



November 19, 2015
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: Jim Coey, Mayor
Judy Rowland
Gary Carl
Rick Zylstra
Amy Buchmeier
Dwight Chitwood
Dawn Kinyon

Staff Present: Louis Gomez, City Administrator
Mike Hansen, Interim Fire Chief
Jackie Taylor, Assistant Planner
Susie LaDuke, Finance Director/City Recorder
Kevin Martin, Police Chief

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

James Affa 76340 Garden Road Oakridge Or – He has taken up the offer to have a HVAC system installed without a glitch. He is quite pleased with Lane Electric and how easy the process was.

Lynda Kamerrer 48175 E 1st Street Oakridge Or – There has been a project going on here in Oakridge for quite a few years, they wanted to get some web cams put up to show our weather and there is no road camera between I-5 and the Willamette Pass. ODOT said they would put in a camera at Hwy 58 and Crestview, they said we have to pay for it though. Dave Devonso from Lane Electric offered to pay for it.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Coey received an email from Jaci Standly about the Festival of Trees, they are bringing it back this year, and the last time they did this was 2009. They are looking for donations of tree stands, Mayor Coey challenges everyone here to buy a tree stand and take it to the high school. They will be donating the decorated trees after the festival on December 19, 2015.

The GOATS volunteer party went well, the GOATS won the golf match. It was revealed that the dedicated trails maintenance hours were 6,500.

The Mayor had a conversation with LRAPA yesterday which is moving forward, good news it they talked about the ductless heat pumps, they have installed three or four since the town hall meeting with six in the pipeline.

Councilor Carl talked about the Flee the Fog campaign, Lynda didn't emphasize enough how she had to stick with this to get the cameras, it wasn't until Louis asked George Custer to put the cameras up, that they finally got put up.

Councilor Kinyon asked if the trip check camera is set up and going to be linked to trip check?

Ms. Kamerrer said there is no trip check camera in Oakridge.

Councilor Zylstra gave his City Council resignation as of tomorrow the 20th. He accepted the Assistant to the City Administrator job at city hall. He starts that job on November 23, 2015.

We will go ahead and post the vacancy on Monday and go out until the 2nd meeting in January by consensus.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Motion: Councilor Buchmeier moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Rowland seconded the motion.

J. Rowland (Aye), A. Buchmeier (Aye), G. Carl (Aye), D. Chitwood (Aye), D. Kinyon (Aye), Mayor Coey (Aye), R. Zylstra (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 City Administrators Report

Highway 58 Pedestrian Study/Hwy 58 Crosswalk - They had a meeting with their consultants and ODOT, this was a traffic advisory committee, and they discussed different options for Hwy 58 from a bike/pedestrian standpoint and crosswalk. Part of the study is to identify different spots on the Hwy for crosswalks. Tentatively one spot would be W 2nd street and one would be Hills Street. The one they are looking at is at Rock Road, by Rainbow. The fourth one would be by Union Street. They were taking pictures of people crossing the Hwy and the majority of them were crossing by Rainbow Road and Rock Road, which is where they have identified that they want our first crosswalk.

The City Engineer is still working on some final plans for in front of We B Video to see what will be the biggest vehicle we can accommodate in front of the store.

Our traffic count increased this year from 1.8 million to 2.2 million. Our community grew by 20 people, we went from 3220 to 3240 under the Portland State numbers, which means when the State divides up their dollars we get more.

Strategic Plan – Aline from Ride Source said she believes they can use the bus to transport the Council up to LaPine to check out their location. We need to kick some dates around to see when we can all go up there.

Teller Road – They City Engineer and Public Works Superintendent did a walk through with Eugene Sand and Gravel today. There is one area on the road where a little bit of water is settling, Eugene Sand and Gravel will coming back to smooth that out.

Louis also spoke with the City Engineer on what it will cost to do our road prioritizing, he told him we really need a quote on this.

Franchise Agreement – He had a meeting with Charter Communications yesterday, they are going to come back with a couple of templates that they think Louis and the City should be ok with.

Councilor Carl has a hard time understanding their role in our Community because they don't do anything in our community unlike Lane Electric.

Louis said right now they have minimal penetration in our market here. He thinks a lot of people here left Charter for the same reason he did, because he couldn't get HD. We get a minimal amount from them in fees is maybe \$3,500 \$4,000 each year. That is probably why they don't put in a whole lot.

