

**February 16, 2006**  
**City Council Regular Session**  
**Senior Lounge at Willamette Activity Center**  
**7:00 p.m.**



## **MINUTES**



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### **JOINT MEETING WITH LANE COUNTY COMMISSION AND WESTFIR CITY COUNCIL**

County Commissioner Bill Dwyer called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

County Commissioners Present: Chairman Bill Dwyer  
Bobby Green  
Faye Stewart  
Anna Morrison  
County Administrator Bill Van Vactor.

Oakridge City Council Present: Mayor Sue Bond  
Don Hampton  
Glenn Fortune  
Leah Chapman  
Carina Schorer  
Dawn Shields  
Rayetta Clark.

Oakridge City Staff Present: Gordon Zimmerman  
Kevin Urban  
Chantell Hayson  
Jerry Shorey  
Louis Gomez.

Westfir City Council Present: Mayor Diana Tonkin  
Rob DeHarport  
Tim Bailey  
Neil Friedman  
City Recorder Beth Murray

#### **1. UPPER WILLAMETTE AIR SHED ENFORCEMENT AREA**

City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman introduced the group to the difficulties in meeting the current air quality standards for Oakridge, while also explaining the new standards due out this fall are even more stringent. The City and Lane Regional Air Pollution

Authority (LRAPA) feel part of the problem is smoke drifting in the city from areas outside the city and the need to determine how to enforce air quality standards outside the jurisdiction of the City. He explained the concept of how the airshed could be defined and laws enforced within that legal definition. LRAPA and Gordon worked together and found that the easiest way to define the area would be to outline the area by township and range. In this assessment the City of Westfir would be included in the airshed. Gordon would like the Commissioners assistance in defining the Upper Willamette Airshed and create an Intergovernmental Agreement with the County allowing the City of Oakridge to enforce the Oakridge City Ordinance of a burning ban on red advisory days. He also invited the City of Westfir to complete an Intergovernmental Agreement as well for enforcement purposes. A third piece to this would be to expand the LRAPA base on LRAPA's website to show Oakridge as the Upper Willamette Airshed. He stated that the current standard is 65ppm and will be lowered to 35ppm in September. Oakridge on its worst day can get as high as 67ppm, so this could be a crucial tool in helping to enforce the burning for better air quality. He continued to report that the City is involved in a program called Warm Homes/Clean Air with LRAPA and several other agencies to replace wood stoves, insulation, window replacement, and other improvements for residences. Currently 149 applications for assistance have been received.

Commissioner Morrison asked who would enforce this and also noted the fact that Westfir has not adopted the same ordinance as Oakridge and in order to do an agreement, this would have to happen first.

Gordon Zimmerman responded that the City of Oakridge within the police service agreement with Westfir and an intergovernmental agreement with the County would enforce the ordinances.

Westfir Councilor DeHarpport noted that they would want to see proof of smoke traveling along the rivers from Westfir into Oakridge, if possible, before they would be willing to consider enacting such an ordinance.

Commissioner Dwyer stated that Oakridge needs to first attend to the 149 applicants for upgrading their homes before the County would support an airshed. He feels that this is just a way to ticket individuals to the extent of them possibly losing their homes if they do not comply. "You are not going to make the County the bad guy in all of this."

Gordon Zimmerman responded that the Warm Homes program is a continuing process. The new level of standard for air quality will come this fall. If the City has a means to start enforcing air quality standards within the airshed, then the new standard will be easier to attain.

Commissioner Stewart pointed out that Oakridge already cannot meet the requirement levels and with them lowering by 50%, he sees the difficulties being faced.

Commissioner Dwyer reiterated that he would not support this enforcement at this time. He stated that the City needs to help the individuals that have applied first and if the standards are still not being met, then he will consider the request again at that time.

