



September 19, 2019
City Council Meeting
Willamette Activity Center Room 8
47674 School Street
7:00 p.m.

MINUTES

1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Council Present: Mayor Kathy Holston, Councilors, Trisha Maxfield, Christina Hollett, Donald Hadley, Paul Forcum, Bobbie Whitney and Dawn Kinyon

Staff Present: City Administrator Bryan Cutchen, Finance Director Bill Jones, City Recorder Jackie Sims, Community Services Director Rick Zylstra, Chief Kevin Martin

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 Roll Call

4.0 Additions, Corrections or Adjustments to the Agenda

Items 10.3 and 10.5 moving up since they are together.

The presentation by Michele Meyer got left off of the agenda so it will be added in.

Item 9.5 Discussion, Audit and Budget Committees

5.0 Public Comment for Items on the agenda

Cher Houston 47524 School St– Speed bumps on School Street, young kid’s race up and down School Street, she has called the police, but they never seem to be around. She has too much water pressure and the pipes keep blowing out. We need to work within our budget on water, we are not in Eugene or LA.

Mayor Holston said we will be asking about comments when we get to that portion of the meeting.

Sherry Klosterman 48314 Hills Street- She would like to speak about the water, it is interesting to her that people’s ears go dumb, they don’t want to listen to the community’s voice, our rates keep going up and nothing is being taken care of. We can’t afford another rate hike, there are people in this town that can’t afford to pay their bill right now.

Trudy Hammond 47752 Berry St- She has a copy of the School District newspaper, she thinks this is something that the City could do for the community.

Audy Spliethof 47587 Teller Rd- He gave out a copy of planning commission training and there are four of them that would like to attend.

Mayor Holston said that is on their agenda for tonight.

Francis Pokorny 47760 Berry St-He heard a rumor about going to two lanes on Hwy 58, you need to study the history on why we went to four lanes. On the water, he can't understand why we can't use our natural resources that we already have right here.

Mayor Holston went over the rest of the public comment sheets to see if anyone else wanted to speak now or wait until we got to the water report portion of the meeting.

Dennis Patterson 48471 W 1s Street-In the Summer of 2015 there was a water shortage, the city declared a drought and held a town hall meeting. The presentation bundled the drilling of the well with the million gallon tank. The million gallon tank turned out, that it would only reach the Oakridge Industrial Park for fire suppression. He thinks this would be a good time for us to vote on whether we all want to pay for a new increase on our water bills.

6.0 Mayor and Council Comments / Announcements / Proclamations

Mayor Holston reported on the Mayor's Invitational for emergency preparedness, Chief Martin and the Mayor attended this. It was an opportunity to hear from agency's statewide about emergency preparedness, it was very heavy on the Cascadia Earthquake. We need to know our plan and we need to practice our plan. Identifying what resources we lack and identifying what resources we do have is important.

Mayor Holston and Councilor Hollett reached out to the ethics commission regarding Councilor Hollett being a volunteer firefighter and whether it is ok for her to receive a stipend if she signs up for a stipend shift. The answer was yes. If you would like to see a copy of the email the mayor has it at city hall.

Councilor Hollett said she also contacted the ethics commission and she handed out copies of her email, if anyone has any questions please feel free to ask her. (See attached)

Mayor Holston said there is a library clothing swap on October 13, this is a fund raiser. Flyers will be up soon, it is at the Lion Mtn Bakery and you can drop off donations at the library.

October 7 in the WAC gym at 7:00 p.m. we will have the joint Planning Commission and City Council work session on the Transportation Systems Plan.

In response to a call the mayor received from Kack this week she is putting together a small task force to review our winter measures for a warming center and other options to have as a community or as a city.

7.0 Council Comments / Announcements

Councilor Kinyon said regarding the wood heating program, she saw a post on Facebook that there are applications available at city hall.

Mayor Holston said those are exemptions to be able to burn during times when there are red advisory days if this is your sole source of heat.

8.0 Consent Agenda

8.1 Minutes from August 15, 2019, August 23, 2019 & September 5, 2019

Action- I move we approve the consent agenda.

Motion- Councilor Maxfield

Second- Councilor Whitney

Vote- Passed unanimous

9.0 Business from the City Council

9.1 Presentation from Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network

Raj Vable gave a presentation on the Regional Accelerator & Innovation Network for Oakridge and how it has helped local community members.

9.2 Bus Fair Presentation

Brock Butterfield gave a presentation on the Bus Fair he put on at Greenwaters Park. His report is on line, he had 1,129 people show up and this does not include kids 12 and under.

Councilor Maxfield said she is on Instagram and she saw a lot of people reposting and tagging Oakridge. Some of the people that she follows from the Bus Fair have come back to Oakridge since the event.

