

June 19, 2008
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

Council Present: Donald Hampton, Mayor
Rayetta Clark, Council President
Glenn Fortune
Barbara Leary
Carina Schorer
Amy Kordosky

Council Absent: Randy Dreiling (IMBA Conference, Park City, Utah)

Staff Present: City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman
Pamela Hart, Finance Director/City Recorder
Police Chief Louis Gomez
Kevin Urban, Community Services Director
Fire Chief Tim Demers

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

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Siuslaw Bank Relay for Cancer Fund: Pam and Shannon Monson presented an appeal for fundraising for the Relay for Life. Mayor Hampton stated he would match the funds collected from the councilors and audience. The Council and audience raised \$80.00 and the Mayor wrote a check for a matching amount.

Jerome Goodwin, 47772 Chubb Ct Oakridge. He wants to implement an incentive plan for people to keep their yards looking good like they do in Cottage Grove. As incentives, they get free water or gift certificates from local businesses. He was directed to present his ideas to the Public Works Subcommittee.

Pastor Randy Johnson, Nazarene Church: The Nazarene Church is having a BBQ and concert in the park on July 6th and is asking for a fee waiver for the use of the Greenwaters Park Community Building.

Don Hadley Hwy 58 Oakridge. He would like to have Police Chief, City Administrator and Community Services Director resign. He presented copies of the notices for tort claims he has filed against the City and these individuals.

Ron Chaples, Oakridge. He is having problems with the property owner next to him blocking his driveway. He has talked to Kevin about this. This is between property owners. Kevin is trying to contact the other property owner. Kevin will contact Ron when he has some information for him.

3.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Gordon stated that he added 7.3 and 7.4, another Amphitheater request. He also removed 6.1 because we have not received the audit.

4.0 CONSENT AGENDA

- 4.1 Minutes of Regular Session of June 5, 2008
- 4.2 Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting of May 12, 2008
- 4.3 Minutes of the Budget Committee Meeting of May 15, 2008

Councilor Clark moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Fortune. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

5.0 Public Hearing for 2008-2009 Budget

Gordon presented the approved budget to the Council.

- 5.2 Statements in favor: None
- 5.3 Statements in Opposition: None
- 5.4 Statements in General: None
- 5.5 Council Discussion: None

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

- 6.2 Res. 13-2008 Declaration to Receive State Revenues

Councilor Fortune moved to approve Res. 13-2008 declaring the City's election to receive State Revenues. Seconded by Councilor Clark. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

- 6.3 Res. 14-2008 Required Municipal Services

Mayor Hampton pointed out that one of the reasons that we can accept the State money is because of the services provided by the City. We have to provide at least four of the services and we provide seven.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve Res. 14-2008 certifying City services. Seconded by C. Schorer. A. Kordosky (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune. Motion carried 6-0.

6.4 Res. 15-2008 Adopting 2008-2009 Budget

Councilor Schorer moved to approve Res. 15-2008 adopting the 2008-2009 budget, making appropriations and imposing and categorizing taxes for the City of Oakridge. Seconded by Councilor Clark.

Councilor Schorer asked about the council being able to adjust the budget by 10%.

Gordon stated that the Council has the authority to increase any fund by 10% or less. More than that and the Council would be required to bring the Budget Committee back into session. The adjustments caused by the insurance increase will be less than 10%.

The Mayor stated that he is less than satisfied with the amount of money the departments spend on the cost of materials and services. As he signs checks, he will be looking at this closely and possibly making suggestions to reduce these costs.

R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), B. Leary (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

6.5 Waiver of Building Fees for Track Timing Shed

The School District is trying to raise funds to cover the costs to redo the track. The Building Department has agreed to waive their inspection fees if the City will waive its portion of the inspection fees. The District will still pay the 12% State Surcharge.

Councilor Clark moved to approve the waiver of the building permit fee for the construction of the track timing shack. Seconded by Councilor Kordosky.

The Mayor questioned whether there was a roof on the shed.

Gordon stated that yes it does have one.

