic Congestion

- Traffic congestion continues to be a part of each discussion.

Council President Starr requested there be something specific related to Keizer Station and in the Lockhaven and Chemawa vicinity. She requested options and discussion around River Road. Council President Starr had concern about River Road North and South of Wheatland, and she anticipated additional development along River Road.

Mayor Clark noted that the item would be included in the Transportation System Plan (TSP).

Council President Starr expressed concern about pedestrians crossing River Road. She felt that steps should be taken now to address the traffic congestion.

There was a request to look at the Traffic Signal flow and timing for Keizer Station at Ulali onto Chemawa. Public works Director Bill Lawyer shared that there were limitations because of the overpass but that the City could have the City of Salem look at it.

There was a request to look at options on River Road from Wheatland to the City limits to see about a traffic study or other triggers for civilization or pedestrian-activated crossings.

Economic Opportunities Analysis

The Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) applied for a grant but did not receive it. The City would make an application again.

2026-2030 Strategic Plan:

A Strategic Plan Work Group of the Council had met and were providing the recommended plan from the Work Group. There were thousands of comments from citizens. Comments and suggestions were received from all of the City committees.

Internally, the City had a Vision to Performance Spiral. There were systems of accountability. The plan would not sit on the shelf, it would be built into the agenda item format. The plan and objectives would be reviewed once a month by the Executive Leadership Team. The plan would be reviewed annually as part of the budget process. There would be a scorecard that could be published online that shows the timing of which goals would be worked through first and prioritized in the five-year plan when they would be completed. Mr. Brown explained that there would be discussion about whether the goals are right, using the Long Range Planning Task Force, setting a target and then the team would prepare the budget.

City Mission Statement

Councilor Christopher shared that the work group did not want to lose the original mission statement, and it was important to be part of a modernized mission statement, so the history was also retained.

Public Safety

Mr. Brown reviewed the proposed tasks under the Public Safety Goal.

Chief Copeland shared that the License Plate Readers and Cameras were a phenomenal tool for investigations. Policy was being developed around Body Cameras, and it was anticipated that it was likely a few weeks away before Body Cameras were used.

It was noted that the point in time (PIT) was biennial. The task would be updated on the draft Strategic Plan. Mayor Clark shared that there was better data available from the Homeless Management Information System (HMIS).

Transportation & Infrastructure

There was discussion about connectivity. In the task "Implement sidewalk gap and repair program, establish an annual minimum budget of $100,000, explore alternative funding options including a special levy," the words "including a special levy" would be removed. Public Works Director Lawyer shared that Salem Electric and Portland General Electric (PGE) maintained all streetlights in the City of Keizer except for the ones in Keizer Station. The tasks "Prepare a report on burnt out streetlights, create a replacement plan and inventory residential streetlight outages and create a plan for repair" would be removed.

There were discussions about improving communication and outreach about how to report streetlights. There would be a social media effort during the darker months educating the community about how to report burnt out streetlights.

Economic & Community Development
It was noted that the Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy should be capitalized.

Discussion ensued regarding using Travel Salem's capabilities related to visitor patterns.

There was a request to add Unfunded Actuarial Accrued Liability (UAL) to the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS) debt. There was discussion about whether it should be left generic. Assistant City Manager Brown explained that it would go into the budget. There was agreement to change the word debt to liability.

It was suggested that the Keizer Public Arts Commission Master Plan could include rotate and add new public art to River Road.

Operational Excellence and Community Centered Service
Discussion ensued regarding the Asset Management Plan and the importance of having one.

It was noted that there could be a time in the future where debt financing may need to happen in the future or if there were an emergency related to capital. The task was related to creating a policy. There was consensus to change the task to "Discuss a policy for capital projects, evaluating pay-as-you-go, debit financing, and other options."

Fostering an Engaged Community
There was a suggestion to add ongoing website improvements and change the wording to "continued website enhancements."

There was discussion about the number of Town Halls and the potential topics. There was a suggestion to change the language to Conduct Town Halls as Council sees fit. Concern was expressed about the words annually and the importance of having topics. The number four would be removed from the task.

There was a suggestion to include AI and technology in the task related to translation and interpretation services. The task would be reworded to "Identify policy for translation and interpretation services utilizing technology for accessibility."

Community Growth
It was noted that the two Town Halls and an online survey on the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) had been conducted. The task would be reworded to "Report to Council from two Town Halls and online survey on Urban Growth Boundary."

The public utilities analysis would be a system's analysis, including rate models. The word public would be changed to City in the task "Conduct a City utilities' analysis." There was a suggestion to change the word analysis to forecasting. There was consensus to add the word forecasting, so the task would read "Conduct a City utilities analysis and forecasting."

There was a question about Appendix 2 and including Community Planning and Public Works.

Mayor Clark shared that she had many questions about the Appendices and asked if they could be pulled because she felt that they needed additional work. It was noted that there could be addendums in the future as needed.

It was noted that the Council goals and Strategic Plan would be before the City Council at a regular session for adoption.

Mayor Clark thanked the Task Force, Council, City Staff, and the Community for their work on the Strategic Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 8:03 p.m.

MAYOR:	APPROVED:
______________________________	______________________________
Cathy Clark	Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder

Minutes approved: ________________________

"Agenda Management Services are being supported, in whole or in part, by federal award number 21.019 awarded to City of Keizer by the U.S. Department of the Treasury."