# ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
# BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES
# Tuesday, July 21, 2026

## I. EXECUTIVE SESSION 3:00 p.m.

*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 pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(i).*

In attendance: Mayor Graham; Councilors Sherrell, Dahle, Bloom, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Hansen. Staff members Sabrina Cotta and Johan Pietila.

## II. CALL TO ORDER

Graham called the business meeting to order at 6:07 p.m.

Council Present: Mayor Graham; Councilors Sherrell, Dahle, Bloom, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Hansen.

Staff Present:

| | |
|---|---|
| Sabrina Cotta | City Manager |
| Johan Pietila | City Attorney |
| Alissa Kolodzinski | City Recorder |
| Tighe O'Meara | Chief of Police |
| Scott Fleury | Public Works Director |
| Bryn Morrison | Interim Finance Director |
| Brandon Goldman | Planning Director |
| Jordan Rooklyn | Deputy City Manager |

a. Land Acknowledgement**

Kaplan read the land acknowledgement.

## III. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Hansen led the pledge of allegiance.

## IV. ROLL CALL

## V. MAYOR'S/ CHAIR OF THE COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENT

The Mayor thanked attendees of the recent informational meeting on fire season evacuation and preparedness, and provided instructions for public comment sign-up procedures for the evening's meeting.

## VI. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

a. Minutes of the June 15, 2026 – Study Session Meeting
b. Minutes of the June 16, 2026 - Business Meeting

**Dahle moved to accept the minutes of June 15 and June 16. Sherrell seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Bloom, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Hansen -YES. Motion passed.**

## VII. CONSENT AGENDA

Prior to action, public comment was received from an individual in support of Resolution 2026-13 placing the Fremont Cottonwood at 380 Clay Street on the Heritage Tree List, noting the tree's age, size, and ecological significance near the northernmost boundary of the species' range.

a. *Resolution 2026-13 - Placing the Fremont Cottonwood at 380 Clay Street on the City of Ashland Heritage Tree List*
b. *Committee Member Appointment to HHSAC*
c. *Affordable Childcare Committee Grant Awards*

**Bloom moved to approve the consent agenda. DuQuenne seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Bloom, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Hansen -YES. Motion passed.**

## VIII. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

## IX. PUBLIC FORUM

Concerns were raised about the management and representation of the Night Lawn site, suggesting a resident-led model for decision-making. A proposal to build bike trails through a popular city park was discussed, with a call for wider community engagement. Frustrations with service scheduling constraints and calls for increased resources for people experiencing homelessness were expressed. Concerns regarding the absence of overnight shelters during poor air quality events and conflicting instructions about tent usage during extreme weather were noted, and an introduction to a state-accredited union apprenticeship program highlighted its benefits for workforce development.

## X. PUBLIC HEARING

a. *Continued Public Hearing and First Reading of Ordinance 3306 Establishing Notice of Sale, Opportunity to Purchase, and Tenant Protections for Manufactured Home Park Residents.*

Goldman presented the revised draft of Ordinance 3306, which had been continued from the June 16th meeting for additional legal review. The revised ordinance was substantially streamlined from eight sections to four, incorporating Oregon Revised Statutes Chapter 90 as a baseline and adding local enhancements. The centerpiece of the local enhancements is a 60-day tenant response period, four times the state's 15-day baseline, which, combined with a 15-day owner financial disclosure period and a 45-day offer preparation period, affords residents up to 120 days from notice of sale to exercise their opportunity to purchase. The legal department confirmed that local regulations exceeding the state baseline are permissible and that Oregon courts have upheld such local manufactured home park regulations.

**Public Hearing open**

Dylan Dahle – representing the Rogue Valley Association of Realtors, commended the revised ordinance and requested consideration of protections for sellers engaged in IRS Section 1031 exchanges, noting that the 120-day process could conflict with federal exchange deadlines.
Delores Nims – spoke as a resident of Wingspread Mobile Home Park, thanked staff and the Council for their work and urged the Council not to reduce the 120-day period.

**Public Hearing Closed**

During Council discussion, Dahle proposed an amendment to add a cross-reference to ORS 90.844(3) in Section 10.116.020(a)(1)(d) to eliminate ambiguity regarding required financial disclosures. Staff clarified that the ordinance does not prohibit park residents from proactively organizing and submitting an unsolicited purchase offer, and that nothing in the ordinance compels a park owner to accept a resident offer.

