



December 17, 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
Gerald Shorey
Rayetta Clark
Robert Moe (Absent)
Randy Dreiling (Absent)

Staff Present: Gordon Zimmerman, City Administrator
Tim Demers, Fire Chief
Louis Gomez, Police Chief
Jackie Baker, Assistant Planner

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

Mayor Hampton presented Rachel Spencer with a gift card from local businesses and thanked her for writing the "Oakridge History Moments" that were read at council meetings throughout the year for the Oregon 150th Sesquicentennial Celebration.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT – None.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS – None.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Gordon Zimmerman read an e-mail from the County concerning who would be the committee member to represent Oakridge on the Lane County Forum on the Area Commission on Transportation. Mayor Hampton and Gordon Zimmerman will serve as member and alternate.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting of December 2, 2009

Councilor Clark moved to approve the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Shorey. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 5-0.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 Public Hearing for Potential CDBG Projects

6.1.1 Public Input - None

6.1.2 Staff Input

This public hearing was called to hear suggestions for potential Community Development Block Grant projects for the City to consider. Gordon explained that the maximum CDBG grants awarded for specific projects like the Library (\$800,000), downtown restoration and revitalization (\$400,000), and the wastewater inflow and infiltration project (\$1,500,000). The WAC remodel is a little more complicated because the WAC houses seventeen different services and some of the services are not eligible for CDBG grants. Gordon said that some of the services are eligible like the Head Start and Preschool. The ineligible ones like the Justice Court make it more problematic.

The question of why a grant for the inflow and infiltration project was needed was asked. Gordon said that even though DEQ was requiring the project, the cost was about \$2.5 million. He said that it would be funded through a rate increase that was discussed before. A grant would lessen the amount of the increase.

Councilor Clark asked if the sewer system was not updated in the 1990's that was supposed to last for forty years. Gordon replied that the mid 90's was when the sewer plant was built. The collection system hasn't been done. Oakridge produces about 500,000 gallons of water per day but treats 2.5 half million gallons per day. That means that two million gallons of water are getting into the system through cracks in the piping where the water is collected and transported back to the sewer system. Councilor Clark asked what the bond was for. Gordon said it was for building the sewer plant across the river. Councilor Clark asked where the City was on repayment and Gordon said Oakridge would make the last payment on that in 2014. Gordon said the Rural Utilities Service would allow Oakridge to pay off the bond out of the new loan and that would be financed for forty years at two and a half percent. This would be about half of the percentage amount Oakridge is paying on the bond right now.

There was discussion about the sewer plant and if this would be a loan or bond.

6.1.3 Council Input

Councilor Clark said she would like to see the WAC remodeled.

Gordon explained that this would be hard to get a grant for this because some of the services in there are ineligible. (DMV, Justice Court etc...) We can't figure out how to

talk the Federal Government into letting us do it all at once because there are excluded activities that the CDBG grants do not or can't be spent on.

Councilor Clark said we need to see what we can do because this is the closest thing we have to a community building.

The council agreed to try to fund the Library first and then the downtown revitalization. We will wait on the inflow and infiltration project until we have more engineering information.

6.2 RTMP Funds for 2010

Staff needs direction from the council on how to spend the \$12,918.00.

Mayor Hampton recommended giving the Chamber \$10,000.00 and holding back the rest. He would like to see money for park renovations, restrooms, benches, and so on.

Gordon stated that they did budget the \$10,000.00 for the Chamber.

Councilor Clark asked about giving some money for uptown revitalization.

There was discussion on how each community receives the money. We need to look at how they come to the conclusion about how much to give.

The council agreed with Mayor Hampton on how to distribute the money.

Gordon asked if there was any way to give the Chamber more money. They have been receiving the same amount for years.

Mayor Hampton said he would like them to stay hungry and maybe become more financially independent.

6.3 Audit Recommendations

The staff has found the Internal Controls document that was out together by Pam Hart. This should answer the Council/audit questions.

Councilor Shorey asked if these were policies.

Gordon said they are procedures.

Mayor Hampton said to go ahead and take action to adopt these as policies at our next meeting.

