



September 15, 2011
City Council Regular Session
Oakridge High School Auditorium
7:00 pm



MINUTES

1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER

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

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

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

Mayor Hampton reminded the audience to treat the auditorium with respect and said a good portion of the senior class was in attendance to start on their requirement to attend a number of Council meetings and School Board meetings for graduation. He also reminded the audience of the City Council's Rules of Decorum.

The Pledge of Allegiance was said.

Mayor Hampton said there are four people signed up to speak so he will allow three minutes per person.

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Floyd Staley - 76854 High Prairie Rd. - talked about God and the Bible.

Jess Henrys - 47737 Portal Dr. - asked the Council if they could move the discussion of the forensic accountant up on the agenda so the audience would have a chance to comment and ask questions during the Council discussion.

Mayor Hampton said this is his time to discuss and ask questions.

Mr. Henrys said they don't know what is going to be said and that makes it hard to ask questions. He said they could be asked in a reasonable and proper manner during the Council discussion.

Mayor Hampton said if that is the will of the Council, it could be decided later on. Right now it is your time for your three minutes.

Mr. Henrys said he doesn't have any questions at the moment but he strongly recommends that, regardless of cost, the Council engage a forensic auditor. He said the forensic auditor is not there to indict or accuse anyone, but they are there to go over every fact and figure to make sure that nothing is missing, that nothing is out of place. He said a lot of the times they find things that have been marked in the wrong column. It's not a matter of fault it's a matter of what truly happened. He said this auditor needs to have an arm's-length relationship. In other words, you don't want a forensic auditor from the same firm as the accountant. Mr. Henrys said in his view, in an effort you regain the public's trust, he would like to see the Council hire a forensic auditor as the financial review is not going to be sufficient.

Gene Hilleman - 47800 Short St. - asked about Atherton status. He also asked why Chuck Kurnick is still on the payroll. He already retired once, is not the only one that knows the water system, and he doesn't need a truck specifically for him. He should be driving his own truck back and forth to work.

James Affa - 76340 Garden Rd. - read a paragraph from the January 7, 2010, Council meeting minutes in regards to a shortfall. Agenda item 6.2 Resolution 3-2010 authored by Gordon Zimmerman. He said there was a shortfall in the General Fund, Sewer Fund, and Emergency Services Fund. He said this resulted in fee increases in Resolution 3-2010, effective March 1, 2010.

Mr. Affa said in regards to the police department issue made by the recall group. He said he doesn't know where that is coming from. As for the matter of Jerry Shorey, he was the only one that showed up and asked why he was being recalled. He said after an hour and forty-five minutes he left and was not happy when he left but he believes Shorey finally understood. He said the Council is responsible for what Mr. Zimmerman does.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Mayor Hampton asked the City Administrator to update the Council on the Atherton issue.

Gordon said Atherton bought the 1.1 acre lot that contained the electrical building at the Industrial Park. They were going to bring in a printing operation which they did for a while. That failed or went away. They were going to bring in a boat manufacturer, but the economy changed and that went away. They still own the building and are making payments on the building.

Mayor Hampton said the Council has a policy of not serving as a bank for people that buy property from the City. They have to get financing somewhere else or pay cash.

Councilor Shorey said he is happy to see everyone here. It makes his heart happy. He asked if anyone was tired of the recall stuff yet. He said he is. He said what bothers him is some people have gotten divisive, negative, and did some name calling which doesn't serve any purpose. He asked if everyone got their ballots okay as there was that little problem.

Councilor Barclay said he agreed with an article written by Sue Bond which said being a Councilor is a thankless job. He said the only question posed by the recall was a question of confidence; can this Council fix it. He went through and responded to a letter written by Randy Dreiling that was sent out with the *Dead Mountain Echo* flyer.

Councilor Baszler said he doesn't know how he and Councilor Barclay got involved in the letter in the flyer, but he is proud that the money didn't disappear on their watch. He said they have tried everything to do what's right and he has nothing against the recall and nothing against the Council.

Councilor Barclay disagreed with Councilor Baszler. He said they took the watch as is. It happened on their watch, too.

Mayor Hampton asked the City Administrator to address the Chuck Kurnick issue again.

Gordon said Chuck Kurnick is a 40-year employee for the City; he has retired. Because he's retired he is working for the City half time and earning half wages and half benefits as far as vacation and sick leave. He is saving us 75% in costs of wages and PERS contributions because he doesn't get PERS contributions because he is retired. As far as driving his truck home, he is available 24/7 with that truck to address any water leaks or sewer drainage problems. It is cost effective to have him drive that truck home.