Brock said they have had about four buses come back since the Bus Fair.

Councilor Whitney asked Brock if he earned enough from the event to do it again next year?

Brock said they broke even; we would not have been able to break even if not for the city and the grant money they received. He will be taking a risk next year again and he doesn't know how much grant money will be approved. He is combining two days now, it will cost more, the seminars will be taught by teachers and he is going to pay those teachers so that will increase the cost.

Councilor Hollett said she also saw this event all over social media. She was there until almost closing, she was getting the surveys out and helping get people checked in. She spoke to a couple from Germany that she didn't see on his list.

Mayor Holston reminded everyone that the reason Brock is here is to show us what a successful event this was and to report back to us because we gave him that money. We are hoping this can be a template to others as we have other events come to our community and we can say this is what we'd like from you. If we are going to help you out, we'd like to hear back from you.

Brock said it was really great to have the Mayor announce the awards, every one of the school buses already want to come back next year.

9.3 Census Presentation

Dr. Michelle Maher gave a presentation on the 2020 Census.

Councilor Whitney said with her job at Senior and Disability Services she knows this is vital to the Older Americans Act programs.

Dr. Maher said the Department of Human Services, Senior and Disability program is almost 100% on the census bureau.

9.4 LOC Discussion

Mayor Holston said the council is going to the League of Oregon Cities Conference at the end of next week, all but one councilor will be attending. She will get more information out to you as far as a gathering on Thursday evening.

9.5 Budget Committee Discussion

Mayor Holston said we, as a council agreed that we wanted to have the Budget Committee meet earlier than the first of the year. ORS allows the Budget Committee to do this under specific criteria; you received information from the CA about a week ago. When we initially did this the intent was to review the current budget and to determine how we can adjust it but that is not something the Budget Committee can do once the budget is passed. Once the budget is passed it becomes the responsibility of our administration to make changes and work with council to present supplementary budgets to enact changes that the council can approve or suggest. Our Finance Director will be prepared soon to present to us an overview and with that a supplementary budget will be part of that request. Recognizing that we do not have a full budget committee right now, she would like to know what direction the council would like to take for the scheduled meeting we have on October 10th.

Councilor Kinyon said she doesn't know if the mayor read the document that Bryan sent out. Councilor Kinyon read the last statement.

Mayor Holston said the key to that is in general, so you cannot specifically say we should move money from here to there. It is a very fine line, it doesn't mean that we can't do it.

Councilor Kinyon said it says that you can discuss your current year budget.

Mayor Holston said "in general" It is her job to make sure we do this the right way.

Councilor Hollett said she is very disappointed because it was presented to the Budget Committee that we could immediately go into a supplemental budget and she knows people based their votes on that particularly Councilor Maxfield. We need to take every step with the Department of Revenue because we are making plans on bad advice.

Mayor Holston said that is exactly right and she doesn't disagree with Councilor Hollett. That doesn't mean that we are not going to address this budget, as a council we will be addressing this budget.

It was agreed to keep the October 10th meeting.

Councilor Hollett asked if this meeting is for the whole budget committee or just the council?

Mayor Holston said it is for the whole budget committee.

Councilor Kinyon read a statement that she wrote. See attached

Action- I move to censure Mayor Holston.

Motion- Councilor Kinyon
Second- Councilor Hadley

Mayor Holston said on June 5th the interim CA went to LCOG to find out if this was something that she could sign or something that she needed to take to council. She was given the advice that she could sign it and not take it to council, that wasn't her decision to do and Mayor Holston did sign it. As far as her deciding things that she wants to do and influencing the City Administrator there is discussion between the City Administrator and the Mayor at all times. Our city has been under turmoil and with the interim CA's we had there had to be some guidance. There has never a time that she has suggested that the council should be ignored or that her opinion should weigh any heavier with council or the city administrator. She recognizes that that can be a difficult understanding when you are not in city hall and you are not the mayor. She would never act without the city councils approval on anything that was required or ethically should be with council. She thinks the city administrator at this time, can back this up and has gone beyond what needed to be done to make sure that you have been shown even things that you don't need to have approval for. If you believe that I should be censured then let's look at the process and we will talk about it, but she also doesn't think that it's fair to ask that she be censured and ask for a vote at this time until she has time to look at what she is saying and rebut some of that.

Bryan said to address what he would consider an allegation, he will tell you that the budget committee scheduling was on his watch, he had it as tentative on his calendar and he completely dropped it and by the time he was reminded we were well inside the window to inform the public of the meeting. He knows as staff we were not ready to come to a budget meeting or a pre- budget meeting to present anything since the finance director was still going through the particulars of the budget as he is now. Secondly, if you believe that the Mayor is influencing his decisions about the fire department you are very wrong.