Article 15 changes for Flood Zone Districts – Was presented to the Planning Commission on Tuesday, they recommended approval to Council. Hopefully in the next meeting or two he will have that Ordinance ready for review on the flood plain.

LRAPA – Louis has been taking exemptions on a case by case basis, he has been taking into account a concern that Councilor Zylstra had that this was a drastic change from past practice. He hasn't been really strict on the program because it was a drastic change from the past.

Mayor Coey said he got a phone call from LRAPA, they were very apologetic about some of their decisions.

Councilor Kinyon asked what the status is on the MBO park rent.

Louis said we do have an active judgement that is collecting 9% interest against Mr. Dreiling.

Councilor Buchmeier asked about the outstanding LID's.

Louis said he and Susan went back and looked at them, if someone hasn't paid their LID if they pass away or the property is sold, it will get paid at that time. We don't have that many left to pay.

Susan said we are accruing interest on the accounts. Some people are making payments on their accounts.

6.2 City Recorders Financial Report

Susan gave the financial report as of November 18, 2015.

Motion: Councilor Carl moved that we accept the City Recorders Finance Report as presented. Councilor Buchmeier seconded the motion.

R. Zylstra (Aye), Mayor Coey (Aye), D. Chitwood (Aye), D. Kinyon (Aye), G. Carl (Aye), J. Rowland (Aye), A. Buchmeier (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.3 Water Project Rate Discussion

Louis read his staff report so the citizens could see what they are discussing.

There was discussion on the documents and the rate increases that will need to happen in the next few years.

There were some questions on the calculations.

Louis said the information will be in the actual contract, which is standard in these types of loans.

Councilor Carl said on page 13 it says well #2 has issues with periodic contamination by total coliform and E.coli. The source of this contamination is unknown at this time.

Louis said term we normally use is bacteria, which is what it is. That is one of the reasons that we chlorinate. On our annual water report we have not had any issues with that. Those are the things we test for on a daily basis.

Mayor Coey said it is rare to get this type of loan, people are seeing that we have our stuff together.

Mayor Coey said another thing with this is that people complain about our water quality, which has more to do with the pipes in their homes.

Terry Walker asked if we have applied for lottery dollars?

Louis said we go through the county for that, we did receive some lottery dollars earlier in the year in the amount of \$18,000 for an economic development project.

Louis said the reason he wants to discuss this is because he needs direction since we have been awarded the loan.

Motion: Councilor Carl moved to allow the City Administrator to move forward with processing the loan and institute the rate increase of \$4.50 beginning October 1, 2016 and authorize the Mayor to sign the loan documents with the Infrastructure Finance Authority. Councilor Rowland seconded the motion.

Councilor Rowland asked when the CPI increases take effect?

Mayor Coey said they take effect July 1.

Louis said the increase was 2.4% for 2015, we don't know what it will be for next July until December.

Councilor Carl said this is a very advantageous loan at 1% and a very generous grant of \$750,000 and if we don't take it and do this he doesn't think we will ever see an opportunity like this again.

Councilor Buchmeier asked what we are going to do with the reserves.

Louis said we can discuss that and decide during the budget process.

Mayor Coey (Aye), J. Rowland (Aye), G. Carl (Aye), D. Chitwood (Aye), A. Buchmeier (Aye), D. Kinyon (Aye), R. Zylstra (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.4 Use of ATV and OHV's on City Streets Discussion

Louis read the issue to the Council. Mr. John Omlin from Valley Power Sports in Eugene had a meeting with Louis and the Mayor and he has been speaking with the Chamber regarding UHV's, OHV's and ATV's on city streets. They would like to be able to do this to fill up with fuel and get a bite to eat. This practice is currently allowed in Lake View and John Day Oregon. This is viewed as an economic income strategy, the Chamber and Mr. Omlin hope to put on a festival in June 2016.

Councilor Carl said if you look at item #4 it says they prohibited to drive on any State Hwy, that is where the restaurants and fueling.

Louis said there are cross streets that they can use to get across the Hwy to fuel and restaurants.

Councilor Carl asked who is going to enforce these laws?

Louis said they hoping the people coming in will be responsible, you always have your 10%.

Viki Burns said these are high end machines, \$30,000 machines. They do not rough house and tear up the roads, they just want to get from one road to another.

Councilor Carl said he is all for bringing more business to Oakridge, but he just see's all kinds of problems.

Chief Martin said there is nothing stopping them from riding on forest service land right now, it will be more of an impact on us, not the forest service.