Mayor Hampton said to address Mr. Henry's issue about why public can't talk later, the Council used to have public comment at the end of the meeting. People complained they had to sit through the entire meeting before they could comment, so the Council moved it to the front of the meeting. He said no matter where public comment was put in the agenda, someone would not be happy with it.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

None

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Hampton wanted to clear up what a consent agenda was. He said they put things on a consent agenda they feel are not going to be highly controversial. He said any Councilor can remove any item on the consent agenda. Tonight there's only one item on there and that's the minutes from the last Council meeting. He believes it was back in 2007 when he said he didn't want any financial items on the consent agenda. Somebody misinterpreted that as him saying he didn't want any financial item on the agenda. He wants the financial items listed separately so the Council has to say what they are and talk about them by name.

5.1 Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of September 1, 2011

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to approve the minutes of the regular meeting of September 1, 2011. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion.

Councilor Barclay said in the first paragraph of section 3.0 Mayor and Council Comments, the year should be 1859, not 1959.

Mayor Hampton said if there were no objections from the Council that would be a friendly amendment. He saw no objections.

G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Ayer), R. Clark (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 Audit Discussion

Gordon wanted to clarify for Councilor Shorey a “disclaimer of opinion” versus a “qualified opinion.” A disclaimer of opinion is a qualified opinion it’s just a general qualified opinion versus a specific qualified opinion.

Mayor Hampton said that is on page 11 of your packet.

Councilor Barclay said at the last Council meeting, or the Council meeting last month, it was a 7-0 vote that the Council wanted a qualified opinion on the 2008-2009 audit. He said it came back as a disclaimer of opinion. His question was is a disclaimer of opinion a qualified or unqualified audit. To the best of his knowledge the answer was a qualified audit.

Councilor Shorey said on the 12th of August they received an auditor opinion from our auditor, Tamara Graham, and she stated “a disclaimer of opinion would be the simplest and most reasonable route in my opinion. Basically in this type of opinion we state the scope of our work. While it’s not sufficient to enable us to express, and we do not express opinions on basic financial statements or supplementary information. A qualified opinion states that the financial statements are fairly presented except for: we would then be required to explain why we were qualifying opinions and go into detail regarding the discrepancies in the General and Street Tax Funds.” Councilor Shorey said that is what they voted on. They did not vote on a disclaimer of opinion.

Councilor Shorey said then on the 15th of August there was notification that “at the request of Mayor Hampton we are prepared to move forward and disclaim opinions on the 2008-2009 and 2009-2010 financial statements and due to the accounting issues discussed previously this seems to be the most reasonable course of action to take. This will allow the City to move forward to 2010-2011 year audit and get back on track with timely audits report filings with the Secretary of State. After many hours invested from all parties and sorting through the financial data and reconciling accounts we appreciate the commitment from everybody involved.”

Councilor Shorey said the original motion was to get a qualified opinion on the 2008-2009 audit year. It did not include the 2009-2010.

Mayor Hampton thinks the reason they are doing the disclaimer of opinion is because there’s not enough information for the auditor to come to what they usually define as a qualified audit. In order to make progress with the other two audits they had to do something with the first one.

Mayor Hampton asked if everyone received a copy of the update, as he forgot to have Gordon do it. It does not say they have the final report from the auditors. This is saying that an email received two weeks ago said they are taking a final look at the 2008-2009 audit; it’s in the hands of Mr. Rogers and they are waiting on him to get done and send it to them. They have received no more communication from the auditors since that time.

Councilor Baszler asked if there was a time limit on getting the audit done. Mayor Hampton said they are waiting for the review to get done and the audit sent to them. He said there is no way to hurry these things.

6.2 Approval of MBO Facilities Permit

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to approve the Oregon Adventures request to reserve Greenwaters Park for two Mt. Bike Oregon events July 19-22 and August 16-19, 2012. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion.

Councilor Shorey said he was the Mt. Bike Oregon event this year and he was impressed by the organization and how well it was set up and the behavior of the people. He said he was unsure if the permit allows people to spread out into the rest area and if it does, then the rest area is part of the park. Gordon said that is what they have interpreted.

Councilor Shorey said that the permit includes the rest area so they can utilize the entire rest area for their event. Gordon said not all the rest area. They have to maintain a portion of the rest area for people coming through to use it.

Councilor Barclay was wondering why the permit was submitted so early and said if it was because the Council makeup may change and might be against his business.

