



# City of Rockaway Beach

## Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

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**Date:** Wednesday, April 9, 2025

**Location:** Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 Hwy 101 - Civic Facility

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### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor McNeilly called the meeting to order at: 6:00 p.m.

### 2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### 3. ROLL CALL

**Council Members Present:** Mayor Charles McNeilly; Councilors Penny Cheek (Zoom), Mary McGinnis, Tom Martine, Alesia Franken, and Kiley Konruff

**Staff Present:** Luke Shepard, City Manager; Melissa Thompson, City Recorder; Dan Emerson, Public Works Superintendent; Todd Hesse, Fire Chief; and Kevin Grogan, Sheriff's Deputy

### 4. CONSENT AGENDA

Start time: 6:01 p.m.

- a. Approval of March 12, 2025 Regular Meeting Minutes
- b. Approval of March 12, 2025 Workshop Minutes
- c. Review of Financial Reports

Martine made a **motion**, seconded by McGinnis, to approve the consent agenda.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

### 5. PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Start time: 6:03 p.m.

- a. **Presentation – School District Operational Levy** – Tyler Reed, Neah-Kah-Nie School District

Reed made a presentation providing information on a May 2025 ballot measure for a levy to fund operations for the Neah-Kah-Nie School District. McGinnis made clarifying comments.

## **6. STAFF REPORTS**

### **a. Fire Department**

Start time: 6:22 p.m.

Hesse presented a staff report on the activities and operations of the Rockaway Beach Fire Rescue department for the month of March 2025. Hesse introduced volunteer firefighter Cole Lindsay, who is assisting with drone operations. Hesse added work was beginning on a wildfire protection plan. Hesse shared slides showing drone capabilities, locations of rip currents and the new ladder truck being built. Hesse answered clarifying questions. McGinnis commented on the April Emergency Management meeting and encouraged all to attend on the first Wednesday of each month.

### **b. Sheriff's Office**

Start time: 6:42 p.m.

Deputy Kevin Grogan commented that drones were very effective in law enforcement. Grogan summarized the Sheriff's Office report for March 2025. Grogan confirmed for Konruff that a third Deputy was anticipated soon, and a fourth at the beginning of summer. At the request of McGinnis, Grogan provided updates on the Sheriff's Office response to code complaints regarding RVs.

### **c. Public Works**

Start time: 6:47 p.m.

Emerson presented his report on operations within the Public Works department for March 2025. McGinnis commented that the Wayside ramp was getting a lot of use. McNeilly expressed appreciation for the accessible parking space that was added near the public restrooms at the Wayside.

### **d. City Manager**

Start time: 6:51 p.m.

Shepard shared a presentation including updates on the following:

- Overview of business items on the agenda
- Large Community Grants will be reviewed next month
- Wayside Beach Access Project complete
- First David's Chair user
- Middle & High-School lighting project funded and to be installed soon
- New Public Works plant operator and utility worker
- Public meeting dates in April and May
- Staff highlight on Fire Chief Hesse, celebrating 5 years with the City

## **7. PUBLIC HEARING – None Scheduled**

## **8. PUBLIC INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

Start time: 7:03 p.m.

Randy Schultz, school board representative for Rockaway Beach, spoke advocating for the School District operational levy.

Julie Maxfield, owner of Green Coast Market, spoke advocating for the School District operational levy.

Michael Simpson, teacher for Neah-Kah-Nie School District, spoke advocating for the School District operational levy.

M.J. Basti shared a flyer with the Council and spoke advocating for Tillamook County ballot measure 29-183 to increase the County's transient lodging tax rate.

Nancy Lanyon questioned whether the City had lost any funding, and commented on how the City might address and prepare for funding challenges.

Deborah Weissenfluh shared announcements about Eggstravaganza events scheduled for April 19<sup>th</sup>.

## **9. OLD BUSINESS – None Scheduled**

## **10. NEW BUSINESS**

### **a. Consideration of Resolution 2025-15 Approving Awards for the 2024-2025 Small Community Grant Program**

Start time: 7:23 p.m.

McNeilly stated the Planning Commission has reviewed applications based on established grant evaluation criteria and has made funding recommendations to the City Council, and the City Council discussed them in that evening's workshop.

McNeilly invited public comment. No audience members wished to comment.

McGinnis made a **motion**, seconded by Cheek, to amend Resolution 2025-15 to remove the North Coast Communities for Watershed Protection grant.

McGinnis shared her reasoning and concerns about the application's goal, speaker content related to private timber company finances, proposed use of funds to educate outside of the City, and misinformation shared by the applicant's leadership.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

Franken made a **motion**, seconded by McGinnis, to approved amended Resolution 2025-15 Approving Awards for the 2024-2025 Small Community Grant Program.

