



February 20, 2014
City Council Regular Session
Willamette Activity Center- Room 8
47674 School Street
7:00 p.m.



MINUTES

1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Present: Gerald Shorey, Mayor
Rayetta Clark, Council President
Glenn Fortune
Jim Coey
Ernest Baszler
Les Biggerstaff
Christine Slaven

Staff Present: Louis Gomez, City Administrator
Dale Scobert, Chief of Police
Albert Alcalde, Fire Chief
Jackie Taylor, Assistant Planner / Public Works Secretary
Susie LaDuke, Finance Director/City Recorder

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Skip Baker Klohn Road, Oakridge – Gave a shout out to the Police Department and all the citizens of Oakridge, thankfully we have are able to maintain a healthy relationship with our Police Department. Our Police interact with our citizens and consider themselves part of our community. The citizens have a responsibility to maintain diligence in keeping it this way.

Gary Carl E 1st Street, Oakridge – UBRA is sponsoring a Murder Mystery Dinner on March 7th and 8th. Spaghetti will be served, it is not a potluck as previously mentioned. The cost is \$25.00 per person.

Karon Tiller Riverview Street, Oakridge – She has started cleaning up the lot on Highway 58 next to the old High Lakes Café. Would like to get citizens out to help clean up and plant flowers. She would like to do this in memory of Don Hampton.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Biggerstaff asked Karon when she wanted to do that, he said to make a date and he will be there.

Mayor Shorey asked Reserve Sergeant Scott Conger to come up; Chief Scobert wanted the Mayor to thank Officer Conger in public for his dedication to the community and Police Department. Officer Conger has been with the Police Reserves for about 7-9 years. During that period of time he puts himself out there capturing felons and helping the youth of the community. While doing all of this he has been working for the Corp of Engineers. In addition he has four grown boys and takes in foster children, two of which he adopted. Considering all of this Officer Conger does not get paid for his 75-90 hours a month that he puts in at the Police Department.

The American Legion Commander said he believes we have one of the best police forces in Oakridge in the area and they truly serve and protect the citizens. The American Legion is giving a Law Enforcement Certificate of Accommodations to Scott Conger of the Oakridge Police Department; this accommodation is for outstanding public service, a benefit to our community presented by Cascade Post Oregon 064.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Louis said to strike 6.4. She will be available at the next meeting.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Biggerstaff seconded the motion.

L. Biggerstaff (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 City Administrators Report

The Atherton Foreclosure is done; the building is ours as of today. The City Attorney will sign the Trust Deed and then Louis will put locks on the building.

On the Highway 58 Refinement Plan, he met with the City Engineer on Tuesday; he gave him the packet on the TGM Grant and also the Highway 58 Refinement Plan.

Louis spoke with Keith Brown from the Northwest Youth Corp, he asked the status of the grant to work on some of our trails. Some of the money we asked for is something Councilor Biggerstaff has interest in is putting some kind of surface on tressel, something temporary that people can walk across.

John Milandin is working on getting appraisals for the lots by the OIP on Highway 58 and the empty lot on Highway 58.

Just spoke with Lynda today regarding the Amtrak station, they are going to see who will be available in March to get together to answer some questions.

Regarding the Zimmerman Bond; they said we weren't compelling enough with the audits; they were a little more receptive about Jones & Roth.

On February 18th the Planning Commission reviewed Low Impact Development Ordinances, such as the Bio swales, they made it through 11 pages and have about 20-30 left. Once we get through our process then we will bring it to Council.

Waiting on approval for the OIP certification.

The Way Finding Committee; Ben just sent an email saying they are finalizing the final plan on that for final review to the City Council.

Mayor Shorey, regarding the bond, is this something we should revisit? If we are paying for a bond and we can't get anything out of it, should we research another bond company or do we really need it.

Councilor Fortune said it doesn't matter who you are with, you will have the same trouble.

Mayor Shorey said the question really is do we need a bond.