Mayor Bond pointed out that the City has done many of these programs and has tried for many years to little avail. This is why the City is trying to reach out for assistance because the bad air quality is not just from Oakridge residents. She stated that she even testified at a budget meeting of the County asking for funds in support of a wood stove program and was denied. She said it takes money to implement these programs and the City does not have it, nor can we seem to get the revenue from other sources.

Westfir Councilor Bailey asked if the monitors could be moved or have more added and then take an average level count.

Gordon Zimmerman responded that the City has requested that. LRAPA and the EPA would not negotiate on those matters.

Westfir Councilor Friedman asked what proof Oakridge has of the smoke coming up the river.

Gordon Zimmerman responded that it is only visual observation.

Oakridge Councilor Fortune stated that he too has witnessed this activity.

Westfir Councilors did not agree with this statement and said they would want to see some data showing proof of this activity.

Mayor Tonkin asked if LRAPA has any data to support this.

Gordon Zimmerman responded that they would not until they put in more monitoring stations.

Mayor Tonkin said that if Westfir is not part of the problem and LRAPA puts a monitor in Westfir then, all of a sudden, they would become part of the Oakridge problem.

Gordon Zimmerman responded that could become the case. Gordon explained that if the City cannot meet the requirements, then the agency would step in to enforce in their own way.

Councilor Fortune stated that the attainment deadline would be in 2009.

## **2. UPDATE ON MOVING FISH HATCHERY ROAD**

Gordon Zimmerman updated the County Commissioners on the intergovernmental agreement between the County and Oakridge for the relocation of Fish Hatchery Road and the Highway 58 Bridge Replacement. He thanked the Commissioners for their

support in this project. He noted that the final costs are not yet known but the projected cost is \$320,000. The project is expected to get under way sometime in late 2006.

### **3. ENTERPRISE FACILITATION IN OAKRIDGE (UPBEAT)**

Gordon Zimmerman explained UPBEAT (Unique Program for Business Enhancement and Advancement Together). This project is based on a relationship based economic development with the Sirolli Institute that is funded by the United States Department of Agriculture and Oakridge Industrial Park funds. This program will offer a management coach, also known as the Enterprise Facilitator, to help start new businesses and improve existing businesses in the Oakridge/Westfir area.

Councilor Morrison asked if there is a relationship between this and the Lane Micro Business program in Oakridge.

Gordon said that program would still be available to everyone. He explained that this UPBEAT program is different in that it is a one-on-one private coaching process rather than a classroom of individuals learning basic materials.

Commissioner Dwyer noted that the main reason that 85% of small businesses fail is because of financial undercapitalization.

Gordon responded explained a concept called the Trinity of Management. In this concept the Facilitator helps individuals on the three most important factors to running a small business: Product, Marketing, and Financial Management.

### **4. EXTENDED AREA SERVICE (EAS) FOR PHONE COMPANIES**

Gordon Zimmerman explained that he attended a meeting to address a proposed four county extended area service plan for long distance calling.

Commissioner Morrison sent a letter to PUC Chairman Lee Beyer raising an issue that with this plan costs are higher for some and not others, but endorsed the proposal as an economic development tool.

Commissioner Dwyer said he would likely have voted differently on this request had he known what he knows now about the costs and process. He sees this effecting residences and helping businesses lower their costs. He said that it is not needed with the use of cell phones and Internet communication.

Mayor Bond asked if an individual would have the choice to join like they did when Eugene and Oakridge merged.

Gordon responded that yes, there would be that opportunity. However, if more than 25% of the people choose not to join, then the whole plan would be cancelled.

**5. COUNTY ASSISTANCE WITH STORM WATER DRAINAGE ON 1<sup>ST</sup> AND 2<sup>ND</sup> STREET IN WESTFIR**

Mayor Tonkin explained that they have learned that the roads with the problems are owned by private citizens and most are low income so they cannot afford money to make the necessary changes. The City is ready to use the road fund monies to work on this and is asking for support from the County by providing the manpower.

The Commissioners asked that the required documents be drawn up for review to give their assistance.