McNeilly commented that it was a new grant process and there were four exceptional grants in the final resolution. McNeilly thanked the Planning Commission for their work in the process.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

**b. Consideration of Resolution 2025-16 Approving Revised Wayside Use Application for the Nea-Kah-Nie Cultural Arts & Music Foundation Music Festival**

Start time: 7:32 p.m.

McNeilly explained that this resolution approves the revised application for Wayside Use from the Nea-Kah-Nie Cultural Arts & Music Foundation (NCAM). Events dates have moved from August 21-25 to August 14-18 due to band availability.

McNeilly invited public comment.

Michael Simpson commented in favor of the resolution, stating that it would be very advantageous for booking major acts.

McGinnis made a **motion**, seconded by Konruff, approve Resolution 2025-16 Approving Revised Wayside Use Application for the Nea-Kah-Nie Cultural Arts & Music Foundation Music Festival.

McGinnis commented that she is on the board of NCAM and appreciated Simpson's comments. McNeilly commented that last year was a great day of music, and he looked forward to the festival this coming summer.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

**c. Consideration of Resolution 2025-17 Authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to Execute a Contract with the Lowest Responsive and Responsible Bidder for the Primary Sludge & Trickling Filter Pump Replacement Project**

Start time: 7:36 p.m.

McNeilly stated that the City received bids from JQ Construction, Inc. and Advanced Excavation, Inc. for this project, and this resolution authorizes the Mayor and City Manager to sign a contract with the lowest responsive and responsible bidder.

McNeilly invited public comment. No audience members wished to comment.

Franken made a **motion**, seconded by Martine, to approve Resolution 2025-17.

McNeilly commented in favor of approval.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

**d. Consideration of Resolution 2025-18 Authorizing the City Of Rockaway Beach to Apply for a Funding Package From the Clean Water State Revolving Fund Program and Authorizing the City Manager to Sign the Application**

Start time: 7:37 p.m.

McNeilly explained that this resolution authorizes the pursuit of Clean Water State Revolving Fund funds to help ensure necessary funds are available to meet the acquisition deadline for the Lower Jetty Creek Watershed.

McNeilly invited public comment. No audience members wished to comment.

Martine made a **motion**, seconded by McGinnis, to approve Resolution 2025-16.

McGinnis commented that the public could view the Workshop meeting to hear further discussion.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 5 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Franken, Konruff)

Nay: 0

**11. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA – None removed**

## 12. COUNCIL CONCERNS

Start time: 7:40 p.m.

Cheek was happy to be back and looked forward to being present in person at the next meeting. McNeilly thanked Cheek for attending remotely.

### **Councilor Franken Resignation & Declaration of Vacancy**

Franken announced that she was resigning, and it would be her last City Council meeting. Franken shared that she needed to move out of state to be near her mother. Franken expressed thanks and appreciation to the staff, community and the Council.

Shepard thanked Franken and stated it had been great to work with her. Shepard noted that the Council should declare a vacancy.

McGinnis made a **motion**, seconded by Cheek, to declare position 4 vacant.

McGinnis commented that Franken had been a stellar Council member and shared personal reflections. Cheek shared she appreciated working with Franken and thanked her. Konruff expressed thanks and appreciation to Franken. McNeilly commented that the City was losing a stellar member of the City and expressed personal thanks. Martine commended Franken for moving to help her mother.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 4 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Konruff)

Abstain: 1 (Franken)

Nay: 0

Konruff thanked Superintendent Reed for his presentation. Konruff expressed excitement about David's Chair, and the City's actions toward accessibility. Konruff was pleased to be getting more Deputies.

Martine acknowledged Emerson for completion of the ramp at the Wayside.

McGinnis commented on the large number of people viewing meetings, and spotlighted several local businesses. McGinnis encouraged all to come visit the businesses in Rockaway Beach, as there is something for everyone.

## 13. MAYOR'S REPORT

Start time: 7:50 p.m.

McNeilly made a brief presentation on the financial health of the City and Budget Committee meeting information, and where the proposed budget can be viewed. McNeilly announced that the next Coffee meeting would be held on April 24th at 9:00 a.m. and encouraged all to attend. McNeilly invited the public to email him regarding any questions or concerns about the City.

#### 14. ADJOURNMENT

Start time: 7:56 p.m.

Martine made a **motion**, seconded by McGinnis, to adjourn the meeting at 7:56 p.m.

The **motion carried** by the following vote:

Aye: 4 (Cheek, McGinnis, Martine, Konruff)

Nay: 0

MINUTES APPROVED THE  
14<sup>TH</sup> DAY OF MAY 2025

  
Charles McNeilly, Mayor

ATTEST

  
Melissa Thompson, City Recorder