

October 5, 2006
City Council Regular Session
City Council Room
48318 E. First Street, Oakridge OR 97463
7:00 p.m.



MINUTES



1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Sue Bond called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council Present: Sue Bond, Mayor
Carina Schorer
Don Hampton
Rayetta Clark
Criss Steiner
Amy Kordosky
Glenn Fortune

Staff Present: City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman
Community Services Director Kevin Urban
City Recorder Chantell Steiner
Police Chief Louis Gomez
Fire Chief Jerry Shorey

2.0 CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

None.

3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

6.2 Playground Equipment

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

4.1 Minutes of Regular Session of September 21, 2006

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

5.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

5.1 City Hall Day in Cottage Grove October 19, 2006

City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman said the League of Oregon Cities sponsors an annual event for city officials and state legislators to get together and talk about city issues and projects. This year the meeting will be held on Thursday, October 19th at the Cottage Grove Library/Community Center, located at 700 E. Gibbs Avenue, beginning at 6:30 p.m. Representative Bruce Hanna will be in attendance as well as a representative from Senator Floyd Prozanski's office. Local city officials from Westfir, Oakridge, Cottage Grove, Creswell, and other southern Lane County cities will be in attendance. Gordon explained that this is a critical time period to establish a good working relationship with these representatives. He said it is important that they can put a, "face to the name" when calling for assistance for our city. Oakridge already has some good relationships but it is best to strengthen those relationships through events like this. We want them to trust us and the information that we give them. Gordon would like to see the Council attend the City Hall Day at Cottage Grove if possible.

Mayor Bond confirmed that the Council was in consensus to attend City Hall Day. Council agreed that it is a great idea.

Councilor Schorer asked to be excused from this event due to a hardship with her schedule and travel.

Councilor Hampton stated that he would also not be able to attend, as he will be in Newport for a Telecommunications Conference that day.

Mayor Bond announced the cancellation of the October 19th meeting so the rest of the Council could attend City Hall Day.

6.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

6.1 Resolution 20-2006: Adoption of Building Inspection Fees

Gordon explained that the Council has had the appropriate public hearings and all of the information has been presented by The Building Department. Now a decision needs to be made to approve or deny the fee changes.

Motion by G. Fortune and seconded by C. Schorer to approve Resolution 20-2006 adopting a new fee schedule for plumbing, mechanical, and structural inspections. Mayor Bond (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), C. Steiner (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), and D. Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.2 Playground Equipment

Community Services Director Kevin Urban passed out some pictures of playground structures that he is considering purchasing for the Salmon Creek Park. He said the prices presented include shipping; however, there would be minimal additional costs for site preparation. He said we have received a grant from Oregon State Parks for a little under \$20,000. Today he received a special discount from one of the playground equipment companies that is offering 50% off the sticker price for only select small communities. Kevin said this deal will not last long and he would like to submit a request tomorrow morning to hopefully get in on it. He asked if the Council wants to

purchase something around \$40,000 and only pay around \$20,000 or does it prefer something cheaper to save money for another project.

Mayor Bond asked what exactly does the grant cover.

Kevin responded that it would cover just about anything associated with this project. He said you have to match this grant 60/40. This can be done through materials, time, labor, and use of vehicles. He said the Park budget has about \$35,000 for the rest of this year. Another option would be to buy something cheaper around \$30,000 and then purchase another smaller piece of equipment for around \$5,000.

Carina asked if there is enough space for two structures at the park.

Kevin said yes, there is space for two as well as a swing set.

Gordon asked Kevin if Council chooses the "Monster" structure, would there still be money for the tot lot structure.

Kevin said we are getting more money including a \$3,000 donation from one local developer. He hopes that the other developers when asked will also make donations.

Gordon asked the Council if it would prefer staff to purchase now to receive the 50% discount or hold off to do more review of the structures and pricing.

The Council said it should be done now.

Councilor Hampton wants to make sure that these structures would be insurance neutral and would be seen the same as far as the city insurance is concerned.

Gordon said absolutely. All of these structures are made and approved by the insurance companies and are certified. He said if anything the insurance rates might go down because we are installing safer equipment.