6.4 Res. 15-2009 Setting Appeal Fee

Gordon said that Senate Bill 915 was passed that allows people to appeal building inspection citations to the board of appeals. The League of Oregon Cities model ordinance has been used to develop the ordinance we have before us. Before we adopt the ordinance, we must set an appeal fee. Staff is suggesting \$250.00.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve Res. 15-2009 setting a fee for a building inspection appeal process. Seconded by Councilor Clark. A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion Carried 5-0.

6.5 First Reading Ord. 897 Building Inspection Appeals Process

Mayor Hampton recommended that they approve this read by title only.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve the first reading of Ord. 897 establishing an administrative penalty and procedures per Senate Bill 915. Seconded by Councilor Clark.

Councilor Fortune read Ordinance No. 897 by title only; An Ordinance amending Ordinance No 843 establishing an Administrative penalty and procedures per Senate Bill 915; and declaring an emergency.

Councilor Fortune moved to approve the first reading of ordinance 897 establishing an administrative penalty and procedures per senate bill 915. Seconded by Councilor Clark. Councilor Shorey (Nay), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 4-1.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES - None

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

Chief Gomez said that Councilors Moe and Dreiling asked him to look into signage for the Diamond View Park requiring everyone to wear helmets. Chief Gomez gave out a copy of a sign that he proposes. It is within State statutes.

Mayor Hampton asked if it would be possible to enforce adults to wear helmets.

Chief Gomez said it is possible, but it is also appealable because we are being more restrictive than State statutes. His recommendation is to stick with State statutes.

There was discussion on City liability.

Mayor Hampton recommended getting volunteers to help put up the signs. Kids are most likely not to vandalize something they were a part of building.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

9.1 Staffing Level Discussion

There are some changes in staffing at the Fire Department. The individual that was going to have back surgery is considering postponing that.

The question that we need to look at is do we continue to offer Advanced Life Support (ALS) service where we require a paramedic; or do we go to Basic Life Support (BLS) services which is intermediate paramedic level which would reduce our costs by reducing our staffing.

Mayor Hampton said maybe by budget time we will have a better idea of who will be here.

Gordon stated that this is a serious issue that the Public safety Committee has been looking at. The National health care resolutions could impact us too. Gordon just wanted the council to be aware of the problem that we are facing.

Councilor Fortune asked if this is on anyone's agenda.

Chief Demers said that the American Ambulance Association has introduced a bill attempting to keep the rural status which would help up maintain our revenues. Until Congress votes, we won't know.

Councilor Shorey reported that intermediate life support is not basic life support; it is one step below advanced life support. We have been looking at this for over a year, trying to figure out how to attack this. He does not think the community will support the level of service. He suggests putting together a comprehensive plan.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Chamber of Commerce: They met Monday night at Big Mountain Pizza. They had their elections; four people were elected to the board. There were five people on the ballot.

LRAPA: The board will discuss who should be represented on the board at the next meeting and possible legislative changes to the make up of the board.

Regional Fiber Consortium: The board had a telephone meeting to approve the transfer of funds to Springfield because Springfield is the fiscal agent. Now they can pay for the grant application.

LCOG: Mayor Hampton will no longer be on the executive committee as of January. They are working with the City of Canby on Bio-fuel projects using grass seed straw mixed with unused food. The board decided to keep the member dues the same so there will be no rate increase for 2010.

Update on Census: In regards to the Post office box issue under the complete count program, there is no national agreement between the US Census Bureau and the US Postal Service to ensure census questionnaires are delivered to each post office box.

The City of Florence was told they could do an occupant mailing and have a census form placed in each post office box for a \$2,500 permit fee.

Councilor Clark asked if we could put them in our water bills.

Mayor Hampton said it seems to be up to each Postmaster and ours has told us more than once that he is willing to forward those.

Mayor Hampton stated that an attempt was made to have GPS equipped staff physically visit every address in the nation. Approximately 18 months ago LCOG provided the census bureau an updated list of Lane County addresses to assist in this project. Unfortunately the field personnel did not manage to physically visit each address and has subsequently decided to remove any addresses that were not located in the field. We have received a list of 11,000 Lane County addresses the census bureau wishes to delete from our master list. We are currently in the process of appealing this determination.

ADJOURNMENT: The meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council January 7, 2010.

Signed: _____
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: _____
Jackie Baker, Assistant City Recorder