



January 6, 2011  
City Council Regular Session  
City Council Room  
48318 E. First Street, Oakridge OR 97463  
7:00 p.m.



# MINUTES

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## 1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Council Present: Don Hampton, Mayor  
Amy Kordosky, Council President  
Rayetta Clark  
Gerald Shorey  
Ernest Baszler  
Daniel Barclay  
Glenn Fortune

Staff Present: Gordon Zimmerman, City Administrator  
Tim Demers, Fire Chief  
Louis Gomez, Police Chief  
Kevin Urban, Community Services Director (Absent)  
Ruthann Plumlee, Finance Director/City Recorder

Mayor Hampton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Pledge of Allegiance was said.

City Recorder Ruthann Plumlee swore in the returning Mayor Donald E. Hampton, new Councilor Ernest Baszler, and returning Councilors Rayetta Clark and Glenn Fortune.

## 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT –

Larry Phipps – 76587 Westoak Rd – Asked the Council to include in their goals for the coming two years Emergency Medical Services. The City needs doctors as we only have one now and that would be the best thing that could be done for the City and its residents.

Karon Tiller - 47596 Riverview - She said Sally Shaw and herself gave a dinner for residents that did not have any place to go for Christmas dinner. They rented the WAC and did not have enough tables and chairs and discovered some electrical outlets did not work. She would appreciate if next year things could work a little better.

Debra M. Allen - 48274 Hills St. - She feels that the City Administrator is not doing what he can to bring industry to Oakridge. She says there has not been any forward progress and the Council should see that the City moves forward.

Rustie Ackland - 48265 E. Commercial - Appeared as the President of the Kiwanis Club. She wanted to publicly thank the City for their efforts in getting the Kiwanis signs posted at each end of Oakridge on Highway 58. They have taken a picture of the signs, which one includes the beautiful "Welcome to Oakridge" sign, and they will be sent to the Kiwanis Builders magazine for

possible inclusion in the publication. The Kiwanis appreciates their efforts and thanks the City for its help.

James Affa - 76340 Garden Rd. - He wanted to make a few comments on the City Administrator's contract. He handed out a letter to the Council. In summary he wants to see the contract reviewed carefully before renewal.

John Ryon - 47735 W 2<sup>nd</sup> St. - He wanted to recommend Mr. Hadley to fill the vacant Council chair and said that first year police in Ocala, Florida, make less than our first year police. He said we pay way too much money to our police department.

### **3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS –**

Councilor Shorey asked when the Council was going to receive a Statement of Revenue and Expenditures. He asked to receive one monthly and it has not been in the packets for the last two months. He also has questions about the audit process. Mayor Hampton said those questions can be answered in the Administrative section.

Councilor Kordosky wanted to thank the citizens for coming to the meeting. She said this was the most people she has ever seen attend a Council meeting.

Councilor Baszler also has questions about the audit process.

Mayor Hampton said the deadline for the LCOG dinner is the next Council meeting date and if anyone is going, to make reservations now. He said traditionally the City pays for the Councilor to attend and the spouse is the Councilor's responsibility to pay for.

Mayor Hampton signed a proclamation declaring February 2011 Kiwanis Children's Cancer Cure Month.

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

Gordon said that 6.9 Audit and 7.1 WAC Fee Waiver Request should be added to the agenda.

### **5.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

#### **5.1 Minutes of Regular Meeting December 16, 2010**

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion. G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

### **6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

#### **6.1 Appoint New Council Member for Two Year Term**

Mayor Hampton said before nominating and voting for a new Councilor, he would like to let the Councilors, if they choose, to lobby for a candidate or express a certain point of view. He asked Councilor Kordosky to pick a number between one and ten. Councilor Kordosky chose eight. Mayor Hampton asked the City Recorder to go to the eighth voting box on the Council vote papers and call out the Council names in the order appearing in that box.

Councilor Fortune declined to make a comment.

Councilor Clark supports Sue Bond for the Councilor position as she was the next candidate with the most votes from the election in November after Councilor Baszler.

Councilor Shorey declined to comment.

Councilor Baszler supports Donald Hadley because he has a lot of good ideas.

Councilor Kordosky supports Daniel Barclay. She has spent a lot of time going over the applications from the candidates and he has a degree in Criminal Justice and a bachelors degree in Political Science and Constitutional Law.

