



April 2, 2009
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: Don Hampton, Mayor
Amy Kordosky, Council President
Glenn Fortune
Randy Dreiling
Gerald Shorey
Rayetta Clark
Robert Moe

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

Mayor Hampton called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM

A moment in history: The 1959 Centennial Celebration initiated the Pony Express run from Ashland to Portland via Highway 99. Oakridge was a branch line to Eugene. The Cascade Saddle Club carried mail from their pony express post office where local residents mailed letters on Centennial stationary. Mayor Hampton named the Tree Planting Princesses for that year. Al Leighthouser, chairman of the festival, produced the buttons that year that read "Oakridge/Westfir Tree Centennial Tree Planting Festival April 25, 1959." Students from Westfir, Willamette City and Central elementary schools were to sell them with prizes for the classrooms that sold the most. The cost was 25 cents each. The Oakridge Telegram celebrated by publishing three pictures of local children as a way to have a good look at our future world builders.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT/TREE PLANTING PRINCESSES PRESENTATIONS

Rusty Ackland: P.O. Box 233 Oakridge: This month is Community Banking month. We like to recognize outstanding customers in the community, for the first week of April we would like to recognize the City of Oakridge Public Works Dept. They work hard at keeping our City beautified. We are coming up on Junk Amnesty week which is a big thing for our community. She presented Kevin with a plaque and a gift certificate for Figaro's Pizza.

Alicia Aguilar, last year's Tree Planting Festival Queen, introduced this year's Tree Planting Princesses. They are Lynlee Young, Tiffany Fine, Emily Martin, Amanda Volgardsen and Kayla Truelove.

The Princesses presented their speeches to the Council and audience.

Gordon congratulated the princesses and said they did a great job on their speeches.

Mayor Hampton wanted Alicia Davidson to explain how the election of the queen is going to be different this year.

Alicia Davidson said, "The Princesses will be voted on by different community groups around the city. They are also being judged by Alicia and at the Coronation."

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Randy Dreiling: I will be absent at the next meeting as I will be in California promoting Oakridge. It is not a done deal by any means, but the IMBA ride center did make it onto Representative DeFazio's appropriation requests. There is a chance it could be funded.

Gordon won't be able to attend the next meeting either. It is his grandchildren's first birthday.

Don Hampton: You have all received your Quarterly Reports. Please fill out both the Annual and Quarterly. They are due April 15, 2009. The Annual Statement of Economic Interest definitions are not always the same as our common definitions. For the new members of Council I would be happy to assist in the completion of your form.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Item 7.1 State Parks Grant

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Minutes of Regular Session of March 19, 2009

Councilor Clark moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Dreiling. A. Kordosky (Aye), R. Moe (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye) Motion Carried 7-0.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 Adoption of 2009 Goals

City Administrator Gordon Zimmerman indicated that at the request of the Council at the last meeting, at the suggestion of Councilor Shorey and Councilor Moe, we have moved five items from the short term goals list to the Administrative Issues list. They are in

process; for example, the bus stop cement pad has been poured. At Councilor Shorey's suggestion--since those five items are in process or about to be completed--we added them to the administrative issues list.

Mayor Hampton: Has this been reflected in the information in the packet?

Gordon: This has been reflected in the packet.

Councilor Fortune made a motion to remove the postponement of the adoption of goals from the last council meeting. Seconded by Councilor Shorey. R. Moe (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

Councilor Dreiling moved to adopt the 2009 Council Goals. Seconded by Councilor Clark. G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Moe (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye) Motion Carried 7-0.

6.2 MBO Facilities Permit

Councilor Randy Dreiling announced an actual conflict of interest due to the fact the permits are requested by his business.

Gordon: You have before you the staff report explaining the dates and requests from Mountain Bike Oregon for the use of Greenwaters Park and the estimate of the fees for both events.

Councilor Clark moved to approve the Oregon Adventures request to reserve Greenwaters Park for two Mt. Bike Oregon events July 16-19 and August 20-23, 2009. Seconded by Councilor Shorey.

Councilor Moe wanted to know what controls they are using to make sure minors do not consume alcohol at the event.

Mayor Hampton: This is a two phase deal. The first phase is for the Council to approve this and then before the permit is actually issued, the person requesting the permit would be submitting a response page to the rental agreement. We don't see the results of that. They will go to the City Administrator and if he is not satisfied with any of the 14 conditions, then he will not issue the permit.