Kevin passed around the book of all the structures available through this company offering the 50% deal.

Don suggested that since this happens so infrequently that he would not want the City to go cheap on this. He would like to see the biggest purchase possible.

Councilor Steiner clarified with Kevin that there is about \$35,000 left in the park budget.

Kevin said yes, although he does not necessarily plan on spending all of that on this equipment. He does plan to save as much as he can by using staff time and equipment to prep the park site and install the structure.

Councilor Steiner asked, "Of the money set aside, are there other projects that will come up throughout the year?"

Kevin said there would be some minor projects.

Councilor Steiner clarified that we do have to do a 40% match, so how much should be spent?

Kevin said that would depend because a lot of the 40% can be spent through match such as staff time, machine time, etc.

Councilor Steiner clarified that there would be no problem making the 40% match and Kevin agreed.

Kevin said basically, you have \$20,000 to \$30,000 that can be spent on equipment and materials, but this can be doubled with the 50% off deal. He was told that if he could fax the request by tomorrow the corporate sponsors would possibly sign off on it. Kevin said what he has learned from the kids is that they want the biggest and tallest piece of equipment so that is what he will focus on.

Councilor Schorer mentioned that colors should be nice as well.

Kevin said he would buy a structure that is green, brown, blue, and some yellow because those are the colors of the city logo.

Motion by C. Steiner and seconded by R. Clark to allow staff to purchase the best play structure that can be bought as soon as possible to receive the 50% discount. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), C. Steiner (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Hampton (Aye), and Mayor Bond (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

7.0 POLICE SERVICES

Police Chief Louis Gomez updated the Council on his review of other Animal Ordinances around the state. He has found some language from the City of Albany that is better than ours on the neglect and cruelty section so he will use that to update it. As far as the number of animals, most of the ordinances that he has looked at do have a limit. He said instead of putting language on sizes of lots they would defer to the zoning ordinances. Many of them do have a license requirement for kennels as well. He has also been reviewing a chronic nuisance ordinance. For instance, you may hear a particular name/family on a scanner consistently for assistance calls. He said the City could charge for these constant calls to the same residence if it chooses. He is continuing to research this ordinance.

8.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

Fire Chief Jerry Shorey reported that the carpet should be going in next week. Although they are behind, the staff is working on the painting. He is also working with Kevin Urban to upgrade the lighting in the facility. A review of the current lighting shows that there could be about a 50% reduction in energy costs if upgraded.

Gordon noted that the City is looking at this for all city buildings.

Chief Shorey continued to say that REACH, the helicopter for life flight, does not need a partner for accounting purposes. He said they do partner and have brochures already in place. This service would be activated through the use of 911 and the cost for current FireMed members would be \$35. The program would pick up anything that the insurance company would not pay for. He said they will take just about anyone but there has to be an assessment done by the ambulance staff and activated by the staff. He said in many cases there is a three-hour window of opportunity to care for critical patients and that is enough time to make a decision and have them deploy if needed.

Gordon said that our current cost for FireMed is \$75. With the \$35 for Life Flight it would be a total of \$110 a year.

Jerry said the separate application for Life Flight would need to be filled out and sent in.

Councilor Fortune asked if they would deliver to all of the hospitals in the area.

Jerry said they could deliver to any hospital that is capable of it. He is aware that Sacred Heart is one of them and is not sure about McKenzie Willamette.

Councilor Fortune asked if there is any more discussion of REACH locating up here in Oakridge.

Jerry said he has not spoken with them since they were last here and is not sure.

Councilor Fortune asked if there were fog in the valley would they still be able to deliver there.

Jerry said no, unless there is an extremely urgent situation.

Councilor Steiner asked if they participate in any rescue work in locations like Forest Service Road 19?

Jerry said he does not think they would because the Army Black Hawks out of Salem would be deployed for that.

Councilor Clark asked if they would also fly to Roseburg.

Jerry said they would fly wherever a person needs to go, so if it were a Veteran wanting to go to Roseburg then they would take them there.