Mayor Hampton gave his list of qualifications for the ideal candidate.

1. Be able to work in a group.
2. To not be a single issue person or have a personal agenda.
3. Have the ability to listen and process the information.
4. Be personally responsible and attend all the meetings or to let the Council know if they will not be able to attend.
5. Have the ability to keep confidential information confidential.
6. Be a good communicator.

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to appoint Sue Bond to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilor Dreiling. This term shall end in two years when a new Council is seated after the November 2012 election. No second.

**Motion:** Councilor Fortune moved to appoint Daniel Barclay to fill the vacancy created by the resignation of Councilor Dreiling. This term shall end in two years when a new Council is seated after the November 2012 election. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion.

Councilor Fortune said he has had conversations with Mr. Barclay before and he likes his presentation and qualifications on his volunteer application. He thinks Mr. Barclay will be someone the Council could work with.

Councilor Clark said she said at the last meeting that the Council should go down the election results list to fill the vacancy from the people that had run for office and got the most votes after Councilor Baszler. She said that if Sue Bond did not want the position then Mr. Barclay was the next in line with total number of votes.

A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Nay), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 5-1.

## **6.2 Swearing in of New Councilor**

While waiting for Mr. Barclay to reach the front of the room, Mayor Hampton said that for the candidates that were not appointed for the Council seat that there are committees that need citizens on them like the Budget Committee, where you could learn a lot about the City in a short amount of time. Mayor Hampton said citizen members are needed on some of the standing committees also. A person on one of those committees could learn how a department within the City works.

City Recorder Ruthann Plumlee swore in the new Councilor Daniel Barclay.

### **6.3 Election of Council President**

**Motion:** Councilor Kordosky moved to appoint Councilor Shorey as Council President. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion. R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye). The motion carried 7-0.

### **6.4 Resolution 1-2011 Designating Check Signers**

**Motion:** Councilor Fortune moved to approve Resolution 1-2011 designating check signers for the City's financial institutions. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye). The motion carried 7-0.

Gordon said for the public's information the check signers will be the Mayor, Council President, Finance Director/City Recorder, and the City Administrator. This is designated by position and not by name.

Mayor Hampton said he read that one elected official and one staff member will be the two signers on checks.

### **6.5 LCOG Regional Voice Discussion**

Mayor Hampton said that the Council had looked over the information before and agreed on a list of legislative concepts to submit along with other cities for LCOG. The letter in the packet concerns the top four issues that LCOG will be the regional voice for during legislative sessions. He said this is the last chance to make any changes.

Councilor Barclay said the section on property tax overhaul was unclear to him. Mayor Hampton said these are property tax rates that have not been changes for forty or so years.

Councilor Fortune said they need to take a look at the whole system overall, not just ways to improve property taxes.

The consensus by the Council was to make no changes.

### **6.6 Charter Communications Franchise Direction**

Mayor Hampton said there are four choices for the problem.

Councilor Baszler moved to continue the franchise agreement with Charter Communications without an agreement. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion. D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Nay), Mayor Hampton (Aye) E. Baszler (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Shorey (Nay). Motion carried 5-2.

## **6.7 Approval of New Contract for City Administrator**

Councilor Baszler asked for an extension to further study the contract.

Gordon said it is part of his contract to present his contract to the new Council and they have until June 30<sup>th</sup> to approve or disapprove the contract.

Mayor Hampton said he would suggest, due to the not quite accurate information presented tonight, or information that is not quite complete, that it would be worth the Council's time to look it over before making any decisions.

Councilor Clark suggested the Council Retreat as time to look it over. Mayor Hampton said there is a full schedule for that meeting already.

Mayor Hampton said it would be discussed at the next meeting, and the next, until things got approved or reworked. He would like the Council to look it over and for any citizens that have any concerns to call the Councilors with questions.

## **6.8 City of Oakridge/LCOG Waiver of Conflict**

Mayor Hampton said this is concerning the City's law firm representing them regarding the proposed library and represents LCOG as general legal counsel also. This letter states that there will not be prejudicial treatment of one party over the other.