Gordon: In the past what MBO has had is several people patrolling the area. There has never been a problem in the three years they have done this.

Chief Gomez: They usually hire our reserve police officers to do that.

Councilor Moe: He is bringing this up because people in the community have complained that there are no rules and it is open to kids being able to run through there.

Gordon: That is not true. We have had those concerns in the past, but it has never been a problem.

Councilor Shorey: Is this closing the park to the public?

Gordon: It is closing the park for reservations for the other facilities in the park. People can still go to the playground or the rest area. It is not excluding the public. There will just not be any other events in the park.

R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

6.3 Population Estimate Review

Gordon: For the last four years we have been asking for a coordinated population study from the County. The county decided to hire Portland State University. The PSU estimate is higher than the number we requested in our application. So we are happy. This is the first review. We don't know what will happen in the second review.

Mayor Hampton: You suggested in this report that an elected official go and he would be happy to go to that.

Gordon: I will let you know when this will occur.

Councilor Fortune: I thought it was in the first revision that their figures were low. Because for \$200,000 they didn't read all of the reports that they had?

Mayor Hampton: If you look at the first figures and you look at the second figures, I think a valid question would be, "Is this worth \$200,000?"

Gordon: The four cities that have been pushing this (Veneta, Junction City, Creswell and Oakridge) actually got higher numbers than we asked for. The ones that are politically active in this did not get the numbers that they wanted. I don't know what that means, either.

Councilor Fortune: What is going to happen when we blow the number away here in 2020?

Gordon: As I indicated in the staff report, every five years we have to do a coordinated population study. We will be able to demonstrate our population growth and the percentage will go up and we will be higher.

6.4 Charter Cable Bankruptcy

Gordon: Last Friday Charter Cable declared bankruptcy. In their petition for bankruptcy they did ask the judge to continue paying franchise fees and telecommunications taxes.

That is really all we know at this point. They are still up to date on everything. We don't have a claim against them. This was a Chapter 11 bankruptcy. This report was for your information only.

6.5 Budget Calendar

Councilor Clark moved to approve the Budget Calendar for Fiscal Year 2009-2010. Seconded by Councilor Dreiling.

Mayor Hampton: I have one question here. Because the budget committee consists of the council and an equal number of citizens, where are we concerning the citizens?

Gordon: We put in an ad in the paper for the vacancy. We have five vacancies.

Councilor Moe: Is this a paid position?

Gordon: No this is a volunteer position. If someone is interested and they only want to do one year, they can say they would rather take the one year slot and not the three year slot. The Council can go and recruit people.

Mayor Hampton: For the high school kids and at least one of the new council members, the Budget Committee is the first group that looks at the budget and makes an initial recommendation to the Council. The Council is the group that actually adopts the budget.

Kordosky (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Moe (Aye), R. Clark (Aye) Motion Carried 7-0.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Oregon State Parks Grant Resolution

Kevin Urban: If you need any questions answered, I will be happy to do so. This is basically two different grants. The Parks, Trails and Tree Board has already seen them and thinks they are a great idea. One is for a Master Parks Plan which the State is doing for the first time this year. Kevin is still working on one of them to get them out in the mail tomorrow. I thought it was going to be easy because we put in the grant in 2006. We did get that grant, but we put in playground equipment instead. Now they have changed their entire form. It is not quite as simple as I thought it was going to be. The other grant is for lighting in Osprey Park and some picnic area equipment down by the river and lights along the trail. We are looking at solar lighting.

Councilor Shorey asked if the Master Plan is already done.

Kevin: No. The application is almost done.

Councilor Clark: What is soft match?

Kevin: Soft match is not hard cash. It is any work that we do on the project. Kevin explained what a Parks Master Plan is to the Council.

Councilor Dreiling: The Parks board sent out a park survey. They got back a lot of responses for a survey.

Councilor Shorey: What is the total cost of the project for the Parks Master Plan?

Kevin: The total cost for the Parks Master Plan is a little over \$40,000. They will give us as much as \$25,000, and that is what we asked for. The consultant came in at a little over \$27,900, so the difference would be a little under \$3,000. The rest of the grant would be in soft match. We don't really have much money for parks, and that is why we would like to match it with soft match as much as we can.

Councilor Fortune: Will this Parks Master Plan include the areas of Urban Growth?

