BURNS CITY COUNCIL
January 28, 2026

The Burns City Council met in regular session on January 28, 2026, at 6:00 p.m. Members present were as follows:

Mayor:	Brad Erbe
Councilor President:	Jen Hoke
Councilors:	Susan Lowe
	Chase Patterson
	Andrew Roy
	Tod Gahley

Also, in attendance were City Manager Brenda Engebretson, Public Works Director Ty Richardson, Fire Chief Scott Williamson, and Police Chief Robby Tiller, Public Works Foreman Wayne Delange. Also, in attendance was Barb

SUMMARY

The City of Burns Council meeting covered various administrative matters including the postponement of several agenda items and committee assignments, including the postponement of the URA meeting to February 11th due to a scheduling conflict. The council discussed downtown preservation and building ordinances, with particular focus on maintaining First Amendment rights while considering aesthetic changes. Key decisions were made regarding airport fees, with the council approving new fee schedules and addressing safety concerns. They also discussed ongoing construction contract overages that require legal review.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Kim Rollins, 831 Riverside Dr., expressed concerns about the city's financial situation and criticized the council's handling of the R3 board director position.

AGENDA APPROVAL AND ADDED ITEMS

Mayor Erbe informed postponed the Pfas Remediation Study from item #2 under new business and replaced it with Patty Hodge concerning murals.

Councilor Gahley made a motion to approve the agenda with the changes. Councilor Roy seconded the motion. All Ayes. **(6/0)**

CONSENT AGENDA

Regular City Council Meeting Minutes – January 14, 2025 –

Councilor Patterson made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Hoke seconded the motion. All Ayes. **(6/0)**

NEW BUSINESS

1. **Donation Request from Crossroads Ranch** – The council discussed a donation request from Crossroads Ranch for their 10th annual dinner and auction, ultimately deciding to sponsor a food donation for $100.

   Councilor Hoke made a motion to donate $100.00 to a food sponsor for Crossroads Ranch 10th annual dinner and auction. Councilor Gahley seconded the motion. All Ayes. **(6/0)**

2. **Pfas Remediation Study** – The council postponed this agenda item until a later date.

3. **Patty Hodge** – she spoke against changing ordinances due to a complaint about a cowboy with a rainbow shirt, emphasizing the importance of the First Amendment.

   The council clarified that the discussion was not specifically about murals but rather about the overall look of downtown. They plan to explore the idea of implementing building standards similar to other cities, while ensuring they do not infringe on First Amendment rights.

4. **Appointing New Councilor to be on R3** – The council decided to postpone appointing new members to the R3 Committee until proper documentation could be reviewed.

5. **Airport Rules and Regulations** – Fire Chief Scott Williamson presented proposed rules and regulations for the Burns Municipal Airport, which the council agreed to review further before voting on them at the February meeting.

OLD BUSINESS

1. **Business Oregon Loan Overage on IE Zone -** The City Council discussed a Biz Oregon loan for overages in the IE zone, with concerns raised about liability and documentation. Council members expressed uncertainty about the city's liability for overages, as the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the county only states that the city is responsible, but does not specify the authority to approve overages. The council agreed to have legal counsel review additional documents, including change orders and agreements with Warrington to determine the city's liability before making a final decision on the overages.

RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES

Ordinance 26-817 – A resolution adopting a Master Fee Schedule for the 2026-2027 fiscal year.

Councilor Patterson made a motion to read Resolution No. 26-817 by title only. Councilor Hoke seconded the motion. All Ayes. **(6/0)**

Councilor Patterson made a motion to approve Resolution No. 26-817. Councilor Hoke seconded the motion. All Ayes. **(6/0)**

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The council discussed committee assignments, with Councilor Lowe taking over the Cemetery Committee and Councilor Hoke being appointed to the Airport Committee. They discussed the scheduling of a URA meeting for February 11th at 5:15 PM, as well as them addressing their concerns about historic downtown

preservation, with Councilor Roy suggesting an incentive-based approach to encourage building owners to register their properties as historic. It was also noted that there was still an open council seat that needed to be posted and that a work session needed to be rescheduled for February 18th from 6-8pm, pending confirmation from the Chamber Director.

NEXT STEPS

1. City Manager Brenda Engebretson: Send all relevant IE Zone project documents to legal counsel (Jeremy Green) for review to determine the city's legal obligations regarding overage payments
2. City Clerk Tiffany Leffler: Post the open city council position as soon as possible, with a 30-day application window
3. City Manager Brenda Engebretson and City Clerk Tiffany Leffler: Schedule work session for February 18th (6-8 PM) with Jessica (Chamber Director) and Mr. Clemens to discuss downtown/TLT tax
4. Fire Chief Scott Williamson: Go out for bids to repair runway frost heave at airport
5. Fire Chief Scott Williamson: Continue searching for new courtesy vehicle for airport in $8,000 price range, preferably SUV
6. City Council: Review R3 board documents before considering new appointments
7. City Council: Review airport rules and regulations document before February meeting vote
8. City Clerk Tiffany Leffler: Print meeting materials for Councilor Lau upon request

ADJOURN

Mayor Erbe adjourned the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Tiffany Leffler, City Clerk

Brad Erbe, Mayor