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to approve the consent to the terms of representation from the Local Government Law Group. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion. G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

## **6.9 Audit**

Gordon said that thanks to Enron, several years ago the auditing standards changed. Auditors used to prepare the financial statements and audit them but are now no longer able to audit their own work. Cities and companies now have to have an independent accountant or CPA (the City cannot afford to hire a CPA to do the Finance Director duties) to prepare the financial statements and notes for the auditors. The City has also changed Finance Directors three times and changed over to newer accounting software, which the setup of that took about a year and a half. Gordon said a combination of all this is what has put the City behind in the audit completion. The City has completed the 2008/2009 fiscal year and the accountant is preparing the financial statements now. The fiscal year 2009/2010 is almost ready for the accountant to receive.

Mayor Hampton asked how much the audit process costs the City. Gordon said the City pays the auditing firm between \$23,000 and \$25,000 and we pay the accountant by the hour for an estimated total of \$3,000 to \$4,000. Mayor Hampton said that is a big amount but this is required by law and the City does not have a choice in the matter.

Gordon said the City did put out a bid request for the City's auditing and only one firm bid, which is the one the City currently has. He said the previous accountant/auditor of twenty-seven years for the city retired from doing auditing.

Councilor Shorey asked how much the City paid the previous accountant/auditor. Gordon said two years ago it was about \$21,000. Councilor Shorey said the City is paying \$7,000 more now. Gordon said the City is paying that for the accountant's portion of the process.

Councilor Shorey asked if there are other accountants out there that work cheaper. Gordon said it's not a matter of working cheaper, but of the time already put in by our current accountant to learn the new accounting system software, how it works, and where to find the information needed. The City would lose money if it was to change to even a cheaper accountant because that person would have to start over and learn the system and City's accounts. Gordon said the City will stick with our current accountant until this audit is complete.

Councilor Baszler asked how come the City got behind. Gordon said the City used to have a DOS based accounting system and three years ago we converted to a Windows based accounting system. The conversion took about a year and a half. The City has had two or three staff changes also.

## **7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **7.1 WAC Fee Waiver Request**

Gordon said Dr. Wood wants to donate a ping pong table to the WAC and give lessons to children a few nights/days per week. He will provide the paddles, balls, and instructions. He would like a waiver for the room rental fee because he can't afford to rent the room for a couple hours per night. Gordon said he is willing to work with him. Dr. Wood suggested Room 10 but Gordon said he will suggest back to him to use the gymnasium so he doesn't have to move items out of the way each time he wants to use the facility.

Councilor Kordosky asked if he is going to be charging a fee to give lessons. Gordon said no, he is not.

Councilor Clark moved to waive the room usage fee at the WAC for Dr. Wood for ping pong. Councilor Shorey seconded the motion. R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye). The motion carried 7-0.

Councilor Barclay said this is a good thing that Dr. Wood is doing and giving back to the kids in the community.

Councilor Kordosky asked about liability. Mayor Hampton said it is like anyone else renting a room at the WAC. They use the facility at their own risk.

## **8.0 POLICE SERVICES**

Chief Gomez said first and foremost that Chief Painter of Rainier, Oregon, was killed in the line of duty. He said he is offended when people say they are paid too much for the job they do. He said police put their lives on the line everyday to protect citizens and that Rainier only has a population of 1,825 people.

He said secondly that they have put in some new security cameras like the one in the Council chambers behind the dais. He said more are going up around the outside of City Hall and inside

the building as well. They also have some new lights in the police station in the jail area for risk management so they can see the prisoners better and make sure they don't harm themselves.

Mayor Hampton said that in Eugene, landlords can get an email update if their rental property has gotten any citations or emergency calls so they know what is going on with their property. He said since we have so many absentee landlords in this area it would be a possible opportunity to know how their property is being taken care of.

Chief Gomez said they do something like this with on site managers in the area. He said if they are called out for code enforcement or police calls, they fill out a 3x5 card, provided by the on-site manager, letting them know if they were called out to the property, what they were there for, and put it into an available drop slot.

Mayor Hampton asked Chief Gomez if he could bring it up to the Safety Committee about offering this service. He said he could check with Eugene and see how they went about implementing this.

## **9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chief Demers said they had a very successful light parade. They took in 52 toys, 35 stuffed animals, 350 pounds of food, and \$132 in cash. They were able to roll those into the Toys for Tots which is organized by Steve Wolfe and uses the fire department as a place to hold it and for the volunteers. He wanted to thank the community, the City, all the fire volunteers and staff for what they did.

