

1. 9:30 A.M. Agenda

Documents:

[2022-01-14 Agenda.pdf](#)

2. 9:30 A.M. Meeting Materials

Documents:

[2022-01-14 Input For Council Goals.pdf](#)



**CITY OF YACHATS
CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Yachats OR
Friday, January 14, 2022, at 9:30am
To Be Held Via Zoom**

AGENDA

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84651149572>

Meeting ID: 846 5114 9572

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Council Meeting

I. Council's 2022 Goals

The Yachats City Council meetings are open to the public and interested citizens are invited to attend. These are open meetings under Oregon law, but a work session is not a community forum; audience participation is at the discretion of the Council. Meetings are audio-recorded. The meetings are accessible to persons with disabilities. For accommodations, please call (541) 547-3565, or Oregon Relay 1-800-735-2900 TDD) two days in advance. City of Yachats does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, religion, creed, gender, national origin, age, disability, marital or veteran status, sexual orientation, or any other legally protected status. Sign language or foreign language interpreter may be available, with advance notice. Call City Hall at 541-547-3565 or Oregon Relay 1-800-735-2900 (TDD) two days in advance.



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Council's 2021 Goals

Improve timeliness, relevance, quality and effectiveness of city service delivery

1. Recruit, evaluate, and hire city manager.
2. Survey residents to identify their experience with and expectations of the City services.
3. Evaluate the responsibilities of the City Manager, as well as those of staff members, to ensure that they

meet the needs of the Yachats Community.
4. Improve effectiveness of code enforcement.
5. Bring Accounting Services in-house.
6. Finalize Water Master Plan and work on priority items, taking care to keep water plant running

smoothly.

Prioritize and demonstrate environmental responsibility in all actions and decisions

1. Identify priorities relative to water sustainability.
2. Review all city plans and Capital Projects with the objective of preserving and protecting the area's

natural resources.
3. Effectively partner with local organizations committed to our community environment.
4. Encourage staff and commissions to act on opportunities that positively impact our planet.

Strengthen relationships with Community

1. Communicate with citizens by providing written minutes, website content, and monthly newsletter, using updated contact information.
2. Develop collaborative relationships with business owners and the Chamber.
3. Organize public forums and surveys to gather citizen input and guidance on city projects and initiatives.
4. Sponsor low-cost events and activities that contribute to the well-being of the community.

Provide a safe environment

1. Monitor and complete Ocean View Drive Project. (Boardwalk Project will not be completed in 2021.)

2. Manage the city's response to the Pandemic using guidance from OHA, CDC and citizens' input.
3. Ensure that intersections and streets have appropriate signage and other modifications to protect

citizens and visitors.
4. Prioritize maintaining adequate water flows for fire safety and user needs.

Demonstrate Financial Responsibility

1. Practice long-term planning, making choices that allow the city to build up reserves.
2. Reevaluate the Finance Committee in terms of expertise needed on the committee and the role of the

committee.
3. Seek a plan to address and prioritize city projects and apply for grants when available and useful to

suggested projects.

Housing

1. Appoint a task force to seek and identify avenues to address the lack of affordable housing for moderate
to low-income citizens.

On Thu, Nov 18, 2021, 3:05 PM Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@yachatsmail.org> wrote: Dear Chairs, Council rules call for Council to hold a Goal setting work session each January. They further state that each November, Council should solicit comments from the Commissions, staff, and the community for additions and amendments to the City Goals. I aCach Council's 2021 goals.

On behalf of the Council, I respectfully ask that your Commission consider possible additions and other modifications. As ready, these can be sent to me for inclusion in the packet for our yet-to-be- scheduled January goals session. You are also welcome to send me any personal suggestions, but if you are doing so, make sure to make clear that you are not speaking for the Commission.

Year's end is fast approaching and some Commissioners' terms are expiring. If you have not already done so, you should soon determine whether or not they wish to renew their terms. It would be great if you communicate what you learn to Kimmie and to me. I appreciate the work your Commission is doing on other important matters, and thank you for consideration of these requests.

Best regards, Leslie

Re: request for Commission input on Council's 2022 goals

Lance Bloch <lancebloch1@gmail.com>

Mon 11/22/2021 2838 PM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

Mayor Vaaler,

Here are some of my thoughts on the Council goals...

Overall, it is a good list, and the major categories all seem appropriate. Each category has, in my view one primary task. I am glad to see that the first task in the first category, is hiring a city manager. Nine months ago I would never have thought that we wouldn't have a new city manager by Thanksgiving. Now it seems possible that we may not have a city manager in place by New years day. So many other goals are waiting on that one that it gets more important by the day.

Jumping way to the end...Housing...as you are aware we have received a grant to do a housing needs analysis. Appointing a taskforce at this point would likely confuse the issue.

The fifth category is Financial Responsibility. I believe that there is too much direct City Council involvement in both the Finance Committee and the Budget Committee. With 5 members on Budget, for instance, The Council is creating the advice being sent to The City Council. You need independent advisors.

I think the rest of the goals are excellent.

Thank you for your time in reading this.

Lance Bloch

November 2021

To: Mayor Vaaler and City Council

Re: Request for input and review of 2021 Council Goals

From: Jacqueline Danos, response

The Council Goals outlined for 2021 are, in general, broad brush without specific, actionable goals. I agree that a City Council should have some broad over-arching goals that remain relatively consistent from year to year, examples of those would be the goals relating to city services, general safety of the community, environmental stewardship, and fiscal responsibility. Annually though, specific actionable items or goals should be developed which, at the end of the year, can be reviewed to assess as completed, partially complete, or still open.

Moving into 2022 the goals listed for 2021 need to be adjusted with actionable items/goals rather than the general outline presented. For example, with regards to the Master Water Plan, a goal of an implementation plan based on the specific recommendations contained within the Master Water Plan and the Drinking Water Protection Plan, including specific dates and responsible parties for completion, would be an actionable goal. Another would be the creation of a Citizen Involvement Committee (CIC) with specific responsibilities listed. For example: outreach to community & Commission(s) and the updating and response to the "Community Voice" section of the website.

An additional comment as a Commission member and a citizen: it seems to me that the City Council has goals set for itself that in a Council-City Manager form of government should fall under the purview of the City Manager. This includes the hiring of city staff and all outside services, Finance Committee operations, review of existing C.I.P 5-year plans (2019-2020 and 2017-2022 plans) for discussion with the Budget Committee and Council. And when it comes to fiscal responsibility, as important as it is to maintain some reserves, needed municipal spending on infrastructure repair and maintenance, community development, and the fully staffing of city offices at livable wages are areas where limiting spending too much can become a liability for the community rather than an example of good fiscal responsibility.

RE: request for Commission input on Council's 2022 goals

david@teacherofdreams.com <david@teacherofdreams.com>

Fri 11/26/2021 12:08 PM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

Cc: Kimmie Jackson <Kimmie@YachatsMail.org>

Hi, Leslie and Kimmie,

As promised, what follows are responses from members of the Library Commission to the 2022 Council Goals. To repeat, we did **NOT** meet as a commission to discuss these topics; what follows are the individual reactions of those commissioners who replied.

That being said, I was a bit surprised that two of us focused on the same topic: the Finance CommiGee. I will offer my thoughts, first, which I had before I heard back from Commissioner Viki West.

I have always had a problem with the idea that Yachats has both a Finance CommiGee and a Budget CommiGee. When I first joined the Library Commission, I sat on the Finance CommiGee, and it seemed to me that its work was both belabored and, to a large extent, redundant. I always wondered what I was doing there. Maybe I am missing something, but I still wonder why these two commiGees (Finance and Budget) can't be blended into one body. It was, therefore, interesting to receive the following email from Viki West. As you may know, she is a career bookkeeper, and though reBred, still does the books for The SeaAire. I copy what follows with her permission:

"... I have been trying to determine the role of the finance committee since I have been a member. And, some of the members of the committee have no understanding of financial statements, and take up the entire meeting asking questions about the financials for their particular commission. Frankly I consider the meetings a huge waste of time and am not excited about continuing on the committee.

"I want to support the library, especially the coming (we hope) expansion, and the hiring of a part time librarian, but I am discouraged about the finance committee.