Councilor Hollett asked what the contract was that was signed on June 5th?

Councilor Kinyon said it was the contract for our CPA Summer Sears.

Bryan said that was forwarded to you earlier this week in an email, he doesn't remember the exact amount.

Councilor Kinyon asked if the Mayor said the interim City Administrator called LCOG to ask if she could sign a contract?

Mayor Holston said yes.

Councilor Kinyon said why wouldn't she look at the Charter?

Mayor Holston said she did.

Councilor Kinyon read from the Charter. See attached.

Mayor Holston said she believes that the question was, because it was an already budgeted item, should it be signed and that was the question, that was not her question, that is the question that was presented to her by the interim city administrator.

Councilor Kinyon called for the question.

Vote- Failed- 3-4

Councilor Hollett wanted to say that we keep having surprises like this.

Mayor Holston said we have put this to bed, if you'd like to discuss this at a later time we will bring it up, we have a lot to do and it is 9:00 p.m.

10.0 Business from the City Administrator

10.1 Planning Commission Training Fund Request

Rick said he was incorrect at the last city council meeting when he said we have a line item for planning commissioner training, we do not. So as the Planner he is requesting that the city council share \$200 of their training fund so that four of his planning commissioners can attend this training.

Action- I move approve \$200 to be used for Planning Commissioner training from the City Council Travel and Training budget line.

Motion- Councilor Whitney
Second- Councilor Forcum
Vote- Passed unanimous

Mayor Holston said we are going to move things around.

10.2 Community Services Report / Water Rates for Various Size Meter

10.3 Police Service Report- Chief Martin gave the police services report

10.4 Emergency Services Report- None

Mayor Holston said we are at 9:00, we can choose to go on or we can choose to stop at this time. If you choose to go on she would say you would need to commit to another 45 minutes to an hour.

Action- I move to table 13.1 the water rate Resolution 9-2019, but continue with 14.1, 14.1.1 and 14.1.2 the committee appointments.

Motion- Councilor Hollett
Second- Whitney
Vote- Passed Unanimous

11.0 Reports of Boards, Commissions and Committees

12.0 Items Removed from the agenda

13.0 Ordinances, Resolutions and Public Comments

13.1 Resolution 09-2019 A Resolution adjusting the fee for water charges

14.0 Appointments

14.1 Committee Appointments

Rick said we didn't receive any applications for the budget committee or the safety committee and we will repost them for 20 days.

14.1.1 Library Board

Rick said we have one application from William Jones.

Action- I move we appoint William Jones to fill the Library Board Vacancy.

Motion- Councilor Whitney

Second- Councilor Kinyon
Vote- Passed unanimous

14.1.2 Administrative Committee

Councilor Whitney said she was looking at this and it seems that we have four vacancies because Dawn was on this committee.

Mayor Holston said we actually might have four vacancies.

Councilor Kinyon said there is nothing stating that she cannot be on the committee.

Councilor Whitney said she was removed when she came on council.

Mayor Holston said we have three open positions right now that we know of for sure and we have a question about Dawn, we can make that determination later.

Mayor Holston asked the applicants what they believe the purpose is of the Admin Committee is and why do you want to serve on it.

Trudy Hammond said to share ideas at administrative levels around the community and to benefit each other.

Loren Hogue said to express the feedback of the city in an advisory capacity.

Amy Kelly said to bring any public concern, comments or information to the city council to be more informed and to try and improve our economy and city and our community.

Councilor Maxfield said she is the Chair of this committee if you are going to be on this committee it would be helpful if you have access to internet and are a little bit computer savvy and are familiar with resolutions.

Action- I move to appoint Amy Kelly to fill the vacant Administrative Committee Position.

Motion- Councilor Kinyon
Second- Councilor Maxfield
Vote- Passed unanimous

Action- I move to appoint Loren Hogue to fill the vacant Administrative Committee Position.

Motion- Councilor Forcum
Second- Councilor Whitney
Vote- Passed unanimous

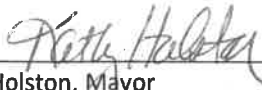
Action- I move to appoint Trudy Hammond to fill the vacant Administrative Committee Position.

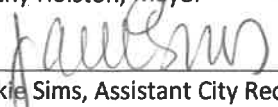
Motion- Councilor Whitney
Second- Councilor Hollett
Vote- Passed 6-1

15.0 Public Comment

None

16.0 Adjourn – 9:15 P.M.

Signed: 
Kathy Holston, Mayor

Signed: 
Jackie Sims, Assistant City Recorder