MINUTES

Eugene City Council
Harris Hall, 125 East 8th Avenue
Eugene, Oregon 97401

February 20, 2018
7:30 p.m.

Councilors Present: Emily Semple, Betty Taylor, Jennifer Yeh, Mike Clark, Greg Evans, Claire Syrett, Chris Pryor

Councilors Absent: Alan Zelenka

Mayor Vinis called the February 20, 2018, City Council public hearing to order.

1. **PUBLIC HEARING AND POSSIBLE ACTION: An Ordinance Adopting Hazardous Substance User Fees for the Fiscal Year Commencing July 1, 2018**
   No one testified. Action could not be taken because not all Councilors were present and a unanimous vote was needed. Scheduled for Council action on February 26, 2018.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING AND POSSIBLE ACTION: An Ordinance Providing for Withdrawal of Annexed Properties from the Following Special Districts: the Santa Clara Fire District; Santa Clara Water District; Willakenzie Rural Fire Protection District, River Road Parks and Recreation District; River Road Water District; and Zumwalt Rural Fire Protection District**
   No one testified. Action scheduled for February 26, 2018.

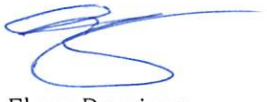
3. **WORK SESSION: Community Justice System Update**
   Assistant City Manager Kristie Hammitt and Interim Executive Police Director David James provided an overview and update on the current state of the City of Eugene's public safety and municipal justice system.

   Council Discussion
   - The 25 percent increase in cost of jail beds is due to the fact that the federal government is no longer contracting with the County jail.
   - The gap in call response times and impact of fewer people reporting property crimes shows what may look like a decline in property crimes.
   - Department does not have the ability to do proactive policing, it is all response-based policing.
   - Behavior related issues are moving into other parts of town from downtown. Implementation of a behavior response system is needed, particularly with summer coming.
   - Council should be thinking about the costs of funding 12 more officers, 911 dispatch support, more jail beds, etc., as budget season approaches.
   - Staff report highlights troubling information and statistics. Need to be focusing on gaps; although the CORT and Community Court programs have been rewarding and effective.
   - Would like to see how cost-effective these programs are vs. the citation and arrest cycle.
   - Community court has a 99 percent resolution rate within 90 days.
   - Would like to see more information/details about resource capacity at Municipal Court.
   - Explore possible options for looking at additional beds or alternative programs to incarceration.

- A new chief will be integrally involved in this conversation and will have a lot to learn. They will help figure out how to fill the gaps that have been identified.
- Consider officer involvement and feedback when identifying solutions or using resources in a different way.
- Would like to see more mental health services instead of more jail beds. Mental health crisis has turned into a criminal crisis.
- Communicate timeline for community outreach and engagement, from listening to acting.
- Important to tip the balance more towards officer-initiated policing vs. complaint-driven response.

The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Elena Domingo
Deputy City Recorder