



MINUTES
KEIZER CITY COUNCIL
Monday, April 6, 2026
Robert L. Simon Council Chambers
930 Chemawa Road NE, Keizer, Oregon

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken as follows:

Present:

Cathy Clark, Mayor
Soraida Cross, Council Vice
President
Kyle Juran, Councilor
Daniel Kohler, Councilor
Marlene Parsons, Councilor
Lore Christopher, Councilor
Felicia Guptill, Youth Councilor

Staff:

Adam Brown, City Manager
Tim Wood, Assistant City Manager
Joseph Lindsay, City Attorney
Keare Blaylock, Public Works Director
Andrew Copeland, Police Chief
Garrett Klever, Human Resources Direc
Melissa Bisset, City Recorder

Absent:

Shaney Starr, Council President

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Clark led the pledge of allegiance.

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS

- a. **Discussion regarding deeming it important that Council President Starr appear electronically and be considered "in attendance" (Council Rules of Procedure Section 3.10 - Attendance Duty)**

Mayor Clark asked the Council to consider deeming it important that Council President Starr appear electronically and be considered "in attendance" pursuant to Council Rules of Procedure Section 3.10 - Attendance Duty. It was noted that Council President Starr was currently not present; however, by taking action on the matter, she would be able to attend electronically if she were able to connect.

Councilor Kohler moved to deem it important that Council President Starr appear electronically and be considered "in attendance" (Council Rules of Procedure Section 3.10 - Attendance Duty)

Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, Cross, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

b. PROCLAMATION: Child Abuse Prevention Month

Peter Carrillo, Director of Prevention, Development, and Community Engagement for Liberty House Children's Advocacy Center, shared about Child Abuse Prevention Month.

Mayor Clark read the Proclamation recognizing April as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Mayor Clark presented the proclamation to Mr. Carrillo.

The Proclamation was also issued to Eva Pignotti, the Chief Program Officer of Early Learning and Childcare, at the Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency.

c. Introduction of Police Department K9 Bolt

Officer Webb introduced Bolt, the Police Department's new K9. It was noted that there was a partnership with Marion County with the K9s.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

a. Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association Annual Report

Tammy Kunz, President, and Jacqueline Green, Vice President, of the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association (GNEKNA) shared about the work of GNEKNA. There were questions about the numbers in attendance and the demographics cited in the report. Thanks were expressed for their work.

Councilor Kohler moved the City Council accept the report of the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association and extend recognition to the Greater Northeast Neighborhood Association for an additional year. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Cross, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

b. Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association Annual Report

Patti Tischer, President and Laura Daniel, Secretary of the Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association, were present to answer questions. Councilor Christopher thanked them for their work with the Keizer Miracle of Lights and National Night Out. There was discussion about expenses and the budgeted amount of funds. Ms. Tischer explained that she is very frugal and uses coupons and discounts. Gratitude was expressed to Ms. Tischer.

Councilor Kohler moved the City Council accept the report of the Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association and extend recognition to the Greater Gubser Neighborhood Association for an additional year. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Cross, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)
ABSTENTIONS: None (0)
ABSENT: Starr (1)

Trevor Lewis, Multi-Modal Safety Committee, shared that the Committee does a lot of listening. They were preparing for the upcoming Work Session with the City Council in June. He expressed gratitude to the Keizer Community for attending the meetings and sharing their thoughts. There were comments about safety improvements on Verda Lane and future considerations for Wheatland Road. He reminded the community about the upcoming Monster Cookie Ride and KeizerFEST events.

Kim Steen, Keizer Public Arts Commission (KPAC), shared that a winner was chosen for the Holiday Art Contest. They had two new members on the Commission. KPAC was looking at new locations for art in Keizer. It was noted that the winner of the Holiday Art Contest was chosen anonymously. The mural work was temporarily delayed due to health reasons.

Colleen Busch, President of the South East Keizer Neighborhood Association, announced that they recently held their elections.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no public comments.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilor Kohler read the Consent Calendar. Councilor Christopher asked that item d. be removed.

Councilor Kohler moved that the Keizer City Council approve the Consent Calendar, items A through C. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Cross, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

There was a suggestion to add a donation link for Peer Court on the front page of the website.

Councilor Kohler moved that the Keizer City Council approve the Peer Court Dedicated Fund Five Year Review. Councilor Christopher seconded.