**6. SAFETY CONCERNS CAUSED BY LACK OF A STOP SIGN AT HELLSGATE BRIDGE**

Mayor Tonkin stated that she now understands where the City needs to go on this issue and will work with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT).

**7. LACK OF STOP SIGNS ON 24<sup>TH</sup> STREET (AT SUNSET) AND 22<sup>ND</sup> STREET (AT SUNSET)**

Mayor Tonkin reported that this has also been clarified with the City of Oakridge Police and they will continue to work with ODOT on the issue.

Mayor Tonkin thanked the commissioners for coming and discussing these items.

**8. URBAN GROWTH BOUNDRY (UGB) EXPANSION**

The Westfir Council was very disappointed with the letter that was received from the County about adding certain people into the UGB, and further, the response to expanding the UGB. They felt in all it was a poor response to their requests.

Councilor Morrison asked how long it had been since an update was done to the comprehensive plan.

Westfir Council responded that it was last updated in 1982.

Councilor Dwyer stated that ownership is 99% of the law, so they should acquire the properties in question and then go from there.

Westfir Council said the worst part is that the future City Hall is outside the UGB. They stated that they might not even want the buildings in question anymore due to the amount of vandalism and lack of upkeep over the years.

**9. FEES FOR BRIDGE**

Westfir Council mentioned a letter from Lane County Public Works that addresses increased fees for permits on bridge use. They stated that the \$300 fee is a bit high considering the City provides enforcement and fire protection without any charges to the County.

Commissioner Dwyer explained that a consistency was sought around the County enacting these fees and that he thinks there could be a public benefit clause added. He suggested the Westfir Council send a letter to the Board addressing this issue.

Commissioner Stewart explained the history of the permit fees for lighting and how it is affecting many small communities. He suggested that he could have an alternative option of a one-time fee instead of an annual fee for city events. He said that a letter of support from Westfir would be helpful.

Commissioner Stewart mentioned that he is also working on reducing the amount of train whistles through Oakridge and Westfir. He is working with Congressman DeFazio to get the West Cascades Scenic Byway paved and any letter of support to DeFazio on this issue could be helpful. He asked that if anyone does write a letter, please send him a copy of it as well.

Commissioner Dwyer adjourned the County Commission meeting at 8:00 p.m.

### **CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor Sue Bond called the City of Oakridge meeting to order at 8:08 p.m.

### **CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS**

*Terry Crawford, 26238 Gale St., Oakridge:* A letter from him was handed out to each of the Council members regarding a rejection letter he received from the City when he sought employment with the City. Mr. Crawford was not present to respond. Council took no action.

### **ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA**

Gordon Zimmerman added two items to the agenda under Administration and Community Services. The first request is from the Kiwanis for an Easter Egg Hunt. The second item is a letter from John White under Community Services.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- 1.1 Minutes of Work Session of January 25, 2006
- 1.2 Minutes of Regular Session of February 2, 2006
- 1.3 Waiver of Pinewood Derby Willamette Activity Center (WAC) Fee

Motion by G. Fortune and seconded by R. Clark to approve the consent agenda. C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Bond (Aye), D. Shields (Aye), D. Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), and L. Chapman (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION: ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Property Negotiations**

The Council convened into executive session under ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Property Negotiations at 8:11 p.m.

Executive session ended and Council reconvened in open session at 8:24 p.m.

## **ADMINISTRATION**

### **2.1 Sales of Surplus Property**

Gordon Zimmerman reported that there are three offers pending for the Dunning Road property. He asked the Council how it would like staff to proceed on the offers.

Motion by G. Fortune and seconded by D. Hampton to reject all three offers. D. Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Bond (Aye), D. Shields (Aye), L. Chapman (Aye), and C. Schorer (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

Gordon responded that with the property staying on the market he will work with the City Attorney to draft a release statement concerning environmental issues.

### **2.2 Four County Extended Area Service (EAS) Discussion**

Gordon explained the opportunity to respond to the Oregon Public Utilities Commission concerning the expansion to a four county long distance phone coverage area including Lane, Lincoln, Linn, and Benton counties.

