

## **Cottrell CPO Community Meeting Minutes**

*Monday, March 10, 2025, 6:30 PM*

*Pleasant Home Community Church*

*32120 SE Dodge Park Blvd, Gresham*

1. Pre-Meeting
  - a. Vince Jones-Dixon, newly elected Multnomah County Commissioner, held an informal town-hall where he received questions and comments from the community.
  - b. His main point is that he represented this community and was there to listen to concerns.
  - c. Residents from both counties informed the Commissioner about their concerns, mostly of the Portland Water Bureau plant.
  
2. Welcome - Lauren Courter
  - a. Biggest meeting in a long time, we have been fighting the filtration plant since 2018, thank you for coming.
  
3. Update on remand and SB 936 - Charles Waugh
  - a. Two recent wins
  - b. 1st win: Construction is stopped
    - i. Gave history of legal path from PWB's county application thru recent LUBA remand decision, which blocked construction
    - ii. Highlighted that PWB proceeded with construction at their own peril. They knew the land use process was not over.
    - iii. The site is huge that they have developed, much bigger than Clackamas Town Center.
    - iv. Feb 25 started a 125 day remand period.
    - v. As part of the process, there will be a hearing, all community members please attend.
  - c. 2nd win: SB 936 is dead or almost dead
    - i. PWB tried to do an end-run around the land use process thru the state legislature.
    - ii. Our letters, calls and attendance at the town halls was important in getting sponsors to pull out.
    - iii. Senator Gorsek said he had been "misled" by Portland's representatives.
  - d. Portland water rate payers already have the highest rates in the country and will see a 72% increase by 2030 due to this project.
  
4. Fire District 10 and Natural Resources background - Charlie Ciecko
  - a. FD 10's role is to manage budget and set policy for fire departments.

- b. Got involved with PWB fight in 2022. Submitted testimony on 4 different occasions. HO sided with a last minute out of state fire “expert” over local expertise of FD 10. FD 10 joined the LUBA fight subsequently.
  - c. Mike McKeel, FD 10 board chairman, wrote about the hazards of a situation that PWB had on the road during construction. It was taken care of by the county.
  - d. More on the natural resources remand: The Hearings Officer should determine if any natural resource will be affected and it must be supported by substantial evidence.
  
- 5. Larry Bailey Multnomah County Farm Bureau, representing Jeff Helfridge HD 52 State Representative
  - a. Jeff has been running social media campaigns against the filtration plant, please share.
  - b. He helped with defeating SB 936
  
- 6. How you can help - Charles Waugh
  - a. Donate at [cottrellcpo.com](http://cottrellcpo.com)
  - b. Volunteer - sign up in the back
  - c. Attend the hearing, look for the date in your upcoming emails
  
- 7. Q & A - Lauren Courter
  - a. Lauren moderated and helped answer questions from the assembled community Members for about half an hour.
  - b. There were ideas from the community about contacting Friends of Johnson Creek, investigating the new price tag for the project given the remand. Another comment was about the inequality between Portland’s fight over 300 trees being cut down in forest park, vs the over 300 trees that were cut down here due to the project.