Councilor Clark also wondered why he was submitting his permit so early so she asked Mr. Dreiling. Mr. Dreiling said it's because the registration forms go out in October and they go out worldwide. He wants to make sure he has the reservation before receiving registrations back.

Mayor Hampton told Councilor Barclay if he remembers we rejected an applicant because he was late in submitting his permit. He said this allows the City to do scheduling ahead of time.

Councilor Baszler called for the question.

A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.3 Approval of Accounting Policies

Councilor Shorey moved to approve the Accounting Internal Control Policies/Procedures as formatted as Chapter 24 of the City of Oakridge's Personnel Manual. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion.

Councilor Kordosky asked about page 24 of the Council packet, third paragraph, and the last four lines.

Gordon explained that the locking cash boxes from the front desk are locked in a file drawer in the Finance Director's locked office at the end of the day. He said deposits are made daily so there is only one hundred dollars in the boxes at the end of the day.

R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D> Barclay (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.4 Review of Surplus Property List

Mayor Hampton said on page 33 of the Council packet there is a general listing with color coding. Then there is separation of categories including City property, Parks & Recreation property, OIP property, and Infrastructure property which includes streets, etc. The ones in yellow are sellable property on page 35.

Councilor Baszler asked if the money goes back to the Industrial Park. Gordon said yes, when a piece of property is sold that money goes back into the fund that originally purchased the property.

Mayor Hampton said in property that can be surplus, the total value is \$1,986,984 with the 2010 Assessed Value at \$1,134,172.

Councilor Shorey thanked the City Administrator for preparing the report in an easy to understand and read format. He said some meetings back he said the City should be selling, or putting on the market, assets the City could sell because of the financial situation. He said there is one property that already has an offer and there are processes it has to go through. It has to be declared surplus, then it has to go to a public hearing, then it goes on the market. He asked Gordon if this was correct.

Gordon said that was correct. He also said that the Council could do each parcel as surplus or the whole package as surplus and market it all. Gordon said they do not have an actual offer on any property. He has a verbal offer but no written offer on property number nine on the list.

Motion: Councilor Shorey moved to declare all the properties on page 35 of the Council packet highlighted in yellow surplus. Councilor Clark seconded the motion.

Gordon said if he could clarify the motion; could Councilor Shorey direct the City Administrator to begin the process of declaring the properties on page 35 of the Council packet highlighted in yellow surplus. He said the City needs to hold a public hearing before they can declare property surplus.

Mayor Hampton asked Councilor Shorey if he wanted the Willamette Activity Center, which is number seven on the list, declared surplus?

Councilor Shorey said yes.

Councilor Barclay asked if the Hogrefe property was purchased with industrial park funds. Gordon said yes it was.

Councilor Barclay said if the City sells industrial park property the money goes back to the industrial park with the ultimate goal of the City owning the industrial park outright--correct? Gordon said the original grant from 1995 from the Northwest Forest Initiative said the City owns the property. The Council has the opportunity to lease or sell property in the industrial park.

Councilor Barclay asked if the money generated from the industrial park goes back to the industrial park, to satisfy the grant terms so the City would own the industrial park outright, but we are taking money from the industrial park to purchase property outside the industrial park.

Gordon said we are not buying any property.

Councilor Barclay said items eight and nine aren't in the industrial park.

Gordon said the Hogrefe property was continuous to the industrial park and the thought process was to include them in the industrial park which zoning has not been done because it's outside the City limits. The original proposal was, when they do the annexation of all the properties that the City owns that are outside the City limits to bring them in that would be brought into the industrial park because it fronts Fish Hatchery Road, which is the east entrance to the industrial park. It was intended to become part of the industrial park. That is why the OIP bought that property.

Councilor Barclay said beyond that we do have property we don't need and we do need some revenues. He said it seems like a good plan and he agrees with Councilor Shorey that this report is easier to follow.

Gordon said if there is a consensus then we will begin the process to declare this surplus.

Mayor Hampton said he believes the only other option that we have with money we get from selling industrial park property is to give it away, to DEQ or USDA.

Gordon said USDA is the one that funded the purchase. All the property that we have sold recently that belonged to the industrial park, USDA has allowed us to keep it as long as we reinvested back into the industrial park. Once we begin to invest it outside the industrial park they are going to want the money back and we have to pay the full \$1.7 million purchase price.

Mayor Hampton said the motion is to direct the City Administrator to begin the process to surplus the property that's on page 35 of the Council packet and highlighted in yellow.

