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CITY OF EUGENE
COUNCIL MEETING
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>> Mayor Knudson: Welcome, everyone to our July 13th, city council meeting. Thank you for joining us tonight in this format. Those wishing to follow us may do so on our website. If you wish to speak, please fill out a form at the entrance to this room. We will accept request forms until 7:35 p.m. These forms will be used for the order. Because there's a consent calendar two period, the public comment will end by 9:50 p.m. We encourage speakers to abbreviate their remarks so the maximum number of speakers can be heard. You are welcome to give your written request to the chamber. We have no flags, noise or objective language. Please keep the room quiet and respectful as you address the council, and you are welcome to wave your hands in silent support. We encourage those who are ill to join our meeting in person. We also have masks in the lobby if you need one.

In case of an emergency, an AED is located in the counter behind staff in this room. Emergency exits are located at the back of the room, and the front of the room. The doors to the patio can also be used as needed. With that, I call the July 13th, 2026 meeting of the Eugene city council to order.

We will begin this evening with a land acknowledgement. Since time immemorial, the Kalapuya people have been the Indigenous stewards to our region, building dynamic communities, maintaining balance with wildlife, and enacting sustainable land practices. A land acknowledgement is a way of resisting the erasure the Indigenous

histories and to honor our native communities by inviting truth and reconciliation. Following treaties between 1851 and 1855, the KALAPUYA people were dispossessed of their indigenous homeland by the United States government and forcibly removed to the coast Reservation in Western Oregon. As we consider the impacts of colonization, we also acknowledge the strength and resiliency of displaced indigenous people. The city of Eugene is built within the traditional homelands known as Kalapuya Ilihi. Kalapuya descendants are citizens of the confederated tribes of the grand RONDE community of Oregon and the Confederated Tribes of Siletz Indians of Oregon. They continue to make contributions here and across our lands. We express our respect for the inherent political sovereignty of all federally recognized Tribal Nations and Indigenous people who live in the state of Oregon and across the nation.

Our first item on tonight's agenda is ceremonial matters. I'd like to take a few moments to offer a few remarks about the proclamations I asked to be prepared for the months of July and August, those are independence day proclamations, proclamations celebrating world athletics and women's equality day. All proclamations are signed by the mayor to bring awareness to campaigns, arts and culture. This month on July 4th, we celebrated the 250th anniversary of the declaration of independence and the unfinished work of our democratic experiment in the United States. And on July 6th, we again celebrated a day of compassion, in honor of the 91st birthday the Dalai Lama who received an award from Eugene in February of this year. From August 5th to 9th, we will celebrate the world athletics under 20 championships, as we welcome the world to Eugene for that championship event on Hayward field. And we will celebrate women's equality day on August 26th as it has been celebrated for the past 53 years. Our second item on tonight's agenda is committee reports and items of interest. I will now open the floor for committee reports or items of interest from councilmembers. Councilor Keating?

>> Councilor Keating: Thank you, mayor. You mentioned the world athletic championships, the world athletic games, I so look forward to that event. And I wanted to remind folks that in 2022, right here in the heart of our riverfront district, we celebrated the world athletic championships, at that time it was impressed upon us, the idea swam, like a river throughout the community that that would be a perfect location to resurrect and bring back a Eugene of sorts, with the world -- I don't expect it to be in the summer of 2026 or any time in the near future. I would love for some long term planning or strategizing before how to continue to celebrate that space, celebrate track town USA and our lovely city with a resurrected Eugene celebration of sorts in the future. I want to go back in time a bit, and say thank you to the looking glass staff and volunteers. Last month, mayor, I had the opportunity to be the keynote speaker the looking glass riverfront school graduation ceremony. And I failed to mention that when we met in June, but I wanted to extend from the Dais, my congratulations to the students who earned their high school diploma and GED from riverfront school and career center. And finally, for folks who attended the country fair this weekend, fair family attendees and vendors, thank you for looking out for each other, and for another fair, free from major incidents and for all the fair family and the fair community do for

our community, I just wanted to say congrats on a great fair experience. Thanks so much, mayor.

>> Mayor Knudson: Are there any other items of interest from council? I will quickly offer two, seeing no other items in the cue, one is just appreciations to our staff and our community partners, last week we had a remarkable event at Eugene airport celebrating the liftoff project, and the Eugene airport expansion. And I want to specifically thank so many of the partners who are there with us, to celebrate that milestone and the work we have ahead particularly representative Valerie Howell, Oregon State University and U of O President Murphy and Schultz. As well as our airport director. You are all familiar certainly with this conversation from the year of feasibility study background that's gone into that effort, but it was a fantastic event and traffic to see people touring the improvements that are now underway, and imagining the improvements that we plan for the future as a component of our economic development infrastructure within this region. Not just for the city of Eugene, but for a five county region that's directly served by our airport and investments, we have so many great partners in this work. Many more than I just mentioned. That was last week, and a lot has been happening in our community.

I want to especially thank everyone who worked around the clock on the July 4th weekend. At the start line at 7:00 in the morning, many thousands of people running up and over Donald hill and into our downtown, all different directions. I was part of the delegation who accepted the Oregon Heritage commissions recognition of the preFontaine classic, that is now a part of -- now it's a Heritage event. Oregon track club partners and commission from the Heritage commission was there to celebrate that moment and a lot going on in terms of making history that happened all day at that event, and really a wonderful showing by our community.

This weekend I will highlight that we have yet again a packed agenda in our community. You all know summer in Eugene, and the two things I want to highlight, I'm looking forward to he spending time in Santa Clara, and our community park, and helping to judge a pet parade. Looking forward to that very soon. And later in the day, being at Alton Baker park for a celebration. That's always a community event, I hope to see many of you there. Thank you, everyone, that concludes our second agenda item this evening. Our third agenda item, I will turn to the city manager to introduce, which is a priority goal action. Approval of resources for housing, low to moderate income people.