After discussion and amendment, the following motion was adopted:
**Bloom moved to approve the first reading of Ordinance 3306, adding Chapter 10.116 to the Ashland Municipal Code establishing notice of sale, opportunity to purchase, and tenant protections for manufactured home park residents, as amended to reword Section 10.116.020(a)(1)(d) to read "any financial information that would customarily be provided to a prospective purchaser as outlined in ORS 90.844(3)". Kaplan seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Dahle, DuQuenne, Bloom, Sherrell, Kaplan, and Hansen -YES. Motion passed.**

## XI. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND CONTRACTS

*a. APD/ECSO Contract Extension*

O'Meara presented the annual contract extension with Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon (ECSO) for 9-1-1 dispatch services. The contract amount for FY 2026–27 is $553,466.99, which is accounted for in the approved budget. The City has maintained this relationship since approximately 2009–2010.
**Dahle moved to approve contract extensions between APD and ECSO. Hansen seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Dahle, DuQuenne, Bloom, Sherrell, Kaplan, and Hansen -YES. Motion passed.**

*b. Contract Award for Chemicals Acquisition — Cascade Columbia Distribution Co. Company.*

Fleury presented the annual sealed bid award for water and wastewater treatment chemicals. The award to Cascade Columbia Distribution Company covers aluminum sulfate and citric acid. Discussion included that Cascade Columbia was selected over competing bids due to bid document exclusions for aluminum sulfate and demonstrated product superiority of citric acid.
**Bloom moved to approve the public contract award for chemicals acquisition with Cascade Columbia Distribution Company. Dahle seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Bloom, Sherrell, Kaplan, Hansen, and Dahle -YES. Motion passed.**

*c. Approval of a Resolution Authorizing Refunding of an Interim Loan From the Special Public Works Fund with the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority*

Fleury explained that Business Oregon is proceeding with a bond sale consolidating interim loans issued to municipalities, including the City's loan for the Ashland Street rehabilitation project authorized in 2023. A new resolution is required to align with the bond sale. The final interest rate and amortization schedule will be issued following the sale, anticipated in late August or early September, and will be reflected in the 2027-29 Biennium Budget. Repayment will continue to be funded through the food and beverage tax over a 15-year period.

**Dahle moved to approve a resolution authorizing refunding of an interim loan from the Special Public Works Fund with the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority. Hansen seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Bloom, Sherrell, Kaplan, Hansen, Dahle, and DuQuenne -YES. Motion passed.**

d. *Approval of Resolutions for Wastewater and Storm Drain Rate Increases*

Fleury presented two rate increase resolutions developed through a cost-of-service analysis conducted by HDR Engineering. For wastewater, the last rate increase was in 2019; the proposed increase amounts to approximately $3 per month for single-family residential customers, representing a 7% overall increase. For storm drain, the last increase was in 2021, and the proposed increase is approximately $1 per month for single-family residential. Both increases take effect August 1, 2026, through June 30, 2027. Councilors discussed this in relation to other recent fee increases.
**Dahle moved to approve Resolution 2026-15, a resolution revising rates for wastewater/sewer service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 14.08.035 and repealing Resolution 2019-10. Kaplan seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Kaplan, Hansen, and Dahle -YES. DuQuenne, and Bloom – No Motion passed.**

**Kaplan moved to approve resolution number 2026-16, a resolution adopting a storm drainage utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.27.050 and repealing Resolution 2021-09. Hansen seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Kaplan, Hansen, and Dahle -YES. DuQuenne, and Bloom – No. Motion passed.**

e. *Second Reading of Ordinances 3296, 3297, and 3298 Manufactured Home Park Zone (MHPZ), Amending Manufactured Housing Development Standards, Adopting Related Comprehensive Plan and Zoning Map Amendments, and adopting Findings and Conclusions of Law.*

Goldman summarized the three companion ordinances approved at first reading on June 16, 2026. Ordinance 3296 establishes the Manufactured Home Park Zone and updates land use standards. Ordinance 3297 applies the new zone designation to eligible parks on the zoning map. Ordinance 3298 makes corresponding changes to the comprehensive plan map. Findings were updated from the first reading to reflect Council amendments, including removal of Upper Pines Mobile Home Park, Ashland RV Park, and Jackson Wellsprings from the maps.
**Bloom moved to approve Ordinance No. 3296, 3297, and 3298. DuQuenne seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Kaplan, Hansen, Dahle, DuQuenne, Bloom, and Sherrell -YES. Motion passed.**

**Bloom moved to adopt the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law in Planning Action PA-L-2026-00018, as presented, in support of Ordinances No. 3296, 3297, and 3298. DuQuenne seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: DuQuenne, Bloom, Sherrell, Kaplan, Hansen, and Dahle -YES. Motion passed.**

f. *Second Reading of Ordinance 3305, An Ordinance Amending 6.04 Business Licenses Sections 6.04.105 Duplicate License, 6.04.120 Temporary License, and 6.04.130 Delinquent Penalty*

Cotta noted that this ordinance moves fees out of the Ashland Municipal Code and into the miscellaneous fees and charges resolution.

