

September 18, 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  
Randy Dreiling  
Barbara Leary  
Carina Schorer  
Amy Kordosky

Staff Present: City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman  
Police Chief Louis Gomez  
Fire Chief Tim Demers  
Linda Martin

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

Chief Gomez introduced Dan Miller, the new patrol officer.

### 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Opal Nelson. 2155 Bennett Dr. Cottage Grove. She would like to suggest more signage for uptown. She has talked to someone who says he would donate land for a sign to be placed along Highway 58. She would like to see more business in uptown. She would like to do anything to help promote this project.

Kevin explained that what she is talking about is an offsite sign and they are illegal unless you take out a billboard. ODOT has control of anything along the highway.

### 3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Dreiling stated that it was nice to see everyone cleaning up First Street on Saturday.

Commissioner Faye Stewart will be at the Fire Hall from 6:30 to 8:30 on October 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mayor Hampton wanted to talk about “Why do our meetings take so long?” This is from the recent League of Oregon Cities *Local Focus* publication. He would encourage the council to read the entire article. This is a business meeting.

Mayor Hampton has talked to Gordon about the City getting involved with the United Way. When he makes his annual contribution it gets recorded as a “school district” contribution, because that is where he worked when he started donating. We have two organizations in town that directly receive funds from the United Way. Upper Willamette Youth and the Upper Willamette Community Development Corporation, which receives money so that the Food Box truck can go to town and bring back the food from Food for Lane County. You can make a general contribution or you can specify where you want it to go to. All in attendance watched a video about giving and volunteering to United Way. This will be on TV as part of the United Way campaign. Oakridge will get some free publicity from this.

LCC will come on October 1<sup>st</sup> to do their presentation for their bond measure.

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

7.2 Adjustment: No executive session.

#### **5.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

5.1 Minutes of Regular Session of September 4, 2008

Councilor Clark made the motion to approve the consent agenda, Councilor Schorer seconded the motion. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

#### **6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

6.1 Oakridge/ Westfir Fireworks request

The Fireworks Show has asked for assistance with the last fireworks show costs. City money is available for this purpose. The amount requested is for the show that we already had and would be a reimbursement.

Councilor Schorer moved to approve the \$2,000.00 appropriation to Oakridge/Westfir Fireworks Committee for the annual July 4<sup>th</sup> celebration. Seconded by Councilor Kordosky.

Councilor Clark stated that she would like this to be for future use rather than paying this back each year.

Gordon stated that the reason is because the new budget starts on July 1<sup>st</sup> each year.

Mayor Hampton said this is not unusual to do it this way.

A. Kordosky (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

#### 6.2 St. Vincent De Paul Society of Lane County Inc. Fee waiver request

The organization will be here to provide financial literacy classes to help people learn to budget their finances.

Councilor Clark moved to approve the fee waiver request from St. Vincent De Paul for the financial literacy class to be taught at the Greenwaters Community Building and the Fire Hall. Seconded by Councilor Dreiling. R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), B. Leary (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

#### 6.3 Cascade Family Fun Center Grant Request

Jenifer Hood stated that one thing that concerns her in this town is that there is not a place for kids to go to hang out and have fun--and a place for people coming through town to stop. She has also had many clients come to her wanting to do something like this. Jenifer she helps new and existing businesses to succeed in this community. One thing she knows from working with her clients is that they benefit from more overnight stays from people out of town. This project can help get people working and provide family entertainment on Highway 58. She would like to see a concession stand, a game arcade and a movie theater that could also double as a corporate meeting site. She has been writing grants for this on her own time because she sees this as such a crucial need for this community.

Jenifer discussed what her plans are what she would like to see. She would like for some of it to be historical, because we would be more likely to get the grant money. She will need help from the City to be able to get the grant monies and would like to work together with the City.

Councilor Clark stated an actual conflict of interest due to being the property manager for the property.

Councilor Schorer moved to approve the proposal for the Cascade Family Fun Center grant request to the US Endowment for Forestry and Communities. Seconded by Councilor Kordosky.

Gordon stated that there are still things to work out and they are going after a grant for a lot of money. Those kinds of grants are few and far between and they happened to find this grant opportunity and he asked Jenifer if she had any ideas.

Mayor Hampton expressed his concerns over the staffing issue for this. He does agree with Councilor Kordosky that this is long overdue.

Councilor Fortune asked what the City involvement would be. This would involve purchasing the building on behalf of the city. He thinks this should be something that the Upper Willamette Community Development Corporation should be working on, not the City of Oakridge.

There was discussion between the council on how this would run and be staffed.

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

#### 6.4 Jenifer Hood presentation

Each year the League of Oregon Cities presents a city employee with the Herman Kherli award. This award recognizes a person who had made significant progress in his or her community and great contributions to Oregon life. This year our own Gordon Zimmerman placed 3<sup>rd</sup> in this competition. Jenifer read a letter from former Governor Kitzhaber. Jenifer read other letters and interviews that were conducted on behalf of Gordon's nomination.