G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.5 Forensic Accountant Discussion

Councilor Shorey said he made this motion at the last meeting and withdrew the motion so additional information could be gathered. He said a forensic audit has a different function than a regular audit. A forensic audit determines if in fact there was any wrongdoing and if there was wrongdoing, what it was. That includes things such as fraud and embezzlement. His concerns are the process they are currently in does not give a complete picture of what we want to see. He feels that when the audits are done he doesn't feel we are going to get a complete picture of what happened and how to prevent it from happening again. This is not saying he believes there is fraud, embezzlement, or wrongdoing; he doesn't know and neither does anyone else. At this point in time the credibility of the Council and City Government is such that they can't afford to not explore all the avenues available to them. We are now in the process of rebuilding public trust, and they can't do that by doing half the job. He would like the Council to hire a forensic auditor to complete a forensic audit.

Councilor Shorey said there is a proposal in the Council packet for auditing Ruthann and Gordon and that has not been discussed by the Council. He disregards that altogether.

Motion: Councilor Shorey moved to proceed to hire a forensic auditor to audit the books beginning with the 2008-2009 fiscal year and moving forward. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion.

Mayor Hampton asked Councilor Shorey, for clarity, that he would not want anyone from Jones and Roth to be the forensic auditor.

Councilor Shorey said that is correct.

Mayor Hampton said he was hoping for information at this meeting for the cost difference between the accounting firm we now have and a forensic auditor.

Councilor Shorey said he will be talking to several firms that do forensic auditing. He will be talking to Acuity Group PPF PPLC and the auditor is Tiffany Couch. He will be asking her what an ordinary forensic audit costs and if she thought it would be worthwhile to do one.

Councilor Clark asked if we were under contract with Chris Hays of Jones and Roth. Gordon said yes.

Councilor Clark asked if we get a forensic auditor we still have to pay Mr. Hays as well. Gordon said yes.

Councilor Barclay said right now they were basically getting an accountant's second opinion. His concern is that in the engagement letter from Moss Adams it identifies by name Mr. Zimmerman and Miss Plumlee. He said from his standpoint a forensic auditor comes in with just the facts and only the facts.

Gordon said Moss Adams is a certified forensic accountant and he called and asked for a proposal on what it would take to do a forensic audit for the City's books. What they came back with is in the Council packet.

Mayor Hampton said as he understands the motion it is to begin the process of a forensic audit. He said there would probably have to be several motions on hiring a particular person and if there is a cost per person.

Councilor Barclay said in the Moss Adams engagement letter they have specific people and time periods. Can those be adjusted to different people and times? Gordon said yes as they get proposals from different forensic auditors.

Councilor Clark asked if they would check financial directors before Ms. Plumlee. Gordon said yes.

Councilor Fortune asked if the forensic auditors came back and said they don't have enough information for 2008-2009 to make any opinion, he doesn't see spending the money a second time to not really get an answer.

Mayor Hampton asked for clarity on Councilor Shorey's motion. He asked if they can have more time to gather the information on cost and whom to hire for the next meeting.

Councilor Shorey said that's what they did this meeting. He withdrew his motion so more information could be gathered. His answer is no.

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to postpone the motion until next meeting. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion. E. Baszler (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Nay), G. Shorey (Nay), D> Barclay (Nay). Motion carried 4-3.

Mayor Hampton said they will vote next meeting on Councilor Shorey's motion to begin the process to hire a forensic auditor. The City Recorder informed the Mayor the motion to postpone had passed as Councilor Baszler had voted yes. Councilor Baszler said he didn't understand what he was voting on.

Mayor Hampton said either way, the Council expects something to vote on to hire somebody to do a forensic audit. That should be clear that is the Council's wish.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Approval of Chlorine Analyzer

The Council said that had been approved at the April 21, 2011, Council meeting.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES:

Chief Gomez handed out information on the dispatch outsourcing. The initial draft proposal was for \$74,000 from Junction City and they have increased their cost to \$88,000 per person and for the whole department is \$176,000. That doesn't help in regard to staffing the fourth fire fighter. He is in negotiations with two other cities and will be getting that information to the Council when he gets it.

Councilor Kordosky asked about the Safer Grant. She said 35% of the grant goes to the hiring of volunteers and 15% goes to the hiring of a firefighter. She asked what happens to the other 65%. Gordon said 65% is for recruitment and retention coordinator and 35% is for actual volunteers. He said they cannot use the recruitment and retention coordinator as a paramedic. The grant will not allow that.