Matt Altemus said he has been to a few towns that allow this, he asked them what made their towns and they said by allowing the ATV's to ride in town really changed the town. These are not kids riding around and goofing off. They have to follow laws like wearing Helmut's, they have to have a license and they can't ride with more than one person at a time.

Mayor Coey said there are 20 states where this is legal.

Councilor Kinyon said she is on the Chamber and working on this event, she is wondering if we are getting ahead of ourselves even discussing changing Ordinances. She thought the Chamber was looking for permission for this event to utilize the streets for this event only.

Mayor Coey said he doesn't even have his permits from the forest service, until he does that, this doesn't happen at all. This is a discussion item only.

Councilor Carl said he would support a three day event, we can try it out and it's only three days. If there are problems it's only three days, not long term.

Louis said he is going to do as much work for this three day event rule wise and all that because a good point is, is this an uninsured motorist? Are they required to show insurance? Any way you look at it Louis and the Chief are going to have to put together a pretty significant document.

Chief Martin said you can legally cross a Hwy on an ATV, laws are already in place. He visits towns that this is already legal and their economics are booming.

Louis said he will get with Kevin and see what it will take from our end for the three day event.

6.5 Prohibition of tobacco products in City Parks

Louis stated that recently the City of Cottage Grove have banned all tobacco products in their parks. So far in regards to enforcement it has been pretty low key, haven't had a lot of resistance or negative input. This was presented to us by Lane County Public Health.

Councilor Zylstra said all Oregon campuses are smoke free and it isn't a big deal. He is a smoker himself.

Councilor Buchmeier said she is a smoker and if she takes her kids to the park does she have to drag them out of the park to smoke?

Mayor Coey said he is a non-smoker and he thinks this is a complete intrusion of the Government in our freedoms, he is adamantly against this. He does believe you shouldn't smoke in buildings and you should be 25 feet from doorways, but out in a public open area he doesn't believe that.

Councilor Rowland said she used to smoke and she agrees with the Mayor, where are they going to put the limit at? Can't smoke in your car or your house?

Susie said she was in on the meeting and that is exactly where they are headed, she agrees this is an open area and you should be able to smoke out in the open. We just legalized pot in this State, but we are going to say you can't smoke in the park.

Louis said with the vape pens we can look at something like that, with vape pens you don't know what is in them, they say they don't have nicotine in them.

Louis said another option is having a designated smoking area.

Chief Martin said they have actually dealt with kids using the vape pens, it is a tough one. They have been called to homes for child abuse calls because you two different sets of divorced parents because one will allow and one won't.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

None

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

Chief Martin said smoke school went off without a hitch. They had a great turn out.

So far the enforcement is going good, at first there was people that were getting very upset, but they do have citizens saying they don't want people polluting their air. They are out educating people.

Mayor Coey asked why Public Works wasn't involved in the smoke school?

Louis said he didn't want them there, they have enough to do. He only has 4.5 guys doing the work of 10 people.

On November 14, 2015 they had a fire on Commercial Street, the investigation portion has been turned over to the State Fire Marshall.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

Interim Fire Chief Hansen reported on the fire from the 14th. The house was fully engulfed and the garage was well engulfed.

One of the issues they run in to is they should have 10-15 people to deal with that event, they had five. They asked for mutual aid from Dexter and Lowell. This is one of the unfortunate situations you have in a small community.

Councilor Rowland asked if there was anyone living in the house?

Chief Hansen said the house was vacated about three weeks ago.

Councilor Buchmeier asked what the response time was? She heard we beat Dexter by five minutes.

Chief Hansen said he has been doing this for a long time and response time is one of the first things people want to talk about. When you have a fire and you waiting for help to get there 1-2 minutes seem like forever. Our expectation is when you hang up the phone, they should arrive then. When volunteers get the call they are responding from home and we only have one person on duty and they were out on a call. We did respond to the fire in 12 minutes.

Councilor Carl said it used to be when you called 911 you got the local dispatch and they knew where you were talking about, now you call and they have no idea where you are talking about. He is sorry we ever gave up dispatch.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Adjourned for Executive Session 9:09 P.M.

Executive Session ORS 192.660 (2) (f) and (2) (h)

Executive Session 9:11 P.M.

Adjourn Executive Session 9:17 P.M.

Adjourn Meeting 9:17 P.M.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council December 3, 2015

Signed: _____
James Coey, Mayor

Signed: _____
Susan LaDuke, City Recorder