Mayor Hampton called on Rustie Ackland for a report on the Tree of Joy. Rustie said that they served over 81 families which added up to about 175 tags on the tree. She said this is the first year all the tags were removed from the tree. They had to but for five children, to add another present, and a couple tags were not returned or filled. One family did not pick up their gifts due to moving out of Oakridge. Rustie said this shows that in our community, even in these tough times, people find a way to give to the children in our community. She said they are very thankful for the people here.

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

Administration – No meeting.

Community Services – No meeting.

Public Safety – Spent some time on the Justice Court working to see if Oakridge can possibly take over the running of the court. There is no closure action yet. The committee is working on plans for funding, scheduling, et cetera.

The cattery project is all but done except some wiring. Water and sewer is connected. It's just a matter of cleaning and tying up some loose ends.

A discussion has taken place concerning speed enforcement cameras in the community. Councilor Shorey has researched said that communities that put them in either like them or take them out.

Shorey said they were provided with a crime data comparison to see how Oakridge stacked up against other cities of similar size. He asked Chief Gomez to explain the rating. Chief Gomez said Oakridge has one of the lowest crime rates in the state. The crime index is 87, which means Oakridge is safer than any other like sized city. He said that the rating for Creswell and Junction City are much lower than ours. He said that the information can be found at citydata.com.

Councilor Kordosky said Oakridge's crime rate is so low because we have our own police department. She asked if those two cities had their own police departments.

Chief Gomez said that those cities contract their police services with the Sheriff department.

Lane County Fire Defense Board, in conjunction with LCOG, has been trying to come up with a proposal or a study to look at formation and annexation of the ambulance service districts. He asked Chief Demers to expand on the progress or results.

Chief Demers said they commissioned a study by LCOG for the efficacy of putting all the ambulances in one group and have it run by a single entity, farm out ambulances to each place based on service level whether they could do that and support the infrastructure. The result was that the situation did not look better that way than it is now.

LCOG – Mayor Hampton gave a reminder to sign up for the appreciation dinner.

Chamber of Commerce – no meeting.

Watershed Council – meet next week for the yearly celebration in Lowell on January 19<sup>th</sup>. The Lane County Mayor's will be meeting in Coburg and he will be missing that meeting.

LRAPA – meet at end of January.

Library – meet January 18<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 p.m. in Council Chambers.

OEDAC –will meet January 12<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 a.m. for the development of the website presentations.

Team Oakridge – meet January 14<sup>th</sup> at 4:00 p.m.

Regional Fiber – no report.

Parks, Trails and Trees – no report.

Mayor Hampton said he will be putting committee assignments in councilor boxes. He said hopefully by January 11<sup>th</sup> everyone will have an idea on what they would like to volunteer for. He said if there are no volunteers for a committee, there will be appointments made whether they want to be volunteered or not. He said there are some committees that can be removed from the list as they won't be meeting any time soon.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Council adjourned at 8:21 p.m.

**REOPEN REGULAR SESSION:** Mayor Hampton reopened the regular session at 8:45 p.m.



Mayor Hampton said he and Gordon went to the county swearing in and State of the County address. Commissioner Handy read the accomplishments for 2010 and Commissioner Stewart read the goals for 2011.

Commissioner Handy said one of the accomplishments for 2010 was a balanced budget with no new taxes. Handy also said they hired deputies for rural patrol which the Mayor was unaware of. Economic development accomplishments gave money to a brewing company to get them started, gave money to a company for an electric car, to Next Step Recycling, and Camas Country Mill located in Junction City. They talked about the expansion of the community health center, known as Riverstone, which involved relocating it to Springfield and making it larger.

Another accomplishment Commissioner Handy talked about was the formation of the Area Commission on Transportation. He said they did purchase a new public health building at 7<sup>th</sup> and Charnelton. He thought they did a good job on the H1N1 immunizations. He talked about protecting livability and the work done at the fairgrounds and the ice rink. He talked about improving the food security of the county, but was unclear how that was going to be done. He talked about recycling and human rights.

Commissioner Stewart looked ahead and was concerned about the budget. The two goals he listed were:

1. Get in shape - survey about 3,000 people.
2. Leadership - hire a new county administrator.
3. Building partnerships - increased outreach to cities.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Council adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council January 20, 2011.

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

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_  
Ruthann Plumlee, City Recorder