A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

6.6 Status of July 3rd, 2008 Council Meeting

Counselor Fortune moved to forego the July 3rd, 2008 City Council Meeting. Seconded by Councilor Clark. Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), B. Leary (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

Mayor Hampton stated that this needs to be posted as a cancelled regular meeting. If we need to have an emergency meeting before July 17, we could post a notice.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Diamond Park Bike Skills Discussion

Eugene Cathcart is the Public Information Officer for the Trails Committee. He discussed the skills park at Diamond Park. The committee held a public input meeting on June 5th. The community has also been canvassed and the comments have been collected and disseminated to the Council. The input from the community was positive. Many kids are willing to help with the improvements. The Trails Committee requests that council vote to move forward with the project.

Ben Beamer discussed the Trails Plan and the great job that Eugene Cathcart has done writing the plan. This is a park for the kids and we really want to see this park completed. It is part of the Trails Plan. This is for the kids and now that school is out, he would really like to be able to move forward with this right away.

Councilor Schorer wanted to know what action should be completed tonight.

Mayor Hampton stated that a motion for the park to move forward should be initiated.

Mayor Hampton asked Kevin about the signage.

Kevin stated that they have wood out at the Industrial Park that would work for this type of sign. They would put the Oakridge logo at one end and the name of the Park and their specific logo on the other end.

The Mayor talked about the public comments regarding the pet area and if dogs are allowed in all parks. The Parks Board will probably need to discuss the dog issue. It may not necessarily approve the dogs to be off the leash in this area. The discussion also included an explanation of the pump track. Just south of the pump track are the dirt jumps. There is a proposed bathroom and additional skill-level areas.

Eugene Cathcart explained that a pump track is a bicycle track that is built somewhat like a sine wave. It is a smooth up and down trail with tight corners made of dirt. It simulates terrain that you might find out in the woods.

Fortune was concerned about the bathrooms and whether the Trails Committee would be supervising the construction.

Eugene stated that yes, they will be supervising this.

Clark voiced her concern regarding the railroad tracks. She is all for the park and thinks it is a good idea. She is very concerned about the kids crossing the tracks.

Eugene and Ben said that this is a concern for them as well. They hope that this does not delay them moving forward. They want to make it very clear to the kids that it is illegal to cross the tracks. They do get involved right now when they see kids crossing the tracks. They have kids who will be helping them build the track. They said they would like to do some mentoring on that sort of issue.

This plan needs to be forwarded to the insurance company, but it should not stop the progress.

Councilor Clark moved to approve the bike skills park at Diamond View Park and allow these people to proceed subject to approval from the insurance company. Seconded by Councilor Schorer. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

7.2 Oakridge Just Us Festival Amphitheater Facilities Permit

A discussion was held regarding the facilities permit for the Just Us Festival. Proceeds will be going to "Butterflies for Abby." The questions were discussed and were answered by Kirk Troute. A discussion was held with Chief Gomez regarding the regulations for security. He is willing to assist in educating and helping to explain security and rules for those who are providing the security. In addition, a discussion regarding the hours of the beer garden was held.

The council was polled concerning a time constraint for the music. It was the consensus that 8:00 p.m. should be the cut off for the end of the concert. The consensus from the council was for the beer garden to close at 5:00 p.m. on Sunday and 8:00 p.m. on Saturday. Since we had consensus from the Council, no motion was necessary.

7.3 Waiver of fee for Oakridge Nazarene Church Concert

Randy Johnson from the Nazarene Church is renting the Amphitheater on July 6th and would like to have the Community Building also at no extra charge. They have already paid for the Amphitheater. The council agreed to waive the fee for the Community building.

7.4 Aglow International Amphitheatre Request

We have a request for September 18th from 7:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m. from Aglow International. They will be having a free concert with a Christian group performing.

Mayor Hampton asked if they would change their hours from 6:00 p.m. until 8:00 p.m. Gordon thought they might be able to do that.

The council agreed by consensus to approve the amended hours and waive the fee.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

8.1 Review and Adopt Taser Policy

The Mayor asked if the Westfir and Lowell councils need to approve the policy.

It was stated that as these services are contracted with Oakridge Police Department. It is our policy to continue with our normal police practices as stated in the contract.

Chief Gomez said our insurance agent thought that the policy was in order. They addressed key areas such as frail people, kids, senior citizens, and pregnant women.

Mayor Hampton is concerned about mentally ill people. If this were to happen, it could create a furor just like what happened in Eugene. The police in Eugene used reasonable judgment in this case, but because the tased person was mentally ill, it caused a furor. He is trying to avoid such explosive situations that cause undue public relations problems.