Councilor Kordosky asked if the EMS vehicle grant was applied for. Gordon said yes but they have not heard back on that grant yet. He said the recruitment and retention coordinator would be a 40-hour employee that would coordinate the volunteers, the training, and the recruitment of student paramedics and pay for their tuition and have them work shifts.

Councilor Kordosky asked if we were going to pay for these kids to be educated and then have them move out of town or are they going to actually work in the ambulance. Gordon said they will work in the ambulance as drivers, first responders, and depending on where they are in their basic training, as backup for A and B calls; but not C and D calls which require a paramedic. It's an effort to help with the volunteer work.

Councilor Clark asked if we have applied every place available for an ambulance grant. She said she found five government entities that are accepting grants for ambulances. She said the five are FEMA, Dept of Homeland Security, US Dept. of Agriculture and Rural Development, US Dept. of Health and Human Services, and HUD. The only requirement is that you have a population of less than 20,000.

Gordon said all these grants are open now because the government has changed what they give grant money for last year. The fire crew, Tim Demers and Tim Whittaker, are very good at searching out all of these grants and applying for them.

Councilor Kordosky asked if they have any applications out. Gordon said they have one out right now for an ambulance and Tim Demers is confident they are going to get it, but they don't want to count the chickens before they hatch.

Councilor Clark said she thinks they need to check every avenue. Gordon said they have been for years.

Mayor Hampton suggested she contact the Fire Chief and ask him directly.

Gordon said what he thinks Louis is asking for is does the Council want to see the intergovernmental agreement before they can continue with the outsourcing. He said basically with Junction City bumping the cost up, we are negotiating with two other cities. This will delay the implementation of any outsourcing should the decision not be made until December 1st.

Councilor Shorey asked if they will have that by the Public Safety meeting at the end of the month. Chief Gomez said he may have something. He is going to work toward that.

Councilor Barclay said he heard that they were negotiating a more expensive deal which would reduce the actual savings in outsourcing.

Councilor Kordosky said they can give you a good deal in the beginning and then raise the cost later and strong arm you into paying more.

Chief Gomez said it depends on how you structure the initial agreement. The other piece he gave the Council is response calls for the ambulance service. The average response time was between nine and twelve minutes. This is for the time they receive the call until they arrive on scene.

Mayor Hampton asked if it was possible that a police officer arrived on the scene before the ambulance. This would mean that the call was attended to before the ambulance arrived. Louis said yes, depending on the type of call, that could be the case.

Chief Gomez said he gave the Council a monthly report, also. He said the third page contains information on types of calls received. He said code enforcement calls, such as dog at large, and welfare checks have increased since 2010.

Councilor Barclay asked if it was possible to get response times after staff reduction so they can see if there is any change. Louis said he could try to do one for the police department, as the response times they have are for the ambulance.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES:

No report.

9.1 Resolution 15-2011 Establishing a Bank Account for SAFER Grant

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to approve Resolution 15-2011 establishing an account with Siuslaw Bank and designating check signers for SAFER Grant. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Administration - meet at the end of the month.

Community Services - met September 12th. They discussed the fact the storm water project is going to the Planning Commission on the 20th and it will come back to the Council in October. Also discussed Osprey Park and that there is still one person complaining, so she and Councilor Kordosky went out there and could not see where the lights are a problem. She said it looks beautiful out there. They agree with the Public Safety Committee that the lights should stay on. She said the Parks, Trails and Tree Board is working on rules to be posted at all parks.

Mayor Hampton said that would be for closure hours. He heard there was some vandalism at Salmon Creek Park, so that would be something the folks in the neighborhood would make an automatic call to the police department if they saw someone in the park after closing hours.

Councilor Clark said if you haven't had a chance to go to Osprey Park you should. It is very pretty and they are doing a lot of art work there.

Public Safety – meet September 28th at Noon at City Hall.

LCOG - no report.

Chamber of Commerce – no meeting. They had a Board meeting. They are updating the website. They are trying to get more of the Chamber members involved.

Watershed Council - meet at the end of September.

LRAPA – they received \$60,000 more for woodstove replacement. Rebates are based on particulate reduction. If you go from an uncertified woodstove to a certified woodstove the rebate is \$1,000. If you go from uncertified woodstove to a pellet stove, the rebate is \$1,500. If you go from an uncertified woodstove to a heat pump, the rebate is \$2,000. If you financially qualify, up to \$5,000 will be spent and you may not have to spend any money. LRAPA still has to spend the money by the end of November, so this is the last call for people that have an owner-occupied home. Sally Markos is the best one to ