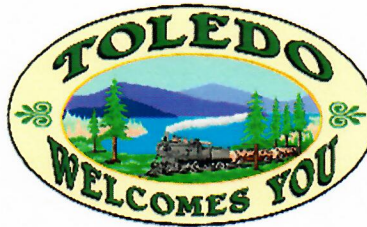


City Hall  
206 N. Main St.  
Toledo, Oregon 97391  
6:00 p.m.



**TOLEDO CITY COUNCIL**  
**City Council Special Meeting**  
**November 24, 2025**

**1. Call to Order**

- a. Mayor Rod Cross called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.; also via Zoom in Toledo, Oregon and lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

**2. Roll Call**

- a. City Recorder Johnson took roll call and determined a quorum is present.

| Council Member        | Present | Absent | Via Zoom |
|-----------------------|---------|--------|----------|
| Mayor Cross           | X       |        |          |
| Council President Mix | X       |        |          |
| Councilor Kauffman    | X       |        |          |
| Councilor Silvia      | X       |        |          |
| Councilor Burns       | X       |        |          |
| Councilor Keating     | X       |        |          |
| Vacant                |         |        |          |

- b. City Manager Rich Huebner. City Recorder Paul Johnson

**3. Discussion and Information Items**

- a. Recent DHS activity in Lincoln County
  - i. Mayor Cross opened discussion on DHS activity, noting that it has increasingly moved
- b. Supporting City of Newport in their efforts to block the building of an ICE Detention Center at the Newport Airport.
  - i. The council reached consensus on supporting Newport's efforts to block the ICE detention center based primarily on infrastructure concerns. Several members emphasized that Newport's water, sewage, and other infrastructure cannot adequately support such a facility.
  - ii. Councilor Keating noted that the infrastructure issue alone was sufficient reason to oppose the facility, avoiding more politically divisive aspects of the issue. Other councilors mentioned potential negative economic impacts, particularly on tourism.
  - iii. Councilor Silvia suggested including language similar to Newport's statement that the facility does not align with community values, but other councilors preferred focusing on infrastructure and economic impacts to maintain broader consensus.



- iv. There was discussion about whether the facility would create jobs as supporters claim, but councilors noted that any job creation would be offset by negative impacts on other industries and would exacerbate the already severe housing shortage in the area.
- v. The council agreed to draft a resolution focusing on infrastructure limitations and potential negative economic impacts as the basis for opposing the facility
- c. Coast Guard Helicopter Removal
  - i. County Commissioner Walter Chuck addressed the council on this issue, speaking in his individual capacity rather than for the full commission. He provided background on legal actions regarding the Coast Guard helicopter that was removed from Newport.
  - ii. Commissioner Chuck explained that Lincoln County and the Newport Fishermen's Wives organization filed for an injunction in federal court on Friday, seeking the helicopter's return. The Oregon Attorney General filed a separate lawsuit the day of the meeting. He mentioned that a previous successful lawsuit in 2015, which was strengthened in 2018, established specific statutory procedures that must be followed before changes to the air facility.
  - iii. The Commissioner emphasized the critical safety aspect of having the helicopter stationed in Newport, particularly with crab fishing season set to begin around December 16th. He noted that helicopters based in North Bend or Astoria would have significantly less time on station during rescue operations, and cold water survival times in local waters are much shorter than standards used in some Coast Guard assessments.
  - iv. Councilor Keating expressed concern about the removal's impact on the livelihoods of local workers, noting that Newport has the largest Dungeness crabbing fleet and that the fishing industry sees about 320 deaths per 100,000 workers in this region - nearly three times the national average for fishing.
  - v. Several councilors noted the coincidental timing of the helicopter's removal at the same time as discussions about placing an ICE facility at the Newport airport, with both being under DHS jurisdiction.
  - vi. The council discussed various options for supporting efforts to return the helicopter, including issuing a formal declaration of support, providing financial support for the legal effort, or potentially joining the lawsuit. Mayor Cross suggested the possibility of filing an amicus brief as an alternative to becoming a full party to the lawsuit.
  - vii. The council reached consensus to have the City Manager and City Attorney explore options for supporting the legal efforts to return the helicopter and bring recommendations to the December 3rd meeting.
- d. Draft/Final Resolution by consensus
  - i. After discussion of the above items, the council directed City Manager Huebner and City Attorney Miller to prepare three draft resolutions for consideration at the December 3rd meeting:
    - 1. A resolution addressing the city's values in light of recent DHS activity in Lincoln County, reiterating Toledo's welcoming nature and stance against racism or discrimination based on skin color.
    - 2. A resolution supporting Newport's opposition to the ICE detention center, focusing on infrastructure limitations and potential negative economic impacts.
    - 3. A resolution calling for the return of the Coast Guard helicopter to Newport, emphasizing its critical importance for safety, especially

during fishing season.

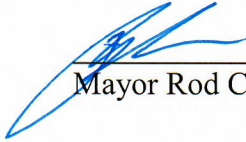
**4. Reports and Comments**

- a. None

**5. Adjournment**

- a. Mayor Cross adjourned the meeting at 7:23 p.m.

APPROVE:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Mayor Rod Cross

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
City Recorder Paul Johnson