Viki"

I have told Viki that she need no longer attend those meetings; I will take her place. I made that decision because I can ill afford to lose a frustrated and disgruntled commissioner. But I, too, am ambivalent about sitting in on those meetings again.

The other comments in response to your query came from Commissioner Naomi Steenson. As you may know, Naomi worked in administration for the State of Oregon for many years. Her comments are both astute and based on years of experience. But they are also varied; she covers a fair amount of ground. If you think it would be helpful to read what she has written, I'd be happy to pass it along. But as I said, these are the individual thoughts of one commissioner, not the consensus of a commission as you requested.

All the best,

David

David Rivinus Yachats, Oregon

FW: request for Commission input on Council's 2022 goals

david@teacherofdreams.com

Thu 12/2/2021 12:54 PM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

Hi, Leslie,

I spoke with Naomi this morning, and she gave permission to pass her thoughts along to you. I think her overall concern is that there seems to be no way to measure whether or not a goal has been reached—or even moved toward. Here's what she said:

Hi David,

Here are my thoughts on the City Council goals. Again feel free to use or dismiss anything you don't find helpful or relevant. I'm just 'free flow' commenting.

Goal #1 Improved timeliness, relevance, etc...

Other than vague, generalized endeavors, there is no specific action or results-based language here. How will City Council demonstrate that these improved efficiencies are evident? What will be perceptible to the community?

Goal #2 Prioritized environmental responsibility...

Same here, no clear path of action to be taken. No clarity or definition. Goal #3 Strengthen relationships with Community.

How will City Council improve their own interactions with each other to model their commitment to strengthened community relationships? Whatever plays out at the top directly impacts other City Commission dynamics and the community in general.

Goal #6 Housing

Kind of weak and aimless. At this time, Yachats has the opportunity to be proactive (vs. reactive) before the matter of houseless individuals overwhelms the community with the uncomfortable and unpleasant realities of shelterless living. The same goes for valued hospitality service providers who cannot access affordable and decent living accommodations.

This task force needs to test drive or develop actual initiatives to prove that Yachats is serious about tackling the problem rather than just uttering some politically correct, but patronizing lip service. The people who are houseless are not going to disappear, nor will the individuals who provide critical services that make living here pleasurable find sustainable roots to remain here. We have to take real risks and experiment potential solutions - and we could actually come up with a genuine solution.

Enough chatter and drivel from me. Have a good evening.

Be well, N.

City Goals

George Mazeika <georgemaze58@gmail.com>

Mon 1/10/2022 12:36 PM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

Dear Mayor Vaaler,

I have received 1 suggestion from P&C Commissioners re the City Goals. It was from Craig Berdie regarding Financials. I copy it verbatim here

"George: I would add an additional item to Demonstrate Financial Responsibility.

Something like: Professionalize facility planning and maintenance by developing a database of all City owned properties over (\$3000?) in initial cost. The database will include expected replacement dates that are automatically included into the Capital Improvement process. As appropriate each item will include monthly, quarterly, and annual maintenance activities.

The intent is to stop the cascade of "unanticipated" costs. It may not save money, but at least costs will be planned and scheduled. You only need to point to the playground, skate park, roof, floor, HVAC, etc. And that's just looking backwards. I think windows, carpeting, stage equipment, kitchen equipment, etc. will be the next "surprises." I'm pretty sure each commission could point to other items."

It seems a very useful idea to focus on.

I have asked the Commissioners to get back to me by tomorrow. if they have anything to add.

My apologies for my tardiness, I had it in mind to discuss this at our last meeting, but got distracted and forgot.

Sincerely,

George Mazeika

input for goals

City Coordinator <citycoordinator@YachatsMail.org>

Wed 12/29/2021 5:11 PM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

I had some thoughts on the financial part of the goals.

Demonstrate Financial Responsibility

Practice long-term planning, making choices that allow the city to build up reserves.

The reserves seem to be healthy, and we are getting quite a bit of monthly income.

Currently it appears that we have more of a need to spend money responsibly on staffing and the capital improvement projects.

Reevaluate the Finance Committee in terms of expertise needed on the committee and the role of the committee.

There appears to be some confusion in this committee. My understanding is that the committee would advise a financial employee of the city. To my knowledge there is no bookkeeper here at city hall.