Charter says we need a bond.

Councilor Coey said we should take what they are offering and move on, we are short staffed and we are losing money just be done with it. They are obviously not going to do what we want them to do.

Councilor Biggerstaff asked if we can stop paying them and find someone else.

Councilor Clark asked if we are bonding two people now.

Councilor Fortune said we are not getting screwed on this.

Susan LaDuke said our policy was against theft and there was no theft in this case. The Council is getting financial reports on a continuous basis now, they can see what is going on now and that is their assurance that things are being done.

6.2 City Recorder Finance Report

Susie gave the Financial Reports to the Council.

Mayor Shorey asked if any money has been taken out of the LGIP account.

In June \$88,000 will be taken out in June of this year for the Sewer Bond.

Councilor Biggerstaff asked if we have talked to the USFS about what is going to happen with the Sewer plant.

Louis said he spoke with Chuck about it and he said sometime this year we do need to go sit down and talk with them.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to accept the Financial Reports as presented. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion.

E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.3 IGA Lane County Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program

This is something that the City has been participating in since 2001. St. Vincent DePaul has been the administrator of this grant since 2001.

Councilor Clark said she has been on this board since 2002. They got a pretty large grant for the City of Oakridge. Many of these houses were for low income/elderly people at a low 1% interest rate, most of them don't need to be paid back. What they are asking an IGA for now is for defederalized dollars, some of these loans have been paid and now the monies are defederalized and they'd like to start authorizing new loans for more people that need their houses rehabbed. It doesn't help everybody; it only helps the very low income.

Some communities give part of their monies to other communities that needed them the most. Lowell did this before with the woodstove program.

What they are asking for is the ability to enter into an agreement with the Lane County Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved that the Mayor sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lane County Regional Housing Rehabilitation Program. Councilor Coey seconded the motion.

R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.4 Fill Library Board Vacancy

Deferred until next meeting

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Engineering Services Agreement with Curran-McLeod for Teller Road

Louis is asking the Council to sign the Engineering Services Agreement with Curran- McLeod not to exceed \$35,982. What that does for us is if we extend beyond that this fiscal year and we go into the next fiscal year before we get this whole project done, this is what we are paying the Engineer.

Motion: Councilor Coey moved that the Mayor sign the Engineering Services Agreement Amendment with Curran-McLeod Inc. not to exceed \$35,982. Councilor Biggerstaff seconded the motion.

E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

**** ODOT Pedestrian Study Status**

Councilor Biggerstaff has been asking about the pedestrian study, they are asking for a road study for additional crosswalks on Highway 58 in addition to the one we have already discussed. They will no longer do the painted lines; they will have the safety islands and lights, the whole nine yards.

Councilor Biggerstaff had a question about Teller Road; is there a plan for this?

Louis said the engineer has a quick sketch but he will be bringing us a preliminary plan.

**** Update on East 1st Street Sewer Extension**

Louis went out and walked the project with the Engineer and Chuck; there are actually a total of 12 residences. The key is to put in sewer all the way from city limits out roughly 900 feet. If we do that then we are done. We will make sure we have all of the pre-annexation agreements.

Councilor Coey asked about the pre-annexation agreements for the sewer on 1st Street. Are we going to force people to sign?

Louis said no we aren't going to force people to do this, only the people that have already signed. He will sit and talk to the rest of the people. All of the people already have city water.

This will change their tax base, however for some of them it will be a wash because they pay double for water service. On the bigger properties it will cost them more.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

8.1 IGA with Lane County Sheriff's Office

Chief Scobert said we have entered into an intergovernmental agreement with the City of Springfield. When people would have a failure to appear or failure to pay their fines, we didn't have a way to deal with them. Now we will have somewhere to take them. Springfield won't take females; it's a male only jail. It will cost the City \$117.57 per day of incarceration.

Motion: Councilor Coey moved that the Mayor sign the IGA with Lane County Sheriff's Office to hold City of Oakridge Court Commits and Warrant Arrests. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion.

