

Eric Page, Mayor
Greg Sheppard, City Councilor
Michele Tesdal, City Councilor
Todd Smith, City Councilor
Denny Nielsen, City Councilor
Dean O'Donnell, City Councilor

Michelle Connor, City Recorder



City of Detroit, Oregon
City Council Reg Session
Minutes

March 10, 2026

6:30 p.m.

345 Santiam Ave W.

Detroit, Oregon

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Zoom Meeting
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- I. **Call to Order** – Mayor Page called the meeting to order at 6:33pm.
- II. **Council Roll Call** – Present: Councilors' Page, Tesdal, Nielsen, O'Donnell. Via Zoom: Councilor Smith. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice. Staff present: Michelle Connor & Heather Stull.
- III. **Pledge of Allegiance**
- IV. **Approval of the Agenda** – Motion made by Councilor Nielsen, seconded by Councilor O'Donnell, motion passed.
- V. **Special Orders of Business** – Appoint a Mayor – Michelle Connor: Michelle Connor read the Council vacancy procedures. Councilor Nielsen made a motion to appoint the current Council President Eric Page for the position of Mayor for the remaining term for 2026. Councilor Tesdal seconded the motion. Call for a discussion was unanswered. Councilor Nielsen moved to close the nomination and cast a unanimous ballot for Councilor Page. Councilor Tesdal seconded the motion. All in favor – motion passed. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice. Councilor Page stepped down as a Councilor. Councilor Page took the oath of office for Mayor of the city of Detroit.

Councilor Nielsen nominated Councilor Tesdal as President of City Council for the remaining term of 2026. Councilor O'Donnell seconded the motion. All in favor,

motion passed unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice. Councilor Tesdal took the oath of office for Council President.

A vacancy for council has been declared by Mayor Page and will be published with the rules noted by the administrator and will take place directly.

Mayor Page stated that the council would like to grant Councilor Sheppard an additional 6-month absence while he continues to recover from his heart attack. Councilor Nielsen made the motion, Councilor O'Donnell seconded. All in favor, motion passes unanimously, Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.

VI. Committee Reports – None currently.

This time is set aside for committees established by law, ordinance or other authority to report to the City Council on the committee's ongoing work.

VII. Resolutions, Orders and Administrative Action

- a. Approve RES 682 (Continuance of Park & Rec Fund) – Michelle Connor: Every 10 years a review needs to be done on the different funds in the budget. The Park & Rec Fund has come up this year for review. Michelle recommend that it be continued due to all the projects that are currently in the works for the park at this time. Motion made by Councilor Tesdal and seconded by Councilor Nielsen. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- b. Approve Mass Gathering for Festival & Fireworks – Michelle Connor: Motion made by Councilor O'Donnell. Councilor Nielsen brought up the question if the City is charging appropriately for the city labor and materials cost for each of the mass gathering permits. Michelle stated that the subject was further down on the agenda. Councilor Nielsen seconded. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- c. Approve Mass Gathering for Music Festival – Michelle Connor: Councilor Nielsen made a motion, Councilor O'Donnell seconded. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- d. Accept Chris Storey Planning Commission Resignation – Michelle Connor: Councilor Nielsen made a motion, Councilor Tesdal seconded. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- e. Authorize Purchase of Sand for Slow Sand Filters – Michelle Connor: The purchase of the media is up to \$100,000 and approximately \$10,000 for the gravel to get it up and running. This will be paid for with grant money. Councilor Nielsen made a motion, Councilor O'Donnell seconded. No discussion. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- f. Authorize Purchase of Cla Valve for Slow Sand Filters – Michelle Connor: This will control the sand filters. It is not to exceed \$25,000. Councilor Nielsen made a motion, Councilor Tesdal seconded. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.
- g. Approve ATV Ordinance 278 amending Ordinance 276 – Todd Smith: The Ordinance changes were checked with CIS and the city attorney and there were no problems with ORD 278 and that the city should be protected with the included paragraph that the city is not responsible for anything that happens with

the ATV's/Golf Carts/ SxS's. Councilor Smith made a motion to pass ORD 278 and Councilor O'Donnell seconded. No discussion. All in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.

- h. City Fees – Todd Smith: Councilor Smith suggested a committee be created to address the outdated fee schedule the city has after researching Stayton and Michelle Connor checked Mill City's fee schedules for park uses and other fees. Councilor O'Donnell stated that an upcoming meeting with DLF was to address this issue for the park also. Councilors Tesdal, O'Donnell and Smith will volunteer for this new committee and will report back at the next Council meeting on April 14, 2026.

VIII. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the Minutes of the Detroit City Council – February 10, 2026.
- b. Approval to Pay the Bills – Councilor Nielson made a motion to approve the minutes for 02/10/2026 and approve the bills. Councilor Tesdal seconded, all in favor, passes unanimously. Councilor Sheppard absent with notice.