>> Thank you, mayor. Tonight council is asked to approve an award of funds and the city owned property, to promote three affordable housing proposals for low income households, submitted in response to the 2026 request for proposals. The development recommended for funding are river road housing. Which is 45 units of permanent supportive housing. The second is our village by square one Villages. That's 44 cooperative homeownership units. And the city owned property north of Hillyard street, recommended for young KHALA commons. These projects would support the construction of 101 new homes, and staff is here to answer any questions

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, city manager. If there are no questions from council, I will now -- sorry, councilor Keating?

>> Councilor Keating: Thank you, mayor. I am enthusiastic about the square one Villages model is how I should say that. I received constituent engagement around an environmental impact piece on the 34th and Hillyard property, do we have that information available that we could share with council?

>> Mayor Knudson: If staff can come up, they'll answer your question.

>> I'm Ellen May Galloway, and we did -- the 34th and Hillyard property is a city owned property, it's been city owned since the 1940s. And in 2020 through the housing implementation pipeline, it was identified for future use as affordable housing. And we did sequential environmental review on that property, and we did find that it is in the future flood zone that is the moderate flood risk, which was previously called the 500 year flood plain. It's now called .2%, annual chance of flood. That flood plain hasn't been approved yet, but it's going to be approved or put into effect. There are no development requirements for that flood plain, we did ask the developers to consider that moderate flood risk in their development proposal. There's also identified a small wetland on the property. .13 acres is the wetland that was identified. The property has a good amount of Eugene water and infrastructure. And Eweb did some water improvements last year, and they did have to get a wetland permit to do those water infrastructure improvements, so they already have gotten a wetland permit for that. That would be expected for any development in the future, they would need to get a wetland permit before they would be able to develop.

>> Councilor Keating: If I could follow-up, mayor.

>> Mayor Knudson: Yes, councilor.

>> Is there any plan by Eweb or the developer to -- or the city, prior to -- if this is authorized and handed over, to preserve or protect that .13 acres of wetlands?

>> This is a common process for a site within the wet land area. Through that process, they preserve as much of the wetland as they can, they also do particular development, they're required to try to address the wetland in different ways, that's part of the permitting process. They'll go through the process they have to go through, but it includes helping to preserve wetlands that are larger habitat areas, so that's part of the wetland process.

>> Councilor Keating: The final question, if I may.

>> Mayor Knudson: Yes.

>> Councilor Keating: If this council approves the priority goal action tonight, will the council have an ability to come back and give a thumbs up or enthusiasms down on a mitigation effort to protect the aforementioned wetlands?

>> The council will -- well, the developer will likely apply for additional resources to help with the development, but it's not typical for council to take action on any wetland permitting process, that's just through the regular building permitting process.

>> Okay. Appreciate the clarification, thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, if there are no further questions from council, I'll turn to the council President to put forward a motion.

>> Councilor Leech: I move to adopt the -- award 325,439 of affordable housing trust funds to river road housing by Laurel hill center and 325,000 of affordable housing trust funds to our Village by square one Villages and move to award the city owned property located at Hillyard street and 34th avenue.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: I will turn to voting. The motion passes with a vote of 8-0. That concludes our third agenda item this evening. We'll move on to our 4th agenda item. I'll turn to the city manager to read the adoption of resolution approving a low income rental housing property tax exempting renewal for vet lift 1.

>> City council has asked to adopt a resolution, approving the 20-year low income housing development, it was awarded in 2006 and has provided low income rental housing since that time. The development includes 12 low income housing units serving rental households earning at or below 60% area median income. This would allow us to continue offering low income rental housing for the next 20 years.

>> Mayor Knudson: If there are no questions from council, I will turn to the council President to put a motion forward.

>> I move to adopt the resolution in attachment B in this AIS, approving a low income rental housing property tax exemption for property located at 951 west 7th avenue.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any discussion? I will ask for a vote. The motion passes with a vote of 8-0. Thank you very much. That concludes our fourth agenda item this evening. Our fifth item on tonight's agenda is consent calendar one, approval of city council minutes, the city council tentative agenda, and resolution amending the city of eye gene annex to the Lane County multijurisdictional natural hazards mitigation plan adopted by resolution 5446.

>> Councilor Leech: Move to approve the items on consents calendar one.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Any discussion? The motion passes 8-0. Thank you, that concludes our fifth agenda item. I'll now turn to the city manager to introduce our sixth agenda item, which is an action on an ordinance concerning POLYSTYRENE and single use bag regulations. Amending sections 6.850, 6.855, 6.874 and 6.876 of the Eugene code, 1971.

>> Relating to the code changes, they are proposed to align with the city regulations with state laws, a public hearing was held Monday June 15th of this year, and no testimony was submitted.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, city manager, if there are no questions from council.

>> Councilor Leech: I move to approve the ordinance in attachment A to this AIL, an ordinance concerning POLYSTYRENE and single use bag regulations, amending sections 6.850, 6.855, 6.874 and 6.876 of the Eugene code, 1971, and deleting section 6.878 of the Eugene code, 1971 and providing an effective date.

>> Councilor Kashinsky: Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: The motion passes with a vote of 8-0 thank you, that concludes our sixth agenda item. The 7th item on tonight's agenda is the public comment period. It's an opportunity for individuals to speak to the city council on any city related issues, except for those items which have already been heard by hearing's officials. Speakers should direct their comments to city council and the mayor, not members in attendance.

>> We have 22 speakers signed up this evening. I will announce two speakers names at a time. When you are called to speak, state your name and ward or neighborhood if known, before beginning your comments. When you are announced as the next speaker, please move to the seat in the front row designated for speaker. Please leave any bags you may have with you at your seat, if you have documents to give council, please place them in the basket near the podium. You will have 2.5 minutes to speak. Timer will flash red when you have 15 seconds remaining to speak. Your microphone will be muted at the 2.5 minute mark. The use of profanity is not permitted. Our first speakers are Jay Smith followed by Rebecca Kassar.

>> Good evening city council and city manager. I'd like to address this first portion, the city manager who is the only person who has the right to remove chief Skinner from his position. If countless testimonials regarding his conduct, or that he has lied to this community on multiple occasions, I fear this community cannot place trust in you. The culture of the police department is rotten all the way up. Chief Skinner's leadership is to blame for fostering an environment where racist, horrific remarks can be made. In

jest, no less. Your community has implored you to recognize chief foster's role in EPD, and we've given you plenty of time to show movement on this case. It's the recommendation of this community that the city manager has failed to act in the best interest of the community. In approximately 6, 5 months, bear with me, you will have the opportunity to fire the city manager. It is our belief that you must do so. The city manager has failed this community and we are asking, imploring, get rid of this manager. And have one that actually investigates chief Skinner's behavior. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Jay, next is Rebecca Kassan, followed by John Brown.

>> Hi, thank you for allowing me to have this opportunity to speak, and I'm here to talk about the Eugene affordable housing trust fund. Which I really appreciate. I definitely support the creation and support of low income homes. I reviewed the six applications that endorsed that decision. I think those are projects that are really worthy of funding. And I just wanted for the record, to state that I don't support funding for the northwest land trust, I'm ward 3, I forgot to mention that. And just that the scope and complexity of this development, I think need more time. And I am a resident of floral hill, and I just -- I appreciate the city council meeting minutes, documenting the concerns of the neighborhood, we have some concerns relating to the location, the density, the car dependency, the emergency response. The road is very narrow, LTD, it's not possible for LTD to come up summit and floral hill drive. The narrow road has no shoulder, there are hazards with passing in cars, neighborhood walks, biking, walking dogs on this road daily. We also have joggers and gear bike riders that come almost every day. And the impact of that development, 80 to 100 cars is what we estimate would have a tremendous impact on some access and an impact on access to the park as well. I think the number of cars are going to go up and down summit, and it's going to create a lot more traffic going in and out of Hendrix park. And so I'm just -- I want to ask that the traffic impact analysis on the Eugene code, 9.8670 for this development, that it specifically evaluate pedestrians and bike safety on floral drive, given its function as a park access route. I ask that the comment be included in the public record for the state housing infrastructure financing grant award, and any city -- related city of Eugene land use review.

>> Thank you, Rebecca. John Brown followed by Joseph young.

>> Good evening mayor, members of the council. I reside in ward 5, since 1950. My comments this evening are my own, and they do not represent any board or position that I serve upon. I'm bringing you an opportunity for property owners. I'm not trying to bypass city planning staff. Sometimes things get bogged down and don't reach the top. I represent the owners of the former Eugene sand and gravel operation. With the 166 acres of Delta highway and belt line roads. The highway is under the direction of the city of Eugene. Operations ceased at this location decades ago. You strive for 20 minute walkable neighborhoods, there are two grocery outlets, medical, dental and other resources within blocks of this site. The owners have tried for over a decade to have this property included in the UGB, every time they do an outreach, the city staff indicates it will be another few years, now it's 2030 and it's in the reserve. I bring your

attention to a letter from bill close from 2015, they wanted to have this 35 acres included in the UGP, the owners would dedicate the remaining 166 acres to you for Parkland. 100 acres of that is a fresh water lake. Hopefully the city staff and elected officials can help navigate through the bureaucracy to get this property into a status where it help to increase our property tax base. Using a conservative estimate of 75% land use, it would easily generate \$250 million in value to the city. The owners are aging. Technically, this property can be mined for sand and gravel. And the lake filled with construction materials. That would be a tragedy. I have lived in this neighborhood for a long time, I would love to see something happen. If you did it tomorrow, I don't think anyone would say no. I've had a conversation with the governor and explained the situation, she said that doesn't make sense. Hopefully you can help make it make sense. Thank you for your time.

>> Our next speakers, Joseph young, followed by Stephan STRECK.

>> Good evening. I'm Joseph young, I'm here on no one other than myself, a citizen of the great state of Oregon, the United States of America, a resident of Eugene for the past 24 years. The affordable housing trust fund is great. I applaud them for the work they did recently. Remarks were made about the DEV northwest project that's proposed. And those were all pretty much based on the fire, life and safety problems that will occur if this is funded, and if this is built. Are drastic. The city council and leadership will have serious, serious ramifications if there is some sort of fire disaster, or some sort of major car crash, or some sort of pedestrians car accident on this road. It is incredibly narrow. The widest it is at any point between summit and where it turns and goes to the bottom, is 19.89 feet, it averages 16.8 feet, it does not even qualify as a road. Under the qualifications listed in the city of Eugene's codes for what a road should be. And if it's not, it doesn't qualify, with that being said, I urge the city to look at anything regarding this specific development with an added level of scrutiny, because what's happened is it's been pushed through, awarded funds, and last year's HTF, awarded funds after it was denied, \$200,000 came from nowhere. So that's really why I'm here, second reason I'm here, the adoption of decorum rules by this council that infringe upon first amendment rights is deplorable, despicable, and I completely disagree with it, we should be allowed in a traditional public forum, to use whatever language we chose, so long as it's not violent or threatening to the individuals we speak it to. I also believe that you need to be a little clearer on, if people are required to give their name or not, it seems as if you are, when you sign up. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Joseph. Stephan STRECK followed by Mary GENT.

>> Thank you. City council, my name is Stephan STRECK, as you announced. I once again looking back on this past year, it's such a shame that we are in exactly the same position where the city is over budget, funds are being mismanaged, every department, besides parking enforcement is completely dysfunctional. And this is all from the ground up, result of the failure of the Lane County democrat party, it's an absolute disgrace. Once again, just like last year, the budget is mismanaged, the budget is completely out of control, and your response to that is to pay developers to

acquire more property to enrich themselves. More so, can you continue to make completely empty gestures which do nothing to account for the people that are actually in need in this city. This month is disabilities recognition month, actually, and you did not mention this, how come nobody on this council cares enough about people with disabilities to speak up on their behalf. Just a week ago, on the 5th, there was a 67-year-old woman who left her care facility in South Eugene, where it's supposed to be nice, the police gave up looking after 8 hours to go home, put on their Jim jams and get tucked into bed, while this poor elderly disabled woman, died, passed away in the hot sun. Everyone then they didn't continue the search until several days later. When I had to mention it. Because the family was distraught. A good man lost his mother, a little girl lost her grandmother because of all of your negligence. And your priority is to give away public land. Not even giving away, you're giving away public land and tax money. This is sickening. Now, I'm also someone who's disabled. I can park where I want. This woman deserved so much better, and you are all bigots in my eyes, I'm disgusted, thank you.

>> Next speakers are Mary GENT, followed by Lisa Kay.

>> Mary GENT, ward 3, I'm here to comment on the broken public trust with your on going preferred status of DEV northwest building multiplex high density middle housing on floral hills drive. This was their third filing for trust fund dollars, and no dollars were awarded in 2024. And in 2025, DEV northwest did not meet scoring criteria, but the council gave them \$200,000. With the promise of \$400,000 in 2026. This is public testimony from the developer. On your website, you do not show that DEV northwest received these dollars. It is not transparent, it is not honest and it is not fair. The 2026 proposal should have been withdrawn. The forward progress given from a secret back door deal between the city and the developer has now put wheels on middle housing subdivision p.m. serving up to 200 additional residents, strongly opposed by neighbors, due to the low walkability scores, public safety concerns, fire response and evacuation. And an adequate water supply to fight a rapidly moving fire up the Hill side, into the urban forest of Hendrix park. Look no further than the 726.25 fire investigation report at 2680 floral hill drive. The floral hill valley and Hendrix park are in the wild and urban interface. A priority fire risk from the easterly fall winds. The fire trajectory is not changing. Smell the smoke. Springfield fire department has and is separating from us, stop what you have started, we are not NIMBY's, you always have the option of building 15 affordable middle housing homes on the site. Instead you want the big wins. Well, this is a big loss for everyone. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Mary. Lisa Kay followed by Jim knew.

>> I live on floral hills drive. I actually own three properties on floral hills drive, I've been there since 2018. And I love that neighborhood. But besides that, that neighborhood serves Hendrix park, which is the oldest city park. And it's also the oldest neighborhood association. The Laurel hill valley association is the oldest, the first neighborhood valley association in Eugene. We are very frustrated, because we seem to have lost our voice. Neighborhood valley -- all neighborhood associations

seem to not be listened to, and be just ignored as the process of what happens to their neighborhoods. Just goes through the processes that don't have the space for logical input from the people who are most impacted. First of all, I'd like to thank the affordable housing trust fund for taking so much time to take a look at these applications that were in front of them. Our neighborhood had quite a few application feedback letters to them, we also had public comments in -- during the 1925 session. And we were very happy when the affordable housing said, no, deny this. They're a better options for supporting. We were very surprised that somehow \$200,000 got sent to the funds anyway. This year the scenario kind of repeated. We had a lot of neighborhood input again. This is not the first time we've spoken up about this community project. So we basically have tried to explain what the problems are with it, and I want to thank you as the city council for listening to those like the affordable housing trust fund did. Poor walkability schools. The trust fund, the community land trust is not really proven. We've asked DEV north to provide feedback about how successful --

>> Thank you, Lisa. Jim knew, followed by ATIFA.

>> This past week, precedent was set by Lane County commissioners who voted 3-1, in absolving a McKenzie river resident who illegally built 5,000 feet of housing without pulling permits, threatening fish and wildlife. County staff recommended fines be administered and the completed illegal construction be reviewed for code violations. The decision, the three male county commissioners sent a message to the public that pulling building permits could be done after construction was complete. Diminishing health and safety regulations and jeopardizing water quality. This illegal construction is upriver of the city of Eugene's only drinking water source at Hayden bridge. At last week's EWEB meeting, there was a source of discussion on the drinking water on the Willamette river. If there was a seismic event or drought, it would cost the city 59 to \$59 million per day. The single source intake is in need of repairs, due to the age that could take the facility offline, leaving Eugene with a short reservoir supply. Thus loosening regulations, along the banks of the Mackenzie river could affect 200,000 customers. A construction needs to be made and a decision by the county commissioners, as the decision has set the ground for future contamination of the city's only drinking water source. This has become much bigger than a building code process violation, but now affects EWEB water sources and city water customers. You are sworn to protect the public and your constituents from health and safety hazards. EWEB and the city of Eugene have new managers that are committed to approving the communication with the liaisons. The recent decision by the three mail county commissioners warns a prompt and urgent discussion in protecting the city's water source. I hope those discussions are forthcoming and can correct this precedent, sitting action by the three county commissioners. The citizens of Eugene and EWEB will be anxiously paying attention to this issue. Thank you for your time.

>> Thank you, Jim. LATIFAE Armado.

>> For this week, ice murdered two more community members, a 26-year-old Colombian man, and July 7th, they murdered Lorenzo SALGADO. I think it's hard for every Brown person in this room, and I would bet in your personal and professional lives, with people with so much power, with an audience and a voice to not even acknowledge that. I urge you to use your voice to bring awareness to this. There are other tapes from that night, incidents involving the same pattern of behavior, that chief Skinner has reviewed and decided are not problematic, just dark humor. These tapes are not released to this council, they're not shown to the public, and this quiet decision behind closed doors, by the very department accused of the misconduct in the first place, how is that accountability. That is a department that's grading its own homework again. And we've already seen how that goes. Here's the ask, plain and simple, release the tapes to the public, all of them. Every officer who witnessed that behavior and said nothing, who Steed next to it, who laughed, worked alongside it, heard it, and stayed silent, needs to be disciplined too. Silence in the face of that conduct is not neutral, it's participation. A department that only holds the person caught on camera accountable, while everyone who watched and said nothing keeps their badge is telling us exactly what it tolerates, it's showing us its culture. Maybe seeing the tapes will tell you what the public already knows. Don't look away, take accountability and action, and rebuild the trust. City manager, this is your litmus test too. Accepting trust us from a department that has already held evidence once is not right. Please do your job. Disciplined every officer who stayed silent and fire chief Skinner. Thank you.

>> Thank you. Jo Jo Breslin followed by Ken Willits.

>> I'm Jo Jo Breslin, I'm a resident of ward 2, I've been coming to meetings over the past year, I wanted to get engaged with my local government and see what's going on. There's a lot of issues, the community comes up here and talks about, there's one I hear consistently, and so I -- timing kind of worked out, and I wanted to talk about that today. Also, because it's a crucial aspect in our community that I think is important to make sure we get it right to a certain degree. That's the history of Black residents within Eugene. This past Saturday, I had the great pleasure of going on a history tour with the Oregon Black pioneers, the nonprofit they had out here in Eugene, going throughout various different spaces. Part of that talking through the history that Black residents faced from the city's inception, and up until even recent times. Despite some claims or arguing over the ideas of Eugene being a sundown town, we did restrict Black residents and what they were able to do here in our community. They lived across the Willamette river in the ferry street Village, relatively a tent city. That would flood consistently, displace folks, even when that wasn't enough for them to come back and be resilient and rebuild, they were displaced with the creation of the bridge we drive over just across the way. That sent Black residents across Eugene to Amazon creek, the Skinner Butte area as well as my notes are escaping me -- apologies. Anyhoo, I had an ambitious idea of what to talk about today. Nonetheless, I think it's important for us to talk about, there's the history of the KKK, they were more per capita due to our rather small city size than anywhere in the nation. They were listed, stood out on letters among Skinner's Butte you could see down to eighth street down the

Willamette, they would burn wooden crosses and such up until the 1900s. No coloreds allowed. I encourage folks to look at Oregon Black pioneers and other places --

>> Thank you, Jo Jo. Ken Willis, followed by Jacob true.

>> Ken Willis, ward 5, up here with maximum optimism. The theme has already emerged amongst -- I'm the 11th speaker, bad communication. Last year when the flock nightmare started going down, it took me three phone calls to get ahold of Mike Clark, he finally got ahold of me until I threatened to hound you until I drove you nuts. Five emails and four phone calls to the former city manager regarding flock. I had to scream across the room at Chris Skinner because he didn't have the guts or class to come up and face honest criticism. I set up an appointment with your office, city manager, to have a talk about SB1516, and policies about surveillance. You guys want it done in six months, Fireside who wrote the bill was going to come in with me, we had a plan for you to go. You want it done in six months. I called Monday to confirm it, Tuesday your office called and cancelled for no reason, and gave me no opportunity to reschedule. So if you wanted to build trust, you failed. If you wanted to build good communication, you failed. I'm bringing the lady who wrote SB1516 into your office, and you cancelled. So if you won't communicate, our information isn't good enough, nothing's good enough, we're at a standstill here. This has become an incalitrant body. I don't know what to do with you. I'm sorry if it was rough getting through Chris Skinner, but the brother deserved it. I would like to know why you cancelled. We're coming in with specific information that helps you, I wanted to see you win. But you've already lost my trust and respect. I'd like a new city manager. My other issue is Randy. You made a comment at a city meeting of something, regarding secret flock fans in town that were too afraid to show up to the meetings or voice their concerns. I don't believe that. And if you actually have people that supported mass surveillance in town, feel free to have them come down here and discuss it, because that was a crazy comment to make. You said something to the effect of, you were aware of a bunch of people in town that were pro-surveillance and proflock. I talked to 2,000 people over a year's time, I didn't run into one. I would like to see the proof.

>> Thank you, Ken. Your time has concluded. Our next speakers are Jacob true, followed by Kai Fireside.

>> Hello, everybody, my name is Jacob true, I live in ward one. I'm here to talk about public safety. Community safety. As you go into the summer break, one of the big things you have to consider coming up, is the community safety payroll tax that is coming up for renewal here very shortly. Right now, as part of the ordinance, you have to assign 60% of that to police. Well, I'd like you to consider when it comes to policing and public safety, prevention is much more effective and efficient rather than going for policing at the end of things. We are coming into a budget crunch as ever. And you have to think about what kind of city we want to be running here. A city that's effective and efficient and takes care of people and their problems before intervention by police, or do we want to pay a premium to have the punitive measures of policing tacked on at the end. The city council was able to pass the community safety payroll tax, in no small

part because the vote for it happened at the on set of Covid. 2020 in the -- pardon me, in the spring. At the renewal, there wasn't a lot of availability for people to organize a response to it. I think that when we come to the five year anniversary of it, again, it's delayed because of the implementation. But when we come to that, I don't think you can expect a lack of response to it this time. Also when it comes to public safety, we used to have a nationally recognized committee in cahoots, and we no longer have that. I want you to consider when you're thinking about different ways we can allocate funds with the community safety payroll tax, whether or not the city of Eugene will go for it as it stands right now, pouring into the coffers of the Eugene police department. Or whether or not there's a better way to deal with that. Consider Salem, we're spending a lot more than Salem on our police. There's some efficiencies and effectiveness we can get from the amount we're spending on public safety in that area, and much more efficient ways we can get the kind of care and public services that we want here in Eugene. Thank you for your time. Have a good summer.

>> Thank you, Jacob. Our next speakers are Kai Fireside followed by Richard Reardon.

>> Kai Fireside, I'm here because in may, a colleague of mine, scheduled a meeting with the new city manager. At the time she was so busy, the meeting needed to be scheduled a full two months out. She will not a single half an hour free for eight plus weeks, because she is overworked or speaking with us is a low priority. I had an easier time getting meetings with senators. We had several big issues to discuss, we waited our two months patiently, and two days before our scheduled meeting, her office cancelled. We requested a reschedule, it was denied. This meeting was for us to help you. In interviews the city manager said that flock was a good tool. She's perhaps open to contracts with other companies. 1516 went into effect recently, it affects automated license plate readers like flock. I cannot imagine a single good reason to avoid talking with me of all people, because I help write ALRP legislation. I wrote entire sections of it, because I was the most qualified person in the entire state. Section 6 is entirely mine. So imagine my surprise when your city manager cancels a meeting with me to talk about this issue. You, the council have say over a single employee, you have one employee to watch over very closely, to ensure that she doesn't make the same mistakes as the last one. And we are watching her too. I hope Eugene is not the city where we test the consequences of violating this new law.

>> Next speakers are Richard rear ton, followed by Steve Gilbert.

>> Hi, guys, Richard Reardon, ward 4, I think. Like a lot of people here, I'm amazed the city manager hasn't fired chief Skinner. Maybe I'm just an activist or something of that nature, he's been doing the job for a decade, and the you culture of EPD hasn't changed very much. I have to tell you, I was watching CNN a while back, a racially charged vocabulary lesson. I know one person who has the power to fire him, the city manager. Now, this person has the power, but also doesn't have the willingness to do it. This is the same person who blew off a meeting with one of my friends and probably knew a thing or two about the ALPRs. Maybe I'm just a dumb college kid, I've seen

allegedly serious people, like politicians and rich people protecting each other. I know what happens at Lane Community College. I also know it happens here, if you can just maybe, just maybe get her to fix herself or just fire her before election day, that would be really cool, thank you.

>> Thank you, Richard. Our next speakers, Steve Gilbert, followed by Josh Easterland.

>> I thought it would be a quiet night here. Steve Gilbert, third generation Bethel resident. I've raised kids, witnessed the changes to Highway 99 in my Bethel neighborhood. I suffer the consequences of them with my neighbors and area businesses. When the city and county developed a plan to make homelessness rare, they selected Highway 99 and saturated it with chronic homeless services. Dangers to public safety by concentrating this vulnerable population on the highway were known, and ignored. And the services continued to be added there. As a plan to reduce homelessness worked. Absolutely not. The plan has fueled its growth, Eugene is now known nationally for homelessness and homeless services. Chronically homeless individuals come here from cities around Lane County, around the state, and from across the country. They come from cities that enforce their laws or are lacking homeless services. Like Springfield. Eugene and Lane County stick with their plan at the expense of their own budgets, policing, fire and EMT services, the judicial system, the DA, local businesses, and the safety and well being of its residents. Downtown Eugene appears to be a different story, downtown has its own dedicated police task force to address and move chronically homeless people. Now, our council is considering grant monies to help the negatively impacted downtown businesses. There's no such concern for Bethel and 99. Bethel is where Eugene and Lane County have envisioned the chronic homeless population to be all along. Thank you.

>> Thank you, Steve. Josh Easterland, followed by Genevieve Channing.

>> Josh Easterland, director of equitable access Eugene Ward 8. I wanted to briefly highlight something that just developed -- is developing up the road in Portland, they're currently considering the Portland psychedelic health and safety acts. A committee vote is expected this summer. The proposal itself is not the concern, but what it says about each other. A few years ago, discussions of psychedelics were should they be legal or illegal. Communities are asking a different question. How should public policy respond to the fact that people are already using these substances. Portland recognizes that many people use psychedelics. It draws distinctions that are important. It does not create commercial sales or storefronts, it does not affect laws around impaired driving. Change enforcement priorities related to Fentanyl or other substances, that are driving addiction and overdose deaths. Instead, it focuses narrowly on whether commercial engagement should be treated as a major law enforcement concern. Whether one agrees with that conclusion or not. It represents a more thoughtful nuanced conversation we've seen in the past, as more cities, researchers, health care professionals, veterans, and every day citizens engage with these questions, I hope Eugene continues to approach this issue with curiosity, evidence, and openness to discussing what is actually happening in our communities.

I'm encouraged to see this conversation continue across Oregon. And I appreciate the opportunity to continue it here as well.

>> Next Genevieve Channing followed by Winn Mansell.

>> My daughter Genevieve wanted to speak to city council tonight, do you want to share what you wanted to talk about? Okay. We're getting shy. She is going to kindergarten and wanted to talk about street safety tonight. And she's concerned about getting to kindergarten in ways that don't require a car. Genevieve was concerned about getting to school on her bike on safe streets, and the fact that she has friends that are going to schools that are different from where she will be going, where there is a protected bike lane most of the way. And we're very grateful for that, some of her friends do not have that same experience in their way to school every day. So as she thinks about kindergarten and all the excitement that's going to happen between now and the first day, the way to get to school has become quite a topic in our house, and she wanted to speak to you about that tonight. Okay. We're getting shy. That was the gist of what she was going to say. Thank you for your time.

>> Thank you, Genevieve. Our next speakers are Winn Mansell, followed by Blair Hiccock.

>> Council, everyone else, in the time that I've been coming to city council meetings, we've all had a lot of intense discussions, and a common theme I've seen and heard in a lot of them, the difficulties around transparency between city government and its populous. Especially as we're approaching a rereview of mass surveillance, other software, other things facing the city. I really want to double down on encouraging you guys to open up. The city is here and willing to meet you. We've seen it with powerful activists getting the fence removed from the federal building, fighting for our first amendment rights, we've seen it as the queer community of Eugene policed their own March and held the pride March when it was otherwise cancelled. With ALPRs, we have Kai Fireside in the audience tonight, who took incredible time out of their life to make sure strong legislation was written for all Oregonians. Yeah, transparency is probably going to be the only way that this city starts to repair the broken trust with its populous. I have an article just published today, where even LAPD has acknowledged that they're going to cancel their ALPR contracts, because the lack of reliability in their hot lists is causing massive public trust issues. As 161 people have been pulled over incorrectly. We're all familiar with how our neighbors are being arrested all over the country, murdered all over the country, dealing with ice. And yeah, transparency, transparency, transparency. I'm going to share with you, something I got from the city of bend, which I believe last city council meeting, there was difficulty talking about putting together a list of software. I learn best from example, city of bend had this put together. Got it to me pretty quickly, seemed pretty strong. Thank you, go cahoots.

>> Thank you. Our next speakers Blair Hickock followed by Eli MAZETTE.

>> Blair Hickock, pleasure to be here again. I want to talk about disability, it's disability month. Yes, let's talk about disability for a minute. Something interesting has been happening in Washington/Jefferson park, there's a food for Lane County subsidiary, they have been targeted by EPD. So there's video circulating on social media right now, EPD arrested a man in the wheelchair who was occupying the sidewalk. They didn't ask him to move, they arrested him. They gave him his wheelchair back. That's not very common, there's a mobility graveyard somewhere in EPD possession. That's gross. Mayor, I saw you at Juneteenth events, pride I went to. They're not accessible. Like it's really hard to exist in a world that doesn't want to include you. And that feels very true for disabled folks in this city. And so it all boils down to accessibility for everyone, because if we live long enough as human beings, there's a 100% chance we're going to be disabled. Why don't we support folks, that being said, I want to come back to EPD. Stiller is not a bad apple, and we have heard from multiple people tonight, we'll hear from more people tonight. We've heard from multiple people on social media and in these meetings. EPD is corrupted, why are we penalizing people experiencing homelessness instead of penalizing the cops who are targeting these folks. The science has been done. There's no study that says policing and criminalizing homelessness further solves anything. You know what it does? It creates chronically homeless people. The thing of it is, it's a public health and safety issue ultimately, and if we want to have a thriving community, we need to remove access to funds for policing, put them into social safety net programs. I'm very excited about the permanent supportive housing projects, but I'm really not excited about the fact that you guys just push through a project for a protected wetlands? Anyway. I digress. Thank you, have a wonderful summer.

>> Thank you, Blair. Eli MAZZETTE followed by Robert Brock.

>> Good evening city council, I'm here -- been at the Saturday market, born and raised in Eugene, I'm at the Saturday market for 26 years, there's been talk of shutting the streets down around the Saturday market. And there could be signs that we put out, I was hoping to say, maybe, 20 miles an hour. We wouldn't shut the fifth street public market down, and all the interaction that goes on there. I'm here, I had 100 different vendors sign, old vendors that have been down there for 30 years, we don't want to shut the streets down, because it doesn't give access for people to come and see us, it's like downtown Eugene. They reopened downtown Eugene, so we could activate that space. I know there's not any real big plan right now to shut the streets down, I wanted to bring it as a concern, when it does go there, that the Saturday market is this magical place, to access the Saturday market. The mission statement of the Saturday market is that we're there to teach artisans, we're there to promote people to run their own businesses, like I was able to do, take care of five families with just one Booth at the Saturday market. We want to keep the streets open down there, if we could find somebody or the city was able to bring in and take -- bring some signs in, that were just 20 miles an hour or something like that, I think it would really help the farmer's market, and that downtown area in the future for any accidents. But we want to keep the streets open for commerce, people drive by from Seattle, they go to duck games, they drive by, they come down and spend money with us, they can really interact with

the Saturday market. I'm here to reiterate that what a great thing the Saturday market is for the city of Eugene. Just like the Eugene celebration, it's the same thing, it celebrates Eugene every weekend. I really appreciate what you guys are doing, and I really thank you.

>> Thank you, Eli. Next speakers are Robert Brock, followed by David EIGELL.

>> Good evening, I'm Robert Brock, resident of the river road neighborhood. The Eugene police department got over \$180 million in the last budget, with such a massive expenditure, it shouldn't be a big ask that there be oversight and accountability to see if all that money is helping to keep Eugene safer. The Eugene police department doesn't have that accountability, we have a police chief willing to turn a blind eye to racism and brutality from its officers. This for \$186 million department, purporting to protect and serve the people of Eugene. Without accountability to the people of Eugene, we're spending money, not for community safety, but for officers like Martin stiller, bill SOLESBY to brutalize and terrorize us. We need Skinner out, we need a civilian oversight system that can keep abusive officers out of power. With the level of cost associated with the EPD, it's worth considering whether police are a solution for the problems Eugene faces. We have a homelessness problem, driven by low wages and high cost of living. These are problems the police cannot solve and using cops to treat the systems of Eugene's homelessness problem is inefficient and more often than not, inhumane, arresting the unhoused for trivial violations, bulldozing campsites and destroying their personal possessions won't make Eugene safer. Pushing them around from campsite to campsite won't make them disappear. When we pay police to sweep an encampment, we're spending money to make our community less safe. Spending money to put some of our vulnerable community members into an even more unstable situation. Cahoots providing services like medical aid, intervening in crisis before they became severe and costly, and programs like cahoots and Willamette valley crisis care, do more to make a safe community at a fraction of the cost. As the city makes long term plans for addressing housing and public safety, it must consider the many ways in which the police cannot be trusted to protect public safety, those millions of dollars would serve us better if they were put toward social services --

>> Thank you, Robert.

>> Next and final speaker is David EIGELL.

>> David EIGELL. Here I am again, addressing the fact that this community has been the victim of TALISHA Brown, she's managed to collect \$300,000 for a memorial to be placed in Alton Baker park. This memorial is for events in history that never occurred. When the architect was about to be letter hired, it turned out the head of the memorial commission stole the money. This was a particularly awkward situation, in that the head of the commission was the very elderly Dan sickles. I appreciate the fact that it's very awkward for you to deal with this situation. Apparently no one bothered to request primary source documentation for the narrative Brown was promoting. She had been

required to provide primary source documentation, her narrative would have been exposed as nonsense, I ask if any of you still believe Eugene was a sundown town. None of you responded in the affirmative. Eugene city proper has a proud list of Black residents and property owners going back 135 years. I know this, because I researched it and the Black pioneers did not. They're looking to change the exhibit, so loaded in misinformation that it involved Jennifer YEH to be removed as manager.

>> 00 tempting to avoid this awkward situation through inaction will only make matters more difficult. My work is available to anyone at no cost. Thank you.

>> Thank you, David. Mayor, that was our final speaker.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, staff, I now close the public comment period. Are there any comments from city council? Councilor Clark and then counselling groves.

>> Councilor Clark: Manager, one of my constituents spoke to, John Brown. He spoke about a property very near my home. I've wondered myself to be years and years and years, how this literally 100 some odd acres right across the street from Home Depot, literally, right across the street can be something that is continually outside even the consideration for a place that we might build homes. There is an opportunity in front of us that as was mentioned by my constituents this evening, may not last forever, with regard to the passage of time and generations, I'd love to have some kind of response from staff, memo, form, whatever it be, about why we have to wait so long according to staff and the research and the work that they've done before that can be considered for addition to inclusion with our UGB planning and rural reserves, and why it couldn't occur more quickly than that. So any kind of information that planning staff is able to give me about what's required to get the job done for the owners of that mortgage to be able to do as they'd like, which is to see housing built, which we desperately need. Thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor groves.

>> Councilor Groves: Thank you, my first question was the same thing, I'm interested in seeing this, I have brought it forward before to planning, and was told that it's -- the barrier is army core of engineers, but I never was given any specifics. But it just seems in this time when there are people that don't want housing built in their area, this is an area that I think is ripe for it. And I like the idea about the park expansion as well. That's one issue, and the second issue, I want to inquire about, we heard testimony tonight about the potential or thoughts of closing streets around the market. And I haven't heard anything like that. Is that something we can look into and see if it's -- people are actually work on that?

>> Yes, I have a neat to do that, thank you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Councilor Yeh.

>> Councilor Yeh: Thank you, mayor. I'm not sure if Genevieve is here or not, hopefully her mom will let her know, I appreciate what she's thinking about, my own kids traveled to and from school using a bike or their feet for many, many years, and there are certainly barriers to doing that, so I'm so proud of her to be thinking of it now and how she's going to address that want and need into the future. And I can certainly appreciate being shy coming here, but maybe she could send us an email or a letter so we can hear it in her own words, that would be really fantastic for us. And I just wanted to also appreciate what Winn said about transparency and the city doing better on communication. It's important to me, I think we have a lot of room for improvement, it's hard for folks to know how they want to interact and what they want to tell us, if they're not clear about what we're doing and why we're doing it. It's our responsibility to get that information out. So people can form an informed opinion and share their thoughts for us. I believe it's a priority, it's my priority, but it's my belief it's a priority of all my colleagues going into the next years to work on that and do better. Oh, and real quick, since I have time, I want to thank Jo Jo for his remarks, the Oregon Black pioneers are an amazing organization, that I also have been so impressed with over the years, they do amazing work all over the state, not just here, but everywhere, their website has tons of information on, if you are interested in learning more about Black history in our state. Both now and more recent. I encourage you to take a look at something that's important to you.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you councilor for highlighting that resource. We are now going to move on to our last agenda item for this evening which is consent calendar 2, resolution annexing land to the city of Eugene, assessor's map 17-03-09-31, tax lots 800, 900, 1,000, 1100, located at 89830 north game farm road.

>> Move to approve the items on consent calendar two.

>> Second.

>> Mayor Knudson: Thank you, I'll take a vote for this motion. Councilors lock in your votes on your tablets or raise your hands in the affirmative. The motion passes with a vote of -- [Inaudible]

>> Mayor Knudson: I'm sorry, I'm watching. Sorry, one more time. And the motion passes with a vote of 8-0. Thank you, everyone. And that concludes our agenda for this evening. And I'll close the July 13th, 2026 city council meeting, and we are adjourned.