



March 5, 2020

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, John McClelland, Paul Forcum and Dawn Kinyon

Staff Present: City Administrator Bryan Cutchen, Finance Director Bill Jones, City Recorder Jackie Sims, Community Services Director Rick Zylstra and Officer Cleavenger

2.0 Pledge of Allegiance

3.0 **Roll Call** – Councilor Whitney was excused

4.0 **Additions, Corrections or Adjustments to the Agenda- None**

5.0 Public Comment

Dan Barclay- Read a statement regarding TRT funds and the process for collecting the room tax.

Matthew 2755 Game Farm Road- He is here to share knowledge, he goes around and talks to city councils and libraries to try to spread awareness about the Agenda 2030.

6.0 Mayor Comments / Announcements / Proclamations

Mayor Holston reminded everyone that this weekend is the hazardous materials take back at the fire department. Junk Amnesty will be held in April and there are new rules and guidelines this year.

7.0 Council Comments / Announcements

Councilor Kinyon- asked how many councilors are attending the upcoming LOC Conference?

Mayor Holston- none of the councilors are attending, she has a son that lives in that area and she may go, but if so, it will be self-funded.

Councilor Kinyon- she noticed when she was reviewing the minutes that Bryan said Kittleson and/or ODOT would be sending us some information regarding the TSP and she hasn't seen any of that.

Rick- it is in the form of a new draft and it should be to us by tomorrow.

8.0 Consent Agenda

8.1 Approval of minutes from February 6, 2020

Motion: Councilor Maxfield moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Hollett seconded the motion.

Forcum (aye), Maxfield (aye), Hollett (aye), Mayor Holston (aye), Kinyon (aye), McClelland (aye). Motion carried 6-0

9.0 Business from the City Council

9.1 Tree Planting Princess Competition

Madeline Maher the 2019 Tree Planting Queen introduced the 2020 Tree Planting Princesses. Each princess gave a speech.

9.2 Appointment of Council Members to Committees

Mayor Holston- wanted to take the opportunity to talk to council about our committees in anticipation of the reviews that we will be doing on each of them soon. She is very proud of the fact that council has engaged our committees and she is looking forward to hearing the recommendations from the admin committee about changes that will be coming. All committee chairs that are currently appointed will remain the same at this time. She has spoken with Councilor Kinyon and she has agreed to take on a couple of projects for us, the Signage and Way Finding project and optimizing Diamond Express schedules.

Mayor Holston- reminded council that all of your committees must observe open meetings laws.

10.0 Business from City Administrator

10.1 Presentation by Mr. Dennis Lyon Concerning the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program

Bryan- introduced Dennis Lyon who will give us information on the National League of Cities Service Line Warranty Program.

Dennis Lyon- handed out folders that included his presentation. He works for Utility Service Partners and they are the administrators of this program. This is a service they have been offering for 17 years. They are an A+ accredited business on the Better Business Bureau. Dennis explained how the program works for homeowners and what they will do if we decide to authorize this service to the citizens of Oakridge. They like to use local contractors, they put them through an extensive vetting process and they don't take that lightly.

Councilor Maxfield- it says initially \$5.75 per month, is that a promotional fee or how often do your rates increase?

Dennis- it says initial because there is something built into the agreement that does allow us to increase price by .50 cents in any one 12 month period, he has been with the company for three years and the prices haven't increased.

Councilor Kinyon- is this offered to businesses as well and also to people who are on wells?

Dennis- currently it is residential only, they have been studying to see about making it available to commercial, but there are so many variables. The water coverage is water well and the sewer is sewer septic, so they can participate, but the coverage is only for the lines, not for the pumps or tanks.

Mayor Holston- you said you choose from local area contractors, we have one plumber, how do you pay him and how will this affect our local plumber?

Dennis- they provide us with their rate structure, it is a referral business.

Mayor Holston- should our local plumber choose not to participate and you have to go outside of our local area does that mean the residents will incur a travel charge?

Dennis- we like to stay as local as possible, when it comes to travel charges everything is built in to the coverage so if they are not coming from too far away there shouldn't be charges incurred.

Councilor McClelland- this isn't like homeowners insurance where they would pay you to fix it yourself?

Dennis- no, they do the work and the reason they do that is there is the guarantee that they are licensed and insured. Customer satisfaction is extremely important to the company.

Motion: Councilor Kinyon moved that we take the information provided for further consideration. Councilor Forcum seconded the motion.

Mayor Holston (aye), Kinyon (aye), Maxfield (aye), Forcum (aye), McClelland (aye), Hollett (aye). Motion carried 6-0

Begin Work Session – 8:01 P.M.

Mayor Holston- we decided to do this prior to a recommendation from the Planning Commission about what the process is and the impacts to our community and what would be the best way to put together a transportation plan that reflected in the best interest of our community for now and the future. Remember, this is a 20 year plan.

The public hearing for the Planning Commission is March 17, 2020 and the public hearing for City Council Special Session April 9, 2020.

Mayor Holston-has reached out to Mayors of other communities and she found it interesting that social commentary seemed to be negative and she attributes that to the fact that those that like to be negative comment on social media, but the comments she got from the public officials were very positive. They all said it wasn't an easy thing to pass in their communities, but after passing it and doing it the community liked it.