**Hansen moved to approve the second reading of Ordinance 3305 An Ordinance Amending 6.04 Business Licenses Sections 6.04.105 Duplicate License, 6.04.120 Temporary License, and 6.04.130 Delinquent Penalty. Kaplan seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Kaplan, Bloom, DuQuenne, and Hansen -YES. Motion passed.**

*Short Recess Taken*

## XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

*a. Internal Services Director*

Cotta presented a proposal to create an Internal Services Director position overseeing the Finance, IT, and Human Resources departments to capture efficiencies arising from consolidating what were previously three separate director roles into one. Cotta confirmed the model exists in other municipalities and that strong deputy-level staff already in place in each department would continue to support day-to-day operations. Council discussion raised questions about the breadth of the role's skill requirements, the appropriate pay scale relative to a standalone finance director, and the chain of command for financial matters before the Council. Cotta clarified that the Internal Services Director would effectively serve as the City's CFO, reporting directly to the City Manager. No action was required as the item was informational.

*b. Development of Concept Plan & Management Plan for the Madrone Ridge Property*

Rooklyn presented a request for Council direction to initiate concept and management planning for the Madrone Ridge property, a 1,900-plus-acre parcel currently under a delayed purchase agreement held by Western Rivers Conservancy. Western Rivers would fund a facilitator for the process; the City's participation would consist primarily of staff time, with no additional financial commitment beyond the existing $25,000-per-year contract. The concept plan would engage a broad stakeholder group to identify appropriate uses and locations on the property, with primary goals of fire mitigation, conservation, trail connectivity, and education. The concept plan would return to Council prior to development of a more detailed management plan, with a target of late fall 2026.

Council members discussed the need for a management plan for the property and emphasized the importance of including RVMBA and AWTA trail organizations, neighborhood representatives from the Ashland Mine Road area, and Council and Parks liaisons in the stakeholder group. Councilors also underscored that the Council has not yet decided to accept the property and clarified that this step remains part of Council's ongoing due diligence.

**Hansen moved to direct staff to initiate the process for developing a Concept Plan and Management Plan for the Madrone Ridge Property. Kaplan seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Bloom, Kaplan, and Hansen -YES. DuQuenne – No. Motion passed.**

*c. Proposed Ordinance: Utility bill fees*

Graham introduced a proposal to develop a formal ordinance establishing a structured public engagement process before the Council could create any new fee on utility bills or increase existing fees beyond an already-established inflationary index. The process would include mandatory public hearings, an online survey open for a minimum of four weeks, and defined waiting periods between hearings and Council votes to prevent rushed decisions.

Two members of the public addressed the Council with concerns about the accuracy of financial data presented during prior fee increase discussions, general support for the concept, and a recommendation to defer the ordinance process until after the November ballot.

**Direction to staff given to draft the ordinance in accordance with the framework presented in the Council packet.**

## XIII. NEW BUSINESS

a. *(formerly b) Citizen Petition/Ballot Measure Discussion*

*Note: By request, this item was taken out of agenda order and considered before Item XIII.a.*

The Council considered a citizen petition to place a charter amendment on the November 2026 ballot that would require voter approval before the City could impose new fees or increase existing fees on utility bills unrelated to utility operations. Kolodzinski reported that the number of valid signatures counted by her office was 1,316, eight more than the 1,308 required, rather than the 1,537 originally reported by the petitioner. Based on historical rejection rates of approximately 13–15%, the net valid signature count fall below the required threshold. The county elections office could not verify signatures due to a legal compliance issue with the petitioner's filing. Pietila identified concerns with the proposed charter language, particularly that the reference to "utility bill" could extend to franchise fees on non-city-owned utilities such as Avista, potentially creating conflicts with state regulatory requirements.

**DuQuenne moved to suspend the rules for 10 minutes and allow the chief petitioner to speak and so council can ask questions. Bloom seconded the motion.**
**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Bloom -YES. Hansen – No. Motion passed.**

Chief petitioner George Kramer, urged the Council to place the original petition language on the ballot without modification, noting that the language was agreed upon with the City Attorney and that altering it would be disrespectful to the signatories.

During public comment a speaker noted inconsistencies in ambulance service financial reports and criticized the reallocation of public safety fee funds. Another speaker called for thorough public engagement before amending the charter and cautioned against hasty changes, emphasizing the initiative process's importance. The final speaker warned that requiring voter approval for fee hikes could impede emergency response and stressed elected officials' crucial role. Any post-vote changes to the ballot language would require a new vote.

Councilor discussion included honoring the petitioner's efforts while considering necessary legal and technical adjustments to the ballot language to balance respect for the democratic process with fiscal responsibility and city governance. Considerations included the potential impact on city finances, and the importance of clear voter communication. Several councilors supported moving forward with a resolution to place a revised version on the ballot, while others opposed it, emphasizing the need for the city to maintain flexibility in managing fees and emergencies.

**Bloom moved to direct staff to create a resolution to bring back to council at the August 4 meeting to put the petition on the ballot with changes in language to allow for inflationary increases, no more than the CPI West, to exclude franchise fees and to exclude any effect that it would have on outside jurisdictions. Kaplan seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Kaplan, DuQuenne, and Bloom -YES. Hansen – No. Motion passed.**

*b. (formerly a) Property Surplus – A Portion of the Briscoe School Property*

Cotta spoke that the Oregon Department of Transportation has requested to acquire 188 square feet of City-owned Briscoe School property for a ramp improvement. ODOT will fund and perform all work.

**Bloom moved to surplus 188 square feet of Briscoe School property as outlined by the Oregon Department of Transportation in the acquisition summary statement dated April 28, 2026. Kaplan seconded the motion.**

**Roll Call Vote: Sherrell, Dahle, Kaplan, DuQuenne, Hansen, and Bloom -YES. Motion passed.**

**XIV. CITY MANAGER REPORT –**

*a. City Manager Report*

*b. Look Ahead*

The City Manager Report was not reached due to time constraints and has been consistently missed in recent sessions. Acknowledging its significance in providing essential updates on current operations and future plans, the Mayor proposed moving it earlier in future agendas

**XV. OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS/REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS**

**XVI. ADJOURNMENT**

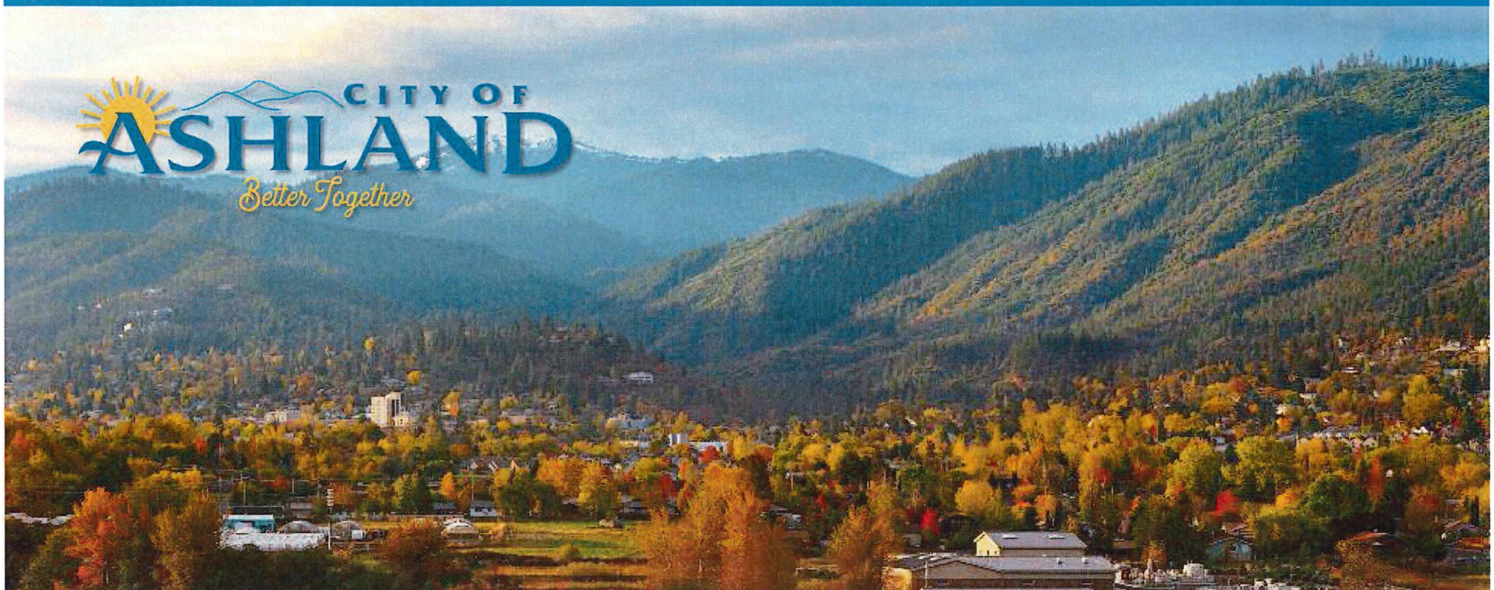
**Bloom moved to adjourn. Seconded by Hansen**

**All Ayes. Motion passed.**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

City Recorder Alissa Kolodzinski

Mayor Tonya Graham




# City Council Meeting

Contract Award for Chemical Acquisition July 21, 2026

## XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contracts

### Summary

- Wastewater and Water Treatment Plant Chemicals – Fiscal Year 27
- Formal Invitation to Bid
  - Exceed $250,000 in Total Cost
- Request to Approve Chemical Acquisition Contract with Cascade Columbia
  - Alum - $233,280
  - Citric Acid - $30,690

CITY OF ASHLAND
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**Invitation to Bid**

**Chemicals for use at the City of Ashland**

**Wastewater and Water Treatment Plants** Date of

**Release:** Tuesday May 19, 2026

**Proposals are due by:** 2:00:00 PM (PST), June 09, 2026

| | |
|---|---|
| Contracting Agency: | City of Ashland Sole |
| Point of Contact: | Keanna Khlafallah |
| Title: | Procurement Specialist |
| Address: | City of Ashland 20<br>E. Main Street<br>Ashland, OR 97520 |
| Telephone: | (541) 552-2290 |
| Fax: | (541) 488-5311 |
| Email: | Keanna.khlafallah@ashlandoregon.gov |

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# XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contracts

## Motion

- I move to approve the public contract award for chemical acquisition with Cascade Columbia Distribution Company.

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QUESTIONS?

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# City Council Meeting

Special Public Works Fund – Resolution Approval July 21, 2026

## XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contracts

Summary

- Special Public Works Fund - Business Oregon
    - Loan for Ashland Street Rehabilitation Project
    - Resolution 2023-27 Approved "Interim Loan"
    - Contemplated A Bond Sale
    - Construction Project is Complete
- Resolution 2026-17 "Refunds Previous" & "Establishes New"
- Sets New Rate and Amortization Schedule Based on Bond Sale
- Debt Paid by Food and Beverage Tax Revenues


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## XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contracts

### Motion

I move to approve "**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING REFUNDING OF AN INTERIM LOAN FROM THE SPECIAL PUBLIC WORKS FUND WITH THE OREGON INFRASTRUCTURE FINANCE AUTHORITY**".

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QUESTIONS?