#### 6.5 Utility Billing Discussion

Pam Hart was not present so Gordon talked about this issue. We have new software and new printers to send out the bills and the first month that we used this it took two people all day to print bills, stuff the envelopes, sort the envelopes, apply postage and take mail down to the post office. While this request is for an expensive machine, it would save time that we could do other things with the staff.

Mayor Hampton stated that if we are going to use the new machine for communication, then he is in favor of the new machine. If we are not going to use it for communication, then he is not in favor and would prefer to go back to the post cards.

There was discussion between Gordon and the Council.

The council is in favor of the machine.

## **7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### 7.1 Water Project Change Notice

Ed Hodges presented information on this notice. Ed discussed the need for the changes with the Council. The two changes are that we need additional paving at the north end of Oak Street that was in poor shape and regarding the pressure relief when the well pumps start.

If you approve the change order the project will be at a 3.9% for change orders. At this point we are doing fairly well.

Mayor Hampton asked if the new reservoir is on line.

Ed replied that it is on line but it is non-functional at this time. They were looking at an August start up date but a couple of issues came up regarding the coordination of the well field, the pump station and the reservoir. It took Ed longer than he thought it would to get the contractors to get together for information on how to get this going.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve the change orders in the amount of \$23,388.76. Councilor Schorer seconded the motion.

Mayor Hampton asked about the third million gallon tank.

Kevin stated that they would have to go through the same process that they went through for this one. It is in the works at this time. This is allowing us to do other projects as well for the safe drinking water and improved service.

R. Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), B. Leary (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

## 7.2 Ash Street Project

Kevin Urban stated that we have done what we can as far as the Public Works Department rebuilding the street. They have done all the digging for the project and the storm water. Now they have to have the curbs and sidewalks and the asphalt installed by licensed and bonded contractors.

Kevin stated that the lowest bid was from Emmanuel Earthworks for \$57,911.49. We do have the money on hand and it is in the budget.

Mayor Hampton stated that the state law requires us to accept the low bid unless we thought the low bidder was incapable of handling this project.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve the quote and contract with the low bidder, Emmanuel Earthworks Inc. for \$57,911.49. Councilor Schorer seconded the motion. Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Schorer (Aye), B. Leary (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

## 8.0 POLICE SERVICES

Chief Gomez reported that he was approached by Crimestoppers to offer us a "Tip Line" for free. Chief Gomez plans on doing a press release on this. They will give us \$250.00 that we can use for tips. We won't have to pay for a phone line.

Mayor Hampton asked about the Fall Fun Night.

Chief Gomez said the letters are ready to go out to area businesses. They are trying to do it earlier enough this year so that everyone can go to football game afterwards. Mayor Hampton encouraged the council to attend the event.

## **9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Fire Chief Tim Demers reported that they had a busy weekend. They had about 11 calls from Saturday through Sunday. He wanted to thank the community for their support and patience during the explosion on Tuesday. They had a lot of cleanup and investigations to do during this time. He also wanted to thank the police and public works.

## **10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES**

**Public Safety:** They will meet on the 29<sup>th</sup>.

**Chamber of Commerce:** Rayetta reported that they had a speaker from CVALCO come to the meeting. They also had people come and talk to them about the uptown coming event. Their next meeting will be on the 25<sup>th</sup>.

Judy Hampton talked to them about job shadowing with the Oakridge High School. They need information back from the local businesses.

Homecoming Week this year will September 27<sup>th</sup> through October 3<sup>rd</sup>.

**Rural Housing Rehabilitation Committee:** They had a meeting today and they are finishing up with the audit for Oakridge and it looks very good. They are going for a \$400,000.00 grant. There is still funding available for Oakridge.

Councilor Clark was invited to sit in on the meeting with the consortium.

Gordon reported that City Hall day will be Oct. 15<sup>th</sup>. They have had three out of four legislators confirm attendance. If the fourth one can't come, then a new date and place will need to be determined.

Mayor Hampton said that they need to discuss what they are going to bring up at the October 15<sup>th</sup> meeting so they are prepared.

Gordon stated that it is sponsored by the League of Oregon Cities and the priorities that they went through are what they would like to focus on.

**Watershed Council:** Mayor Hampton reported that this gets a little complicated so he will make this simple. Some have asked in the past why we don't fill up the reservoirs. It is not the Corps of Engineers that determine this fill rate. It is someone else. The Red Line on the attached Hills Creek Reservoir chart demonstrates what they are

allowed to put in the reservoir on any given day. The blue is what they do put in the reservoir based on rainfall and water flows.

Gordon explained that this red line is called the Rule Curve. This is something that was established by Congress over fifty years ago. It is in legislation and cannot be changed.

Mayor Hampton stated that this would be something to talk to the potential candidates about.

Gordon said they tried to change it a few years ago and the Department of Agriculture that is responsible for the Rule Curve said they aren't even going to think about it.

Mayor Hampton said with water becoming a precious commodity we need to preserve as much as possible.

Mayor Hampton reported that the Feds have been told to work on the fish passage past the dams. They are talking about trucking the salmon from Dexter and releasing them at a point in Lookout Reservoir that they determine is appropriate. They don't have a downstream plan right now. Congress has authorized this bill but they have not passed the funding bill.

Meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council October 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2008.

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Pamela S. Hart, City Recorder