

**City of Newberg
City Council Minutes
October 16, 2023
Hybrid meeting format**

BUSINESS SESSION –

Meeting called to order at 6:00 p.m.

Councilors Present: Mayor Bill Rosacker, Councilors Elise Yarnell Hollamon, Derek Carmon, Molly Olson, Mike McBride, Robyn Wheatley, and Peggy Kilburg

Staff Present: Police Chief Jeff Kosmicki, Planning Manager Clay Downing, and City Recorder Rachel Thomas

The Council addressed Item 6.C George Fox University Women’s Golf Team NCAA Division III Champions Proclamation at this time.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

CM statistics - AUGUST for OCT Council.pptx

This Item was addressed immediately following Item 6.C George Fox University Women’s Golf Team NCAA Division III Champions Proclamation.

Police Chief Kosmicki filled in for CM Worthey in reporting the statistics for August 2023.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS

Poysdorf 2024 Visit Announcement from Lynn Weygandt

Printable Poysdorf Presentation color.pdf

Poysdorf Agenda for 2024 proposed .pdf

Rick Rogers presented a slideshow presentation on the relationship with Newberg’s sister city, Poysdorf, Austria, which began in 2006 to develop trade, culture, and education between communities, and he highlighted the shared interest in winemaking. Mr. Rogers noted previous visits between Poysdorf and Newberg delegations and announced the visit of the Poysdorf delegation to Newberg in July 2024.

Waltraut Kindler-Goertzen, formerly of the Austrian-American Council Northwest, relayed the greetings from the Mayor and City Council of Poysdorf and delivered a book on Poysdorf to the Newberg City Council. Ms. Kindler-Goertzen shared some background on the founding of the sister city partnership between Newberg and Poysdorf in 2006 and discussed the importance of strengthening ties between communities.

David Adelsheim, founder of Adelsheim Winery, shared background information on the founding of Adelsheim Winery in 1978 as the first winery in Newberg. Mr. Adelsheim had visited Poysdorf as part of the delegation and noted that Poysdorf was a major center of the wine industry in

Austria. Mr. Adelsheim shared some background on winemaking in Poysdorf and described winery sites of interest he visited while in Poysdorf.

Terry McElligott, long-time Newberg educator, stated that Newberg had an educational exchange program with Newberg's other sister city, Wadayama, Japan, which provided new perspectives for teens and taught that different cultures had a lot of similarities. Ms. Kindler-Goertzen had proposed an educational exchange with Poysdorf to build student relationships and confidence. Covid had delayed the educational exchange with Poysdorf, but hopefully, the program would begin soon. Long-lasting relationships were formed during educational exchanges.

Lynn Lamping, Oregon Dyslexia Institute, had trained a lot of Newberg teachers as well as teachers in surrounding areas, and was very invested in education. Ms. Lamping had visited Poysdorf with the delegation while coming from an educational standpoint. The students in Poysdorf were well-behaved, asked a lot of questions, and were very excited about possibly coming to visit Newberg. Ms. Lamping noted there were many similarities between the schools she visited in Poysdorf and the schools in Newberg. Questions were arising about when the program would start as the students were eager to begin an exchange program. Ms. Lamping discussed lessons she learned from traveling to Poysdorf.

Lynn Weygandt, Windrose Conference Center, Owner, discussed the cultural exchange inherent in the sister city relationship. Before the latest delegation traveled to Poysdorf, a photographer was hired to take pictures of Newberg to depict what made Newberg special. The pictures were displayed in the cultural center in Poysdorf for a month before the arrival of the Newberg delegation. Poysdorf would be sending cultural pictures for display ahead of the upcoming visit of the Poysdorf delegation to Newberg. Ms. Weygandt detailed her experiences at the Winzerfest, a four-day wine festival that occurred during the Newberg delegation's last visit to Poysdorf. A central part of Poysdorf lined with subterranean cellars had applied to be a United Nations Educational Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) World Heritage site. Ms. Weygandt described other cultural aspects of Poysdorf enjoyed by the delegation during their visit, noted the similar landscapes, and discussed visits back and forth by delegations of the sister cities Newberg and Poysdorf. Ms. Weygandt urged Councilors to consider participating in the next delegation visit to Poysdorf in 2026. Ms. Weygandt discussed the agenda for the upcoming visit from the Poysdorf delegation to Newberg in 2024 and she encouraged Councilors to attend some of the events. Ms. Weygandt confirmed all Council members and their spouses were invited to be part of the Newberg delegation to Poysdorf in 2026 for the 20th anniversary of the sister city relationship.

Mayor Rosacker discussed the possibility of bringing the Poysdorf delegation to the rodeo during their visit, the evolution of the wine industry in Newberg, and commended the work done by those involved in winemaking.

Taste Newberg Annual Report and Upcoming Developments FY2022-23 Annual Report and 23.24 Marketing Plan.City.pdf

Leigh Jensen, Taste Newberg, Executive Director, introduced Max Baker, Resource Assistant for Rural Environments, who worked with Taste Newberg, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Newberg Downtown Coalition using funding from the Travel Oregon – Capacity and Small Project Grants program. Mr. Baker would be working on upcoming projects on community engagement, an infrastructure funding program, outdoor recreation maps, website updates, and a community-wide tourism strategic plan.