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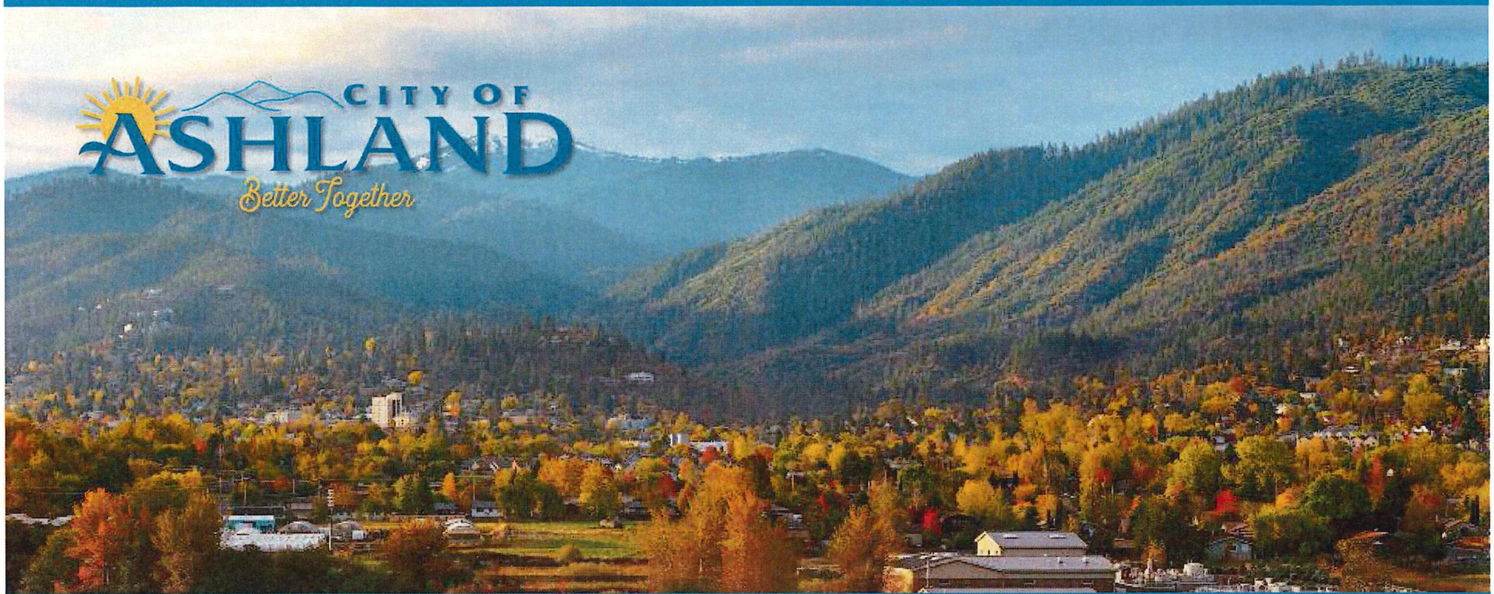


# City Council Meeting

Wastewater and Storm Drainage Rate Resolutions July 21, 2026

## XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contraacts

### Summary

**Wastewater Enterprise**

- Adjustments are necessary to fund the ongoing O&M expenses to provide wastewater service
- Adjustments are necessary to maintain prudent funding of annual renewal and replacement of the wastewater utility
- The proposed adjustments maintain the City's financial health (e.g., debt service coverage ratios, reserves) and provide long-term, sustainable funding levels for the City

**Table ES – 4**
**Summary of the Present and Proposed Wastewater Rates**

| | *Present Rates* | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 | FY 2030 | FY 2031 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| **Residential** | | | | | | |
| **Service Charge** | *$ / Month* | | | | | |
| Monthly Service Charge | $33.94 | $37.48 | $40.18 | $42.99 | $46.00 | $49.22 |
| **Quantity Charge** | *$ / CF* | | | | | |
| 0 – 400 up to Winter Water Avg | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 |
| 400+ up to Winter Water Avg | 0.05064 | 0.05418 | 0.05797 | 0.06203 | 0.06637 | 0.07102 |
| **Multi-Family** | | | | | | |
| **Service Charge** | *$ / Month* | | | | | |
| Monthly Service Charge (Per Unit) | $33.94 | $33.94 | $36.16 | $38.69 | $41.40 | $44.30 |
| **Quantity Charge** | *$ / CF* | | | | | |
| 0 – 400 up to Winter Water Avg | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 | $0.00000 |
| 400+ up to Winter Water Avg | 0.05064 | 0.05418 | 0.05797 | 0.06203 | 0.06637 | 0.07102 |
| **Non Residential (Com, Gov, Muni)** | | | | | | |
| **Service Charge** | *$ / Month* | | | | | |
| Monthly Service Charge | $35.41 | $37.48 | $40.18 | $42.99 | $46.00 | $49.22 |
| **Quantity Charge** | *$ / CF* | | | | | |
| Actual Monthly Consumption | $0.05621 | $0.06014 | $0.06435 | $0.06885 | $0.07367 | $0.07883 |

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# XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contraacts

## Summary

### Storm Drain Enterprise

- Adjustments are necessary to fund the ongoing O&M expenses to provide storm drain service
- Adjustments are necessary to maintain prudent funding of annual renewal and replacement of the storm drain utility
- The proposed adjustments maintain the City's strong financial health (e.g., debt service coverage ratios, reserves) and provide long-term, sustainable funding levels for the City