Mayor Shorey (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire Chief Alcalde recently met with City of Springfield Fire and Life Safety; they are the ones who do the billing for us. He wanted to understand how the funds are received and how much we are taking in from the transports. One thing he learned is that 76% of our transports are mainly Medicare or Medicaid patients. What that means to us is we receive far less money than if we transport a direct billing. The average amount is anywhere from \$250-\$400 per transport. Our expenses are much higher for personnel costs, fuel costs and all other expenses associated with a transport. He is hoping with ORCHID Health Clinic coming in they will see many of those patients and that will reduce transports.

Besides the clinic what can the Fire Department do; Chief is looking at staffing the ambulance. Making sure they are sending the right people to the different calls. This is something he is studying and trying to reduce costs.

Councilor Biggerstaff said ORCHID said they because they are in a low income area that the government will pay them twice as much from claims on Medicare and Medicaid claims. Is there some way to work with them when we send people down and maybe up that charge?

Councilor Slaven asked if they needed an intermediate for a BLS call.

Chief Alcalde said no they don't two basics and a driver.

If a patient says they want to go we have to take them. We can ask them if they have other transportation in some cases, but if they say no, we have to take them.

Councilor Slaven suggested having some kind of public outreach to the community to make sure they are using the services appropriately, just like other communities; we do have people who abuse the ambulance service. Sometimes people think they have a better likelihood of seeing the doctor sooner even though it is not necessarily true. Some people don't realize the impact they have on their neighbor if they take the ambulance for a stomach ache and at the same time a child is having a seizure that is a disservice to our community.

Mayor Shorey said urgent care has taken some of the pressure off of the ambulance services.

Chief Alcalde said they probably had private ambulances and were closer to the services.

Louis said one thing we need to realize is that ORCHID Health is going to be very helpful with the Medicare and Medicaid community. On the other hand for every transport we reduce, we need to realize it is a double edged sword; yes we are giving a better service to the community but, we are reducing the revenue on the ambulance.

Councilor Fortune said he already said we are losing money on those transports.

Louis said we are still paying the personnel. As we reduce these calls, we are going to have to seriously look at our delivery model, seriously. We may not have paramedics; we may have EMT intermediates and basics to try and reduce costs. This is a serious thing we have to look at and we will be presenting in the next few months to the Council. We may have to change our total structure, right now we are paying for four paramedics and we are not making the money to support that. That is something this body needs to think about when we bring this to the Council.

Councilor Fortune said why don't we as ambulance services band together and go to the legislatures to get them to change the law. He doesn't believe that since just because you want to go to the emergency room in an ambulance and you don't have a life threatening illness that we should be bound to take them.

Councilor Biggerstaff said the question is who wants to make that call. It would be nice if we could take them to the clinic instead of taking them to Eugene.

10.0 Reports from Boards and Committees

Parks, Trails and Trees - Discussed revamping duties, the board is very receptive to this. Louis has an initial draft.

Louis said as of the four burned out houses we inspected, two of them don't have asbestos. He is going to have Chuck, the Fire Chief and Police Chief approach the owners to see about doing a burn to learn.

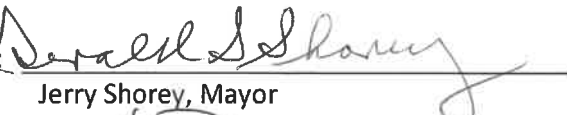
Library Board – They had a goal setting session.


GOATS - They are moving forward with community outreach for all people that use the trails, not just mountain biking.

Chamber – They had several speakers, George, Steve and Gary from UBRA, gave an update on what they are doing. Keg & Kask had one meeting; the next one is on March 19, 2014. The Garden Club will be cleaning up all of the planters along Highway 58.

ADJOURNMENT: The Council adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council March 6, 2014

Signed: 
Jerry Shorey, Mayor

Signed: 
Susan LaDuke, City Recorder