IX. Unfinished Business – Michell Connor:

- a. CIS – There was a meeting with Matt DelMoro the city engineer, and he was sent a list of all insurance payments since the fire. There are two categories – Water and General. He was also sent a list of everything the city has paid out. He is matching the payments received from CIS with all the payments the city paid out for each category. The information will be presented to CIS after a 3/24/2026 meeting with Matt DelMoro.
- b. City Hall Roof Damage – Gutter has been removed. The repair to the roof is waiting on some parts for completion.
- c. Bill McCall – Property Division – Michelle sent Bill an email requesting he make clear his vision regarding the property deal with the city. No response has been sent at the time of this City Council meeting. Councilor Smith has talked with Bill and the property would be 10ft off the backside of his property that would adjoin with the park and City Hall property. In return for the same amount of footage at the front of his property or apply what it is worth towards his SDC's. Mayor Page suggested having a meeting with Bill McCall and also having some Councilors take a look at the property. He also stated that they will need to find out if there will be lot line adjustments or easements and how the language will work for this process.
- d. Zoom Videos – Heather is working with Digital Native to find a way to upload the meeting recordings to YouTube and a put links to them on the city website. The files are extremely large and are too big to be put on the website or be emailed to Digital Native to put up. The meeting minutes for City Council and the Planning Commission have been updated on the website at this time.

X. Staff Reports

- a. Marina Excavation – Charles Bury – Not Present
- b. Ordinance & Community Engagement Officer – Position still needs to be filled.
- c. HBH Engineering - Matt Del Moro - Not Present

- d. City Recorder – Michelle Connor
- e. Planning – Mcrae Carmichael - Not Present
- f. Marion County Sheriff - Not Present due to new baby. Congratulations!
- g. USFS – Michelle King – Recently had viable timber sales of the December 2025 storm damage. Planning on modifying contracts for road repairs at this time. Fire district co-op calls will start in May 2026. Seasonal fire fighters are starting to come back for temporary hire.
- h. Idanha-Detroit Rural Fire Protection District – Fred Patterson -Not present.
- i. North Santiam Sewer Authority – Denny Nielsen –
NSSA Update -

The NSSA meetings have been canceled for the past 8 months. As such, I believe we should no longer have a report for NSSA. I will continue to work with County staff to develop alternatives to the “package plant” model that, as a city, we simply are unable to afford or staff. I’ve initiated dialog with Brian Nicholas, Public Works Dir. For MC to begin searching out various alternatives that are affordable. I’ll revisit the issue when pertinent information is available.

Business District property developments -

Bids have been received for our redevelopment project. As reported last month K&E was the low bidder. Matt D., Michelle Connor and I met with K&E to discuss value engineering opportunities. The exercise is complete with a current cost of about \$120,000 which is funded by the Community Prosperity Grant from Marion Co. and the remaining funds paid from our insurance fund. Additionally, Matt was able to work with the paving contractor for our city street improvement project, (NSP), who was able to discount the asphalt by completing the work with the city street project.

Septic Expansion for Community Center -

The expansion project has been advertised for contractor bidding. The date for having the bids in Detroit’s possession is the 19th of March. The award will be made promptly once the eval of the bids is completed.

The event kitchen buildout has stalled due to the U.S. Gov shutdown. USDA requires that our RFQ for the project be evaluated and approved prior to the solicitation of bids. We’ve requested an accelerated review process.

We remain concerned that the USDA grant funds have reduced value related to inflation as our project has been idle for 3 years and the cost of labor and materials has risen substantially during that time. Once we have bids in hand we may need to approach USDA for additional funding or limit the project scope if funds are inadequate.

Lake Level Activities -

A federal judge in Oregon has ordered dams that operate on the Columbia and Snake rivers to generate less hydropower and allow more water to pass in an effort to keep salmon populations from dying out.

The order largely restores measures that were in place under a landmark deal to protect salmon that the Trump administration canceled last year. This decision is not ideal and is exactly what the Army Corps is concerned about in term of not completing the extreme drawdown in the Fall of 2026. Additionally, this decision is likely to increase our electric rate be as much as 17%. OUCH!!!!!!

j. City Clerk – Heather Stull – Under unfinished business – Zoom videos.

XI. Councilor’s Report –

Councilor Tesdal – The playground video on the website shows how it will look, though some equipment may be moved to accommodate the potential for use for events in the future to make it a dual-purpose place. The request for proposal will be completed when Matt Del Moro returns from vacation. Green Acres will help with a vegetation map and boulders for permanent seating that is not wood. Once the plans are sorted out there will be updates on the website. Councilor Dean O’Donnell will be helping with a park working group.

Councilor O’Donnell – He and a group of volunteers are going to take care of cleaning up the memorial in front of the church. They will start by cleaning out everything that is there that is not planted and starting over by getting professional help to see what plants will go where and what will look best there.

Councilor Smith – Has nothing to report at this time.

XII. Mayor’s Report – Mayor Page stated that it has been a pleasure to serve with Jim Trett and thanked him for all that he has done for the community/city. Mayor Page is honored to take this position and continue to work with the Councilors of Detroit. Water Report - 195 Guy Moore, 220 Kinney and 215 Boulder has some major leaks and there will be construction on those roadways to repair feeder lines there. It will be posted on the City website when the repairs are set to be started. This spring and summer they will be finalizing the main plant equipment and getting the sand filter back online and moving into the construction phase of the new water tank. If there are any concerned citizens want to report anything regarding the water to the city, please don’t hesitate to do so.

XIII. Public Comments- None

This is the time set aside for comments from the public on matters not on the agenda. Commenters are limited to three (3) minutes. Time may not be yielded. Questions from the Council or staff to commenters shall not be counted against the allotted three (3) minutes.


XIV. Other Business- None

XV. Upcoming Meetings

a. Regular Session – April 14, 2026 – Detroit City Hall 6:30 PM.

XVI. Adjourn – A motion to adjourn the meeting was made by Councilor Nielsen and seconded by Councilor O’Donnell, all in favor Meeting is adjourned at 7:50pm.


Eric Page, Mayor


Michelle Connor, City Recorder