**Table ES – 8**
**Summary of the Present and Proposed Storm Drain Rates**

| | *Present Rates* | FY 2027 | FY 2028 | FY 2029 | FY 2030 | FY 2031 |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | *$/ERU* | | | | | |
| Single Family | $5.43 | $6.43 | $7.43 | $8.43 | $9.18 | $9.68 |
| Multi-Family | 2.33 | 2.76 | 3.19 | 3.62 | 3.94 | 4.15 |
| Commercial | 5.43 | 6.43 | 7.43 | 8.43 | 9.18 | 9.68 |
| All Other | 1.80 | 2.13 | 2.46 | 2.79 | 3.04 | 3.20 |
| Minimum Charge Per Account | 5.43 | 6.43 | 7.43 | 8.43 | 9.18 | 9.68 |

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# XI. Ordinances, Resolutions and Contraacts

## Motions

### Wastewater Rate Resolution:

I move to approve resolution number 2026-15, A resolution revising rates for wastewater/sewer service pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 14.08.035 and repealing resolution 2019-10.

### Storm Drain Rate Resolution:

I move to approve resolution number 2026-16, A resolution adopting a storm drainage utility fee schedule pursuant to Ashland Municipal Code section 4.27.050 and repealing resolution 2021-09.

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QUESTIONS?

# SPEAKER REQUEST FORM

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Submit this form to the meeting Secretary prior to the discussion item.

| |
|---|
| 1)You will be called forward when it is your turn to speak |
| 2) State your name and speak clearly into the microphone |
| 3) Limit your comments to the time allotted |
| 4) Provide any written materials to the meeting Secretary |
| 5) Speakers are solely responsible for the content of their statement |
| Date: 6/21/26 |
| Name: (Please Print) George Krause |
| Ashland Resident: ☑ YES ☐ NO City: ____ |
| Agenda Topic/Item Number: XII:C UTILITY FEES |
| Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item): — |

Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave.

**Disclaimer:** By submitting this request to address the Public Body, I agree that I will refrain from the use of any obscene, vulgar, or profane language. I understand that if I do not follow procedure my speaking time may be terminated, and I may be requested to sit down or leave the building.

# SPEAKER REQUEST FORM

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Date:
July 21, 2026

Name: (Please Print)
Catherine Shaw

Ashland Resident:

☒ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number:
New Business topic B

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):

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Date:
7/21/26

Name: (Please Print)
Dan Mayrear

Ashland Resident:
☑ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number:
Tree of Hope

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):

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| Date: 7/21/26 |
| Name: (Please Print) Denise Gerkey |
| Ashland Resident: ☒ YES ☐ NO City: Ashland |
| Agenda Topic/Item Number: "Night Lawn" |
| Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item): "Night Lawn" |
| Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave. |
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Date: 7-21-26

Name: (Please Print) Nancy K. Boyer

Ashland Resident:

☑ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number:

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item): Yes Announcements

Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave.

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# SPEAKER REQUEST FORM

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4) Provide any written materials to the meeting Secretary

5) Speakers are solely responsible for the content of their statement

Date: 7/21/26

Name: (Please Print)
Blaise DuBouch

Ashland Resident:
☑ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number:

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):
Homeless funding proposition

Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave.

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Date: July 21

Name: (Please Print)
Avram Sacks

Ashland Resident:
☒ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number:

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):
Nitelawn

Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave.

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# SPEAKER REQUEST FORM

Better Together

Submit this form to the meeting Secretary
prior to the discussion item.

1)You will be called forward when it is your turn to speak

2) State your name and speak clearly into the microphone

3) Limit your comments to the time allotted

4) Provide any written materials to the meeting Secretary

5) Speakers are solely responsible for the content of their statement

Date: 7-21-26

Name: (Please Print) Chris McGhee

Ashland Resident:

☐ YES ☒ NO City: Medford/Roseburg

Agenda Topic/Item Number:

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):
North Coast Carpenters union

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| 5) Speakers are solely responsible for the content of their statement |
| Date: 7/21/26 |
| Name: (Please Print) DYLAN DAHLE |
| Ashland Resident: ☑ YES ☐ NO City: ______________ |
| Agenda Topic/Item Number: X. ORDINANCE 3306 |
| Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item): |
| Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave. |
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Date: 7/21/26

Name: (Please Print) Delores Nims

Ashland Resident:

☑ YES ☐ NO City: ______________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number: Ordinance 3306

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item):

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Date: July 21, 2026

Name: (Please Print) PAUL MOZMA

Ashland Resident:

☑ YES ☐ NO City: ____________________

Agenda Topic/Item Number: XII Unfinished Bus. C. Utility

Public Forum Topic (Non-agenda Item): Bill Fees

Please respect the order of proceedings and strictly follow the directions of the presiding officer. Behavior or actions which are loud or disruptive are disrespectful and offenders will be requested to leave.

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**How the Council Sold the Public Safety Fee Increase**

At their March 1, 2025 retreat the Council initiated the pr Public Safety fee. Two days later at a Council study sessio Director, Mariane Berry reported that the new Single Role anticipating Net Positions (net revenue – expenditures) of $1,857,099 in 2025 for a "fully loaded" (8 personnel) prog news and former Ashland Fire Chief, Ralph Sartain, had re new program—his baby—was a tremendous success.

A few weeks later, on March 31, 2025 at a study session f City Administrator, Sabrina Cotta, claimed that: "While Ar Single Role EMS and addresses dropped calls, program [si or $1.5M per year (this expense is approximately $600,00 reported by the Finance Director on March 1. Why? See g revenue is covering fire personnel." She went on to explai less revenue from ambulance coming in to cover fire, whic business case that has been made for EMS—is that they c Department. But now we're at, with 8 FTE, we're seeing l because we've hit a threshold in terms of answering calls.' be reconciled with the Net Positions of the Single Role EM Director Berry on March 3? Cotta never explained how "l to what?) was coming in from the program, or how "we're recovery". I asked for this data repeatedly at budget com business meetings and got no response. I submitted a FO documentation regarding the "threshold in terms of answ said we had "hit", and there were no responsive documen

How was the Public Safety fee advertised to people? At th meeting on May 6, 2025, it was claimed that: "The increas transition the Emergency Medical Single Role program fro permanent four single-role positions It will allow the div

The FISCAL IMPACTS for the PS fee increase were advertis
$1.50 to $5.00 for the Public Safety fee equates to $1,519,
This is dedicated funding for the EMS Single Role Program
"dedicated"? I submitted a FOIA request for documentati
Fee's revenue and how it was "dedicated" to the program
the small amount this generates, and the large public safe
required to commit these funds. These funds represent 1
annual budget."

Ok, so the Single Role EMS program was fully recovering it
significant Net Position, yet we were told it needed a subs
the Public Safety Fee, and that this additional revenue wo
funding the program. The truth was that the program hac
success, didn't need a subsidy, and the revenue generatec
general fund rather than being dedicated to support the S

To add insult to injury, the following spurious POLICIES, PL
SUPPORTED by the fee increase were advertised:

> "Environmental resilience, including addressing clim
> ecosystem conservation
>
> Belonging through mutual respect and openness, in
>
> Environmental Resilience, including addressing clim
> ecosystem conservation [listed twice in case you mi
>
> Quality of life that underpins the City's economic vi
>
> Excellence in governance and city services
>
> Public safety, including emergency preparedness fo

told me, the people of Ashland are "children". Therefore, administration couldn't tell the simple truth i.e., we need easiest way to get it is through fee increases. Nope, they r the people using false pretexts to justify the Public Safety

For a deeper dive into the Net Position of the Single Role I an estimate of the cost to provide EMS in 2023 under the please see this article in The Ashland Chronicle: https://theashlandchronicle.com/guest-opinion-ashland-c

March 3, 2025 Study Session graph presented by former Finance Di

## Study Session

### EMS Roles

*4 EMS single roles added in Fall 2023, 4 added in Spring*

**Ashland Fire & Rescue**
**Ambulance Revenue**

| **Revenue** | **FY25*** | **FY24** | **FY23**** |
|---|---|---|---|
| Transports | $ 2,800,000 | $ 2,851,059 | $ 2,250,845 |
| Transfers | - | - | - |
| Memberships | 52,000 | 91,502 | 106,540 |
| Bad Debt | (12,789) | (352,925) | (220,506) |
| **Net Revenue** | 2,839,211 | 2,589,636 | 2,136,878 |
| **Single Roles** | | | |
| Personnel | (917,521) | (549,341) | n/a |
| M&S | (64,621) | (395,291) | n/a |
| **Expenditures** | (982,142) | (944,632) | - |
| **Net Position** | $ 1,857,069 | $ 1,645,004 | $ 2,136,878 |

Note:
* FY25 are mid-year estimates
** In FY23, Emergency Medical Services were performed by dual role fire fighters. Therefore, FY23 net position is not a true comparison

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