Mayor Bond asked what the costs would be and if individuals would have the option to not participate.

Gordon responded that it would probably be about \$2 to \$3 per month and individuals would have the option to add the service or not. If more than 25% of the carrier's clients choose not to use this service then they will likely cancel the whole project. He mentioned that he attended a meeting in January where only three cities appeared to learn more about this. A majority of the participants at that meeting were the phone companies' representatives.

Councilor Chapman suggested that the phone companies could look into a toll call price if they do not move forward with the EAS.

Councilor Hampton wants the Council to represent the citizens of Oakridge and in his opinion there are not that many citizens wanting to call Lincoln County. He suggested that the Lincoln County businesses get an 800 number to communicate with other cities.

Motion by C. Schorer and seconded by D. Shields to say no to the PUC proposal of the expansion of the four county EAS region. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), D. Shields (Aye), L. Chapman (Aye), D. Hampton (Aye), and Mayor Bond (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

### 2.3 Annual Statement of Economic Interest

Gordon reminded the Council that the statement will be coming soon for each Council member to fill out and return to the State.

Councilor Hampton pointed out that when filling out the forms to pay special attention to the definitions and to make sure Councilors report everything they can to remove themselves from any speculation.

### 2.4 Adopt Budget Calendar

Gordon reported that this is a reflection of last year's calendar of dates and that he needs to advertise for the one vacancy.

Motion by R. Clark and seconded by C. Schorer to adopt the budget calendar and to advertise for the budget committee vacancy. Mayor Bond (Aye), D. Shields (Aye), L. Chapman (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), and D. Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

### 2.5 Prioritization of Goals

Gordon asked the Council to please turn in the ranking sheets that are in the packet.

### 2.6 Kiwanis Request for an Easter Egg Hunt

Gordon received a letter from the Kiwanis to waive the fees for an Easter Egg Hunt at Greenwaters Park. In the past they have been able to pay the fees but cannot afford them this year.

Motion by R. Clark and seconded by D. Shields to allow the Kiwanis club free use of the park for an Easter Egg Hunt. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), D. Shields (Aye), L. Chapman (Aye), D. Hampton (Aye), and Mayor Bond (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

### 2.7 Read Across America



Gordon reported that Read Across America is an annual event and is scheduled for March 2, 2006--the next Council meeting. He asked if the Council wanted to cancel the meeting if the agenda is not pressing or have a late start.

After careful consideration the Council approved canceling the meeting if the agenda allowed. Gordon would send an e-mail to let the Council know if the meeting is being canceled. The alternative would be to start the meeting late that evening.

## **COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **3.1 Theft of Property**

Kevin Urban reported that John White, a citizen, had contacted him to trim four feet up the trees that were planted by Oakridge on the railroad property across from his home. He has recently had gasoline stolen from his vehicles and he believes that someone is hiding in these trees for cover while doing this.

Councilor Chapman stated that she would rather have the City do the trimming to ensure no destruction.

Council discussed the options available. Council wanted time to review the area, but also wanted to encourage the resident to try other options before anyone trimmed any trees.

Motion by G. Fortune and seconded by L. Chapman that if the Council chooses to decide at a later time to cut the trees, that the City would do the cutting. D. Shields (Aye), L. Chapman (Aye), D. Hampton (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Bond (Aye), and G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

Kevin Urban suggested that if they do decide to cut the limbs on the trees that they approve the cut on all the trees down Commercial Street to be consistent.

Councilor Hampton reminded the Council that it has the option to not take any action at this time.

The Council chose not to take action.

## **PUBLIC SAFETY**

Police Chief Louis Gomez reported that several fire and police officers have been doing their annual training on Blood Borne Pathogens, CPR, and Hazmat.

Fire Chief Jerry Shorey reported that an Insurance Service Office (ISO) review in April for Hazeldell and Oakridge will be assisting Hazeldell.