Joy Kingsbury asked if there were no landing area at a particular hospital would they be able to land close to the facility and have an ambulance drive the remainder?

Jerry is not sure about that but he feels they would do their best to accommodate a person's request.

Gordon asked if Jerry could get some applications to put on the counter at City Hall.

Jerry said he has some and will bring them by.

Mayor Bond asked if we would be advertising this.

Jerry said they have a one-page application form that can be mailed back to them directly. He will get a hold of them about advertising and see if they will pay for it. He said REACH is ready for people to start signing up now.

9.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilor Fortune attended a Lane Council of Governments meeting where they decided that each of the economic committees are uniquely important and should continue to operate separately but communicate with each other. He said Doug Harclerod gave a presentation regarding public safety.

Mayor Bond said the Council attended the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) conference and asked Gordon to report on that.

Gordon said he attended a session with three state legislators that have given him great hope. These gentlemen are working with other legislators to review the way the state budgets and raises funds. He said it is the first intelligent in-depth look that he has seen the legislature do on the delivery of services and funding those services. There are a few things that need to be addressed. For instance, right now the state is funded 75% from income taxes and 25% from fees such as the state gas tax. In the good times we get really high revenues and in the bad times we have a less than perfect ability to predict. This is an effort to stabilize funding streams and to utilize a multiplicity of funding sources to be more balanced. He said if we took California's tax system right now as it is and put it into Oregon, we would collect 3 billion more per biennium. This would include consumption, sales, income, and other taxes. In their presentation they projected a million dollars in property tax relief, so Gordon asked them if cities are funded by this revenue then how will the state help cities stay whole in their revenue stream. He said they said that is a good question and they will be looking at that. He said there was a lot of good discussion about the Rainy Day Fund and other statistics to raise a billion dollars more through tourism, efficient collection of taxes, and corporate taxes. Is this the final product, no, but at least the discussions are going on and that is very encouraging. He said there were many other good sessions that were attended by all. Next year's conference will be held in Bend the last week of September.

10.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Hampton asked if Gordon is arranging a Region 2050 presentation as requested by the Council at a prior meeting.

Gordon said they do not have the funding and will not be coming up to do a presentation.

Councilor Fortune said their last meeting is coming up.

Councilor Fortune sat in on an interesting session at the LOC conference regarding local communication in Wilsonville and the newest-formed city Damascus. He said

Damascus started falling apart because people were conjuring up all these ideas regarding the city and how things should work. No one had the correct information and because they were talking among themselves so much, they basically tore it down to the point of almost not having a city. He said what they did was interesting in getting out the information because we too have discussed this problem of communication in Oakridge. What they did is they formed Coffee Klatches. They would pick an area and contact someone in the area to host this Klatch. Through these Klatches they were able to turn everything around. He said it was one of the best sessions he had attended.

Mayor Bond said she has scheduled a meeting on Wednesday, October 11th starting at 5:30 PM at City Hall that will address the expansion of the Sugar Plum Festival. A group of volunteers have formed and anyone else interested is welcome to attend.

A candidate forum is scheduled for Tuesday, October 10th from 7:00-9:00 PM in the Oakridge High School auditorium for the upcoming election.

A meeting with the United States Forest Service and the Scenic Byway will be held on October 12th from 5:00-7:30 PM at the Greenwaters Park Community Building. They would like input on how to advertise this.

A meeting with the Council, Planning Commission, and the Oregon Department of Transportation will be held on October 30th starting at 6:30 PM at City Hall pertaining to bridge replacement on Highway 58.

Chief Gomez announced that Fall Fun Night would again be held at the Willamette Activity Center on October 31st.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION: ORS 192.660 (2) d LABOR NEGOTIATIONS

The Council convened into executive session under ORS 192.660 (2) (D) Labor Negotiations at 7:57 p.m.

Executive session ended and Council reconvened in open session at 8:38 p.m.

ADJOURN

Mayor Bond adjourned the meeting at 8:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council November 2, 2006.

Signed: _____
S. Sue Bond, Mayor Date

Attest: _____
Chantell R. Steiner, City Recorder Date