There was discussion and concern about tasing a handcuffed person. This should not be allowed.

Mayor Hampton is concerned about the number of taser applications. He feels that three is excessive.

The Mayor would like some clarification on this. It says officers who are trained to do so may remove the metal probes from the person struck. Mayor Hampton was under the impression that medical personnel always remove the darts, not the police. This would be much safer.

Chief Gomez agrees with Mayor Hampton on this issue.

Mayor Hampton wanted some clarification on the anti-felon identification cards.

Chief Gomez explained that these are thin, confetti-like, cards that come out when the taser is deployed. About 50-60 pieces of paper come out. It has the cartridge number on them. They need to pick up at three of them to show on the police reports.

There was discussion among the council about the removal of the prongs and the use of the tasers.

Councilor Clark asked about what kind of effect the taser will have on someone that is high on some kind of drug. Will this make them worse or will it subdue them?

Chief Gomez explained that this will subdue them. The officers are not going to hold the taser for 30 or 90 seconds. They will be five second bursts. They are not programmed, but this is what the officers will do themselves. There is a maximum of three uses in the policy.

Councilor Leary is concerned about the safety of the officers. If they have a 300 lb. individual high on some type of drug, are they going to be able to slow them down with one taser application?

Mayor Hampton stated that if the officer is in a situation like this, he has probably already called for backup. After one taser application, the back up officer should be there.

There was discussion about the back up officer not responding fast enough. At night we don't always have a back up officer.

Councilor Kordosky moved to adopt General Order P244 Taser Policy for the Police Department of the City of Oakridge. Seconded by Councilor Leary. C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Nay), B. Leary (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 5-1.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

The Fire Department would like to clarify FireMed Plus. Life Flight has moved a helicopter into the Eugene area and they have a reciprocal agreement with AirLife and all but two other helicopter ambulance services, Mercy Flight South and Reach. There is a possibility of ironing out an agreement with Reach. This means if LifeFlight is busy, you could possibly get the Reach air ambulance. That could be an issue with your coverage.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Councilor Clark: Administration Committee meets July 23rd at 10:30 a.m.

Councilor Schorer: Community Services Committee will meet in a couple of weeks.

Councilor Fortune: Public Safety meets June 25.

Mayor Hampton: LCOG is moving into new building in August. They do not have as many tenants as they thought. The building renovation costs have gone over budget and LCOG will work out the overrun costs.

Councilor Clark: Lane Housing Rehabilitation Partnership is meeting June 12th. Oakridge needs 12 more applications for these funds. We have to do at least four to reinvest these funds. St. Vincent De Paul will be doing the advertisement. We have some new areas they are going to start working on.

Mayor Hampton: Watershed Council toured the Hays property on LaDuke Road and looked at the plantings around the pond and the new renovation down by the river. Everything seems to be growing.

Council Fortune: Fire Advisory Board had no meeting.

Councilor Fortune: LRAPA met to adopt the budget and discussed a public hearing in September meeting for air toxic rule-making decisions.

Councilor Kordosky: The Treeplanting Festival Committee is going to change the timing of the meeting to 5:30 on the first Monday of each month, starting in October.

Councilor Clark: Library Board did not hold a meeting.

Councilor Fortune: OEDAC is meeting on June 24th.

Mayor Hampton: UPBEAT met and published a list of the trained Board members. Each board member present was to take two or three of these names and encourage board member attendance at the UPBEAT meetings.

Councilor Clark: Upper Willamette Community Development Corporation will hold a fundraising concert June 28th with the Cheeseburgers. The profit from the food and funds concert all go to the Food Box.

11.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Schorer: I think the bicycle skills area is a great thing and the people setting it up are doing a great job.

Mayor Hampton: First United Methodist Church in Eugene sponsored a "Walk Across Lane County" to raise awareness of hunger issues. The walk started in Oakridge with a gathering of around 30 people. I had the opportunity to speak in Eugene as mayor of this community about what the particular hunger issues were. On Sunday the walkers made it to Florence. They raised \$7000 and lots of food. The suggestion is to give Oakridge Food Box \$1000 of the \$7000 raised.

ADJOURNED FROM SESSION AT 8:39.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council July 17th, 2008.

Signed: _____
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: _____
Pamela S. Hart, City Recorder