

CITY OF SUMPTER
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
FEBRUARY 24, 2026
4:00PM

CALL TO ORDER: 4:00 PM

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MEMBERS IN ATTENDANCE:

Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe & Sherry Brandt

VISITORS

Matt Armstrong, Richard Summerfield, John Young, Jon Patterson, Rebecca Patterson,
Kurt Clarke

APPROVE MINUTES

- a. January 27, 2026 Workshop Minutes: MSP: To approve the minutes from the January 27th Workshop. **Councilor Brandt/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

REPORTS

SVFD: Kurt Clarke (FD): The volunteers have been conducting EMS training on Tuesday nights with Powder River FD. Kurt Clarke and John Young attended the Strategy and Tactics event with other Eastern Oregon fire departments in N. Powder over the weekend. They have not received any emergency calls.

NEW BUSINESS

- a. Cemetery Fees and Rules/Regulations: The cemetery fees, rules, and regulations that the City Council decided on at the February 18th workshop needs to be rewritten as a resolution to be presented and read at the next City Council Meeting. Once that is finalized the City can move forward with creating official certificates and forms. Topic tabled until the next council meeting.

- b. Dredge State Park Letter: The ORPD will be reducing services at the Dredge State Park. The City will be sending a letter to the State Parks on how this will negatively affect the community. This item will be tabled, as the letter is not available at this time. A special session may be needed to get this completed in a timely manner.
- c. 330 Climax Septic System: The city has previously spoken with the property owners about access to water and sewer. Due to the location and elevation of the property, city utility services are not readily available. The city advised the owners that they will need to have their own services installed. The property owners received approval for a standard stand-alone septic system from DEQ and require a finalization from Sumpter City Council. **MSP: To allow the property owners to move forward with the self-septic system. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Brandt. Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**
- d. Zoning: 12 Iron Horse Loop (House Addition): The proposed bedroom/bathroom house addition meets all the zoning requirements and setbacks. **MSP: To approve the zoning permit for 12 Iron Horse Loop. Councilor Smith/Councilor Brandt. . Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve. Councilor Charlie Briscoe abstained.**
- e. J. Patterson Motorized Recreational Area: The council had some questions for Mr. Patterson concerning available access other than for ATVs. Mr. Patterson confirmed that this plan will include availability to everyone, not just ATV. The council would like to hold a public meeting Q&A for the public to voice their questions or concerns and get more information about the project. The public meeting will be announced at a later date.

OLD BUSINESS

- a. Fire Department VFC Grant: The Fire Department was awarded the VFC grant, and the money was deposited. The bill for the equipment will exceed the grant funds available and the Fire Department would like the city to pay the remaining balance out of the department's designated funds. **MSP: To approve and pay the bills for Darley and the Iron Owls for the fire department from the grant and department funds. Councilor Demaris/Councilor Briscoe. Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.**

COUNCILOR COMMENT

Mayor Linda Wise: The city was not chosen for the T-MOBILE Hometown grant for this quarter. This grant was going to be used to fund the water heating system needed at the fairgrounds. The city will still be moving ahead with the project and will be meeting with the accountant for this.

No comment from Councilors Brandt, Briscoe, Demaris or Smith.


PUBLIC COMMENT

- a. Kurt Clarke: Thanked John Young for the hard work he put in for the VFC Grant that allowed the fire department to acquire the new equipment.
- b. John Young: April 10-12 will be the annual Jeep Club Snow Run. The volunteers would like to use the community breakfast on April 11th. Topic will be moved to the next council meeting for vote.
- c. Jon Patterson: Volunteered to remove the large rocks on Mill St, Jon also asked if the Mayor has thought about doing a state of the city address and suggested it would be beneficial.

ADJOURNMENT: 4:35 PM

MSP: To adjourn. Councilor Briscoe/Councilor Demaris. Mayor Linda Wise, Councilors Darold Smith, Marsha Demaris, Charlie Briscoe, and Sherry Brandt voted to approve.

Approved by the City Council this 14th day of APRIL, 2026.

Approved: 
Attested: 