Kevin: They will take a look at it. They are going to take a look at the forecast that we have and look down the road to tell us if we need more parks or not. We also want to know what the citizens think. We don't have anything up on the hill. The skate park is going to be turned over to the city soon.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve the submission of grants to Oregon State Parks and adopt Resolution No. 05-2009. Seconded by Councilor Shorey. Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Dreiling (Aye), R. Moe (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

Police Chief Gomez: I was at the meeting for the 911 Center Consolidation Advisory Committee in Salem. In Lane County we have four 911 centers. The question has not been answered about what consolidation means. Hopefully by the next council meeting I will have an answer to that. A \$40,000 cut in our budget is a big bite for us. We might need to get a hold of our legislators and express our concerns. It was basically a zoo up there; no one could answer the question, "What exactly do you mean?"

Mayor Hampton: There are some valid concerns about the 911 centers in other parts of the State. You have got some that are across the street from each other. This is what they are looking at. He agrees that probably does not make sense. But here in the county we have them perfectly spaced east, west, north, and south. They make a lot of sense here in this county. I wish the legislature would just deal with the ones that don't make sense instead of trying to deal with all them at the same time.

Chief Gomez: Mayor, that is exactly what we are trying to get out of them. What direction do you want us to go?

Mayor Hampton: If we ended up with one 911 call center in Lane County, you could call and say you are on West 2nd Street. With the 911 center in Eugene, there would be too much time wasted on trying to find out where you actually live. Whereas, when you call 911 here, they know exactly where West 2nd Street is. There is no delay in trying to figure that out.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

Chief Demers: Nothing to add.

Mayor Hampton: Unfortunately, I had to use the service recently. The service I received from the ambulance crew and at the hospital were top notch. I have been a FireMed member for years thinking it was just a nice contribution to the fund. I did not think I would have to use it. This might be a message to the community--you never know when you are going to need these services. Anytime anyone talks to me about FireMed, I will tell them to sign up. Sooner or later you most likely will need the service.

Councilor Clark: I get people who have just moved into town and ask if they can still sign up for Fire Med.

Chief Demers: Yes, they can. We prorate the cost.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Lane Council of Governments Board – Mayor Hampton: We will be meeting later this month and the focus will be on Public Safety. The group is especially concerned about the lack of law enforcement in unincorporated areas.

Lane Regional Housing Rehabilitation – Councilor Clark: No meeting until June 25th, 2009.

Middle Fork Willamette Watershed Council – Mayor Hampton: The focus of the general meeting was the urban interface tree thinning. Mayor Hampton dropped off some information about protecting homes from fire. It gives homeowners ideas on how to keep a home safe from wild fires.

Oakridge LAMP Program – Loan Assistance for Micro-Producers – Councilor Moe: No meeting.

Lane Regional Air Pollution Authority – Councilor Fortune: Meet next Tuesday

Trails Committee – Councilor Dreiling: We had a meeting on Monday and talked about forming a 501(c)3. They discussed the IMBA meeting in May.

UPBEAT Board – Mayor Hampton: We had two new clients; we gave advice to one client. I just read in the newsletter that UPBEAT has another new client for the next meeting.

Team Oakridge – Mayor Hampton: Will meet next Wednesday at 4 pm

Public Safety – Councilors Fortune and Shorey: Officer Gerig has received his permit to purchase drugs for use in training the police dog. They talked about the 911 consolidation. One of the hot spots was that the Governor wants to rob the dedicated fund for \$8.1 million that is dedicated to 911 and put it in the General Fund Budget. The cattery project is moving ahead and should be in place before June. The Dead Mountain project for our communications equipment is coming along. We discussed how it would be funded and an intergovernmental agreement with Lane County. A COPS grant will be resubmitted by April 14th. We have received a grant for the emergency services department for three heart monitors. Part of that grant was a new exhaust system for the diesel engines. The school has cut funding for the school resource officer. A social host statute has initiated a bill in the legislature, and we think we should wait for that before we move forward.

Administration Committee – Councilor Kordosky: Gordon Zimmerman, Councilor Clark and I met and talked about the population review. We made the correction to the typo in Gordon’s contract. Councilor Clark said she and Amy both initialed where the correction was made.

Councilor Fortune said the new public works building is really looking nice out there.

At 8:07, the Council took a five minute recess before the Executive Session.

11.0 EXECUTIVE SESSION: ORS 192.660 (2) (e) Property Negotiations

ADJOURNMENT: After the Executive Session, the Council met in regular session and adjourned the meeting at 8:36 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council April 16, 2009.

Signed: _____
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: _____
Pamela S. Hart, City Recorder