Ms. Jensen presented the annual report of Taste Newberg for the fiscal year 2022-2023 and outlined the 2023-2024 marketing campaign and events to increase tourism in Newberg including the use of social media, digital marketing, retargeting ads, Datafy, and print ads to promote visiting wine country in Newberg. The Oregon Destination Association conference would be taking place at The Allison Inn on January 17-19, 2024. Council members were encouraged to attend the conference events. The Downtown Coalition would also be organizing a Truffle Festival at the Cultural Center in March of 2024.

Mayor Rosacker clarified that organizations promoting tourism, such as Taste Newberg, were funded by Transient Lodging Tax.

Mayor Rosacker called for a five-minute break. Upon reconvening, the Council addressed item 6.D Presentation on the History of Newberg.

[George Fox University Women's Golf Team NCAA Division III Champions Proclamation GFU Women's Golf Championship 2023.docx](#)

This Item was addressed immediately following Item 3 Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Rosacker read the proclamation congratulating the George Fox University Women's Golf Team for winning the NCAA Division III Women's Golf Championship and declared May 12 George Fox Women's Golf Championship Day.

The Council addressed Item 4 City Manager's Report at this time.

[Presentation on the History of Newberg History of Newberg 2023-1016.pdf](#)

This Item was addressed immediately following Item 6.B Taste of Newberg Annual Report and Upcoming Developments.

City Recorder Thomas gave a presentation on the history of Newberg relating to why Main Street was not the main street of town. She shared an old picture of Newberg, discussed the four attempts to establish an initial townsite in Newberg including one townsite on Main Street at the Ruddick/Wood location. By the time the train came through, another townsite for Newberg had been established at the Edwards Platt as a Quaker colony. Newberg had been incorporated as a town in 1889 and as a city in 1893. Several original buildings were still standing. Part of the problem with the original attempts to establish Newberg was the soil condition, which was not ideal for yearly agriculture but later was found to do well with orchard crops and berries. The first vineyards were planted shortly after alcohol became legalized in Newberg in 1966. Many small communities merged to form what was Newberg today. City Recorder Thomas stated she was available anytime to answer historical questions or do research for the Council, and she also provided information on local historical entities including the Newberg Area Historical Society, the Hoover-Minthorn House Museum, Yamhill County Historical Society, and the archives at George Fox University. City Recorder Thomas confirmed alcohol had been sold in Newberg before and during alcohol prohibition. Newberg had a lot of controversial history that also deserved to be collected.

[Parking Survey Results Presentation Parking Survey Results Presentation NDC.pdf](#)

Aubrey Nichols, Newberg Downtown Coalition (NDC), Executive Director, presented the parking survey results from the survey conducted earlier in 2023 called the “Priority Ranking of Recommendations from the Downtown Newberg Parking Study and Management Plan: A Survey for Downtown Residents, Landowners, Business Owners, and Employees” which was meant to gauge public interest in the various recommended parking and road improvements. Ms. Nichols shared the background and promotion methods for the survey, and information regarding respondents. Ms. Nichols discussed the level of public interest for each of the eleven recommended improvements and reported high levels of public interest in:

- Adding striping to targeted on-street parking spaces.
- Installing wayfinding and producing visitor-facing content to guide visitors to parking resources.
- Working with ODOT to improve the pedestrian environment and crossings along First Street and Hancock Street with consideration given to parking and walking impacts in the redesign of those streets.
- Continuing the creation of a Civic Corridor along Howard Street and integrating plans for the Ewing Young Trail to further improve connectivity of the north and south ends of downtown.
- Improving street lighting around the Second Street lot and possibly opening the breezeway connecting the lot to First Street.
- Providing safe and well-located parking for downtown employees and residents.
- Monitoring parking at different times of year and during large events.

Ms. Nichols reported the main takeaways from the data were that safety was the highest priority for respondents especially regarding lighting and safe pedestrian crossings, appreciation for having the study data publicly available on the City website, lack of interest in parking enforcement, and support for continued partnership between the City and event entities. Ms. Nichols shared selected comments from survey respondents.

The NDC provided three main recommendations which were to increase safety, visibility, and education about parking. Ms. Nichols commended the upcoming improvement projects already planned by the City, including the installation of lighted electric vehicle charging stations, curb painting downtown, and collaboration between the Public Works Department and George Fox University students to redesign the Second Street lot. Parking survey results were made available to Councilors.

Mayor Rosacker thanked the NDC and the Chamber of Commerce for taking the initiative to complete the survey.

COUNCIL APPOINTMENTS

Appointment of Short-Term Rental Ad Hoc Committee Members

RCA Appoint Short Term Rental Ad Hoc Committee Members.docx

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| Action: | To appoint Short-Term Rental Ad Hoc Committee members, namely Councilor Wheatley as Chair, Councilor Kilburg as Vice-Chair, and citizen members [1:33:28 Could not confirm last name] David Shetland? Chetlin?, Beth Keyser, and Don Sires |
| Motion: | Councilor Wheatley |
| Second: | Councilor Yarnell-Hollamon |
| Vote: | 7 Yes 0 No 0 Abstain 0 Absent |

COUNCIL BUSINESS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

ATTEST:



Bill Rosacker, Mayor



Rachel Thomas, City Recorder