Seek a plan to address and prioritize city projects and apply for grants when available and useful to suggested projects.

I think the most important part of this is to prioritize.

For example, with the Parks & Commons Commission... so many ideas for

projects. What projects would take priority? Ideally a Project#1,

#2, #3 or perhaps a Priority 5,4,3,2,1 ?

I will copy-paste some of the email I received from Michael Hempen,

it did shed some light on the priority of their projects...

"I suspect there will be more coming. Also add Pocket Parks on Ocean View Dr to the list.

The paving of the inside of the Commons is a high priority, the outside will include of course paving and

the gutters and that will be happening in the late spring/summer, so there is time to plan those.

The north entrance will probably be late in the year or 2023.

The pocket parks is a high priority as well, Craig is your contact with that project. And Craig is lead on Green space stuff. Also Craig was on the City Council for a while. He has a better understanding how the whole system works.

Bike racks and skate park repairs is something you can walk through the process at your own pace. They are

things that just need to be purchased and installed. I worked with Jocko Doss (it was his idea from the beginning) and Rick to organize the bike rack project. So I'm very familiar with all that.

When the money is budgeted we can move forward with the bike racks. They are both driven

by is the money there to pay for them. Some of the value there is for the citizens to see that government is working and that's a good thing. They are a bit less critical but still important. The same with the concrete steps in the front of the Commons. When the money is approved or budgeted Rick can go aUer the next step which is geWng the engineering done before the steps are constructed."

There are other areas that the "multiple projects" issue comes up.

Too many irons in the fire. There is a need to strike while the iron is hot.

Neal Morphis

City Coordinator

Facilities / Community Service Support

citycoordinator@yachatsmail.org

541-547-3565 x110




541-272-4213

January 4, 2022 20 Beargrass Ct. Yachats, OR 97498


To: Yachats City Council

Subject: Short and Long Range Goals

Other than the obvious immediate goal of getting a City Manager on board, here are some subject matter goals Council might consider.

-  Establishing the required Committee for Citizen Involvement (CCI)
-  Completing the Wetlands Inventory and Mapping
-  As a precursor to the full five year public review, institute an

annual Department/Commission only review of the Comprehensive Plan and the Municipal Code. This would allow more timely action on policy and code needs clearly stemming from past year issues and any recent dynamics within our community, natural environment, built environment, infrastructure, and economy. It will also allow timely reaction to any County and State policy and regulatory changes to ensure consistency and compliance.

-  Complete the State required inventory for 20 year supply of buildable lands

When setting your goals, I encourage Council to establish specified actions/steps/dates leading to accomplishment and serving as benchmarks for how well you're progressing toward the goal.

Thanks for the opportunity to contribute....John Ayer

Goal-setting session

Laura Rains <larains904@gmail.com>

Thu 1/6/2022 8=37 AM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>

Good morning Mayor Vaaler,

I appreciate your call for goals for our beloved city of Yachats. As a resident, I would like things to stay as they are (i.e., wonderful community spirit and support, openness by elected officials) and change as needed (e.g., less growth, preserve open spaces). But I understand that growth is necessary and that we all must work to keep our city welcoming, vital, safe, and pleasant for residents and visitors alike.

One of my top goals for Yachats is to prevent big-box stores and fast-food restaurants from getting a foothold here. The city of Arcata in California, larger than Yachats, of course, regulated the number of chain restaurants and large outlets in order to keep the unique feel of their city. I love that idea.

Thank you for asking.

Best,

Laura

--

Laura Rains, LCSW Yachats HealthCare (541) 954-5811

"We heal better together" - Sybrina Fulton

Yachats goals

Tod Davies <tod.davies@gmail.com>

Tue 1/11/2022 11:26 AM

To: Leslie Vaaler <Leslie@YachatsMail.org>; Ann@yachatsmail.org <Ann@YachatsMail.org>; Yachats City Planner <Planner@YachatsMail.org>

Hi All,

Someone suggested we put in our two cents about annual goals, so mine would be that a great priority would be extra water storage. I think that's the future--water security. After that, fire department security and affordable housing, of course. But first things first.

Thanks to all for all the work you do,

Tod

--

Tod Davies

editorial director

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