AYES: Clark, Cross, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Sheriff Nick Hunter shared about the Marion County Reentry Initiative.

Roy McClain, Director, Vetcare, Westcare shared about their program and the Annual Red, White and Boots Benefit.

- a. **Approval of March 16, 2026 Regular Session Minutes**
- b. **Event Center Use Fee Waiver - Marion County Reentry Initiative Breakfast**
- c. **Event Center Fee Waiver - Vetcare, Westcare Oregon - 2nd Annual Red, White and Boots Benefit Gala**
- d. **Peer Court Dedicated Fund Five Year Review**

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- a. **Public Hearing for the Sale of Real Property in Keizer Station Area C1**

Mayor Clark opened the Public Hearing.

City Manager Adam Brown summarized the staff report. Mayor Clark asked if there were any public comments, and there were no public comments. City Attorney Lindsay shared that part of the reason for leaving the public hearing open was that the real property transaction had to be noticed in the newspaper several weeks in advance, which saved the City money and also allowed for the public two opportunities to speak.

Councilor Kohler moved to continue the public hearing on the Keizer Station Area 1 property sale, continuing until April 20th. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

With no further testimony, Mayor Clark announced that the public hearing would continue on April 20, 2026.

ADMINISTRATIVE ACTION

- a. **RESOLUTION - Authorizing City Manager to Sign Agreement With Oregon Department of Transportation and City of Salem for Flashing Yellow Arrows at Intersections Along River Road Project**

Public Works Director Keare Blaylock summarized the staff report. She noted that the project may not be complete for approximately two years. Discussion followed regarding the grant funding for the project and the small City contribution.

Councilor Kohler moved to adopt Resolution R2026- Authorizing City Manager to Sign Agreement with Oregon Department of Transportation and City of Salem for Flashing Yellow Arrows at Intersections Along River Road Project. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

- b. **RESOLUTION - Authorizing a Temporary Suspension of the Ordinance Prohibiting Street**

Vendors

RESOLUTION - Authorizing Temporary Use and Signs Subject to Conditions for KeizerFest (2026)

City Manager Adam Brown summarized the staff report. Dan Clem, Executive Director, Keizer Chamber of Commerce, shared excitement about KeizerFEST. He expressed his appreciation to Staff and Council for the collaboration.

Councilor Kohler moved to adopt Resolution R2026- Authorizing a Temporary Suspension of the Ordinance Prohibiting Street Vendors. Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Councilor Kohler moved to adopt Resolution R2026- Authorizing Temporary Use and Signs Subject to Conditions for KeizerFEST (2026). Councilor Cross seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

City Attorney Lindsay explained that two resolutions were required because they establish the Council's rules, and only the Council has the authority to suspend those rules.

c. Sunset of the Strategic Planning Work Group

City Manager Adam Brown summarized the staff report. Mayor Clark thanked the Work Group for their work on the Strategic Plan.

Councilor Christopher moved to sunset the Keizer Strategic Planning Work Group. Councilor Kohler seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

d. Volunteer Pedestrian Flag Program

Public Works Director Keare Blaylock summarized the staff report. Brenda Lamb, Multi-Modal Safety Committee and Tammy Saldivar were present to discuss the Program. Ms. Lamb felt that it was a good program and an affordable way to make crossings safer. Ms. Saldivar shared that they were receiving positive feedback at their pilot location. There was a QR code where the City could keep feedback on the Program. The costs of the flags were discussed. Discussion ensued regarding Pedestrian Flag locations.

City Manager Brown explained that the Neighborhood Associations would be managing the

Pedestrian Flag Program. In order for a new location to be approved, it would need to go through the Multi-Modal Safety Committee and the City. Start-up fees were approximately \$150.

There was a suggestion on the Application to add that the applicant needed to be a Keizer resident or business.

It was suggested that under Requirements and Sponsor Responsibilities, regarding the safety warning, there should be standardized safety language on the signs or that the City provide the signs. There was a suggestion to have safety orange required for all of the flags. Ms. Blaylock explained that there could be adjustments made to include the safety standardization. There was a request to include the requirement on the application that the location must be a marked crosswalk.

Councilor Juran expressed hesitation about using City staff time on the Program, noting decreasing City funding. There were questions about the amount of staff time that would be required and the frequency of checking the flags. City Manager Brown felt that the staff time required would be minimal. There was a question about including the messaging in English and Spanish.