Councilor Maxfield- she thinks more often than not people are more likely to leave a negative review than a positive review. She appreciates the Mayor's due diligence to connect with the communities, but also it is important to remember that there is a silent majority within our community as well.

Councilor Kinyon- she would be interested to know how she knows there is a silent majority of people that are positive more so than the people against it.

Mayor Holston- she has individuals who come to her and say they don't understand what the problem is, they just want improve the looks and safety of the highway. These are people who don't come to the meetings or who are not on social media.

Councilor Forcum- he notices that on social media 50% or more is negative anyway.

Councilor McClelland- he thinks what we are all talking about is change, change is scary for people. He lived in LaPine when they went down to one lane, it was annoying to drive through town when they were doing the construction, but it did accomplish its goals. It does maintain slower traffic through the town, it is safer with all the crosswalks, it is safer with the bike lanes and it hasn't caused any sort of congestion. Hwy 97 gets more traffic than Hwy 58 does, it is actually easier to get out onto the Hwy with the vehicles going slower than it was when they were going faster. People get nervous and think about all of the terrible things, being new to the city he wants to see it go forward for the city not take a step back.

Councilor Maxfield- to echo what John is saying most of the people that have come to her and mentioned that they would like to see a pilot project and they want to see the lane reduction have been new people to the community. She hears time and time again that we need an economy, we need people to come here and want to live here.

Councilor Hollett- on some of the posts there were some of the businesses that talked about their driveways being closed and whether their delivery trucks could access them. During their high tourism seasons they found people didn't want to stop because of the high traffic.

Mayor Hollett- while she respects those who feel that social media is a good indicator of how a community feels she disagrees. Not all of those things you are looking at are open to the public. Social media is a poor judge of what our community wants. As councilors we have the obligation to say I think after looking at the facts and the data we have been presented and the examples from other communities to say that this is a good thing for my community no matter what.

Councilor Maxfield- we need to remember that we are not voting on a lane reduction here, we are voting on the TSP, a fact that is really important for our community to remember.

Mayor Holston- she agrees, the TSP is much bigger than Hwy 58 and we all know that, it is something that we need to have in place. There needs to be a decision made, ODOT has said there will be a time when they quit coming back to us and asking if we want help.

Bryan- he understands that this is really important decision and it is difficult for the council, but one thing he'd like to point out is the reason he supports this is the pilot program. You can vote this in and have the pilot program and then if you want to take it to the ballot then at least the citizens are making an educated decision. Why do the ballot now when they don't even understand the impact of project.

Rick- one thing to keep in mind when you are talking about putting this on the ballot. He would ask the council to consider to pull it out of the TSP so that we can get the TSP moving and also you are only allowed to ask one question per ballot, so if you put more than one question on the ballot it will fail legally.

Councilor McClelland- if we pass the TSP as it is right now, it is not casting it in stone. It is just a plan that is 20 years down the road.

Councilor Kinyon- plans often don't mean that it's going to happen, in particular looking at our last TSP plan it had a whole bunch of city streets identified as needing repaired or resurfaced and in 20 years parts of four of them were done, so she doesn't anticipate seeing much being done in the next 20 years.

Mayor Holston- our next step will be the Planning Commission bringing us a recommendation on April 9th.

Back in Regular Session- 8:48 P.M.

11.0 Reports of Boards, Commissions and Committees- Passed on reports

11.1 Administration Committee

- 11.2 Audit Committee
- 11.3 Budget Committee
- 11.4 Community Services Committee
- 11.5 Library Board
- 11.6 Oakridge Economic Development Advisory Committee
- 11.7 Planning Commission
- 11.8 Public Safety Advisory Committee
- 11.9 RTMP Committee

12.0 Items Removed from the Consent Agenda- None

13.0 Ordinances, Resolutions and Public Comments

13.1 Councilor Rules of Procedures Adoption – Second reading

Bryan- read the issue.

Motion: Councilor Maxfield moved we adopt Ordinance 930 following reading of the ordinance by title only. Councilor Hollett seconded the motion.

Hollett (aye), Kinyon (aye), Forcum (aye), Mayor Holston (aye), McClelland (aye), Maxfield (aye). Motion carried 6-0

14.0 Public Hearings- None

15.0 Appointments-None

16.0 Public Comment

Ken Hooker, Hills Street- he has asked everyone he knows how to keep the big trucks off of Hills Street. We have sewer and water lines under the road. He requested the city keep trying.

Kerri Vandenberg 76431 Alder St- She appreciated what Councilor McClelland talked about. She is concerned about our community not knowing enough about the TSP. She would love to see people from all sides show up to the meeting. She would like to see the City Administrator and Council reaching out.

Audy Spliethof 47587 Teller Rd- he is talking as a citizen because he is also on the Planning Commission.

Mayor Holston- she would caution Audy to making any public comment because this is going before you in a public hearing.

Trudy Hammond 47752 Berry Street- has an idea to put an empty police car with a dummy by Rascal's market to try and slow people down.

Executive Session: ORS 192.660 (2) (h) To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Adjourned for Executive Session- 9:01 P.M.

17.0 Adjourned

Signed: _____

Kathy Holston, Mayor

Signed: _____
Jackie Sims, City Recorder