Councilor Kohler moved that the City Council approve the Multi-Modal Safety Committee's recommendation to allow community members to implement the Pedestrian Flag Program in the public right-of-way with Public Works' approval, as amended. Councilor Parsons seconded.

Mayor Clark commented that with the changes discussed, the motion would include as amended with the four changes:

- Keizer residents or business
- City approved signage
- Standard flag color
- Add marked crosswalk to the application

Councilors Kohler and Parsons accepted the friendly amendment.

There was a suggestion to have the applicant monitor the flag location weekly and for the flags to be in good condition. There were very few locations in the City that would qualify to participate in the program.

Mr. Brown provided some research about Pedestrian Flag programs being effective in keeping people safe.

Councilor Kohler expressed his concern about the City's liability and the perceived thoughts about increased safety. Based on his time on the Traffic Safety Bicycle Pedestrian Committee, how former staff persons didn't support this type of a program, and that there were potential liability issues, he cannot support this program.

Council Vice President Cross felt that there was still a lot of work to be done, such as asking City

County Insurance Services more questions.

City Attorney Lindsay explained the potential risk related to the Program.

Chief Copeland said that they were only allowed in crosswalks and felt there should be education around it, and people should not assume that because they are holding a flag, they are safe. He felt that it could help indicate that someone was in the crosswalk.

Michael Welsch, Multi-Modal Safety Committee Member, felt that the program would be effective.

Councilor Kohler expressed his concern for pedestrian safety and the Program.

Mayor Clark and Councilor Christopher expressed their support for the Program. There was a suggestion to review the program in one year.

There was a friendly amendment to include a review of the program in one year. There were no objections to the friendly amendment.

Council Vice President Cross felt that the signs should be in Spanish as well. There was consensus by the Council to have the signage in English and Spanish.

City Attorney Lindsay suggested that adding bilingual language (English and Spanish), stating “for use in crosswalk only,” could help prevent the flags from being used in other locations.

Roll Call Vote was taken. Motion failed as follows:

AYES: Clark, Christopher, and Parsons (3)

NAYS: Kohler, Cross, and Juran (3)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilor Cross asked to resign from Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association as she had a difficult time making the meeting due to other commitments. She noted that Councilor Parsons had done a great job filling in and suggested that she take over the assignment.

Councilor Kohler moved to suspend the rules to take up the matter. Councilor Christopher seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Councilor Christopher moved to reassign the liaison position for the Greater Northeast Keizer Neighborhood Association to Councilor Parsons. Councilor Kohler seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Councilor Cross announced that she was resigning from the Community Diversity Engagement Committee for the same reasons.

Councilor Kohler moved to suspend the rules to take up the matter. Councilor Christopher seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Councilor Juran moved to reassign the liaison position on the Community Diversity Engagement Committee to Council President Starr. Councilor Kohler seconded. Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Kohler, Cross, Juran, Christopher, and Parsons (6)

NAYS: None (0)

ABSTENTIONS: None (0)

ABSENT: Starr (1)

Councilor Christopher requested that the speed limit on Chemawa up to Lockhaven be 30 miles per hour the entire way to be consistent and to review the speed limit studies.

STAFF UPDATES

City Manager Brown reminded the Community to participate in the Community Survey.

Chief Copeland reported that he and Council Vice President Cross attended a fundraiser, and it was similar to tonight's presentation about Vetcare. Chief Copeland, Dan Clem Executive Director from the Keizer Chamber of Commerce, and City Manager Brown would be giving a presentation on a condensed version of the Police Analysis on Thursday at 6:00 p.m. at the Crossroads Community Church.

City Attorney Joseph Lindsay reminded the Council to be neutral about collective bargaining as negotiations were beginning.

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Mayor Clark and the Councilors each reviewed the events and meetings that they had attended as well as upcoming events.

Council Vice President Cross praised Event Center Manager Lily Von for her presentation about the meeting rooms at the Society of Government Meeting Professionals' annual conference.

AGENDA INPUT

Monday, April 13, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

City Council Work Session - Neighborhood Associations

Monday, April 13, 2026 - 7:00 p.m.

City Council Executive Session

Monday, April 20, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

City Council Regular Session

Monday, May 4, 2026 - 6:00 p.m.

City Council Regular Session

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 8:26 p.m.

MAYOR:

APPROVED:

Cathy Clark

Dawn Wilson, Deputy City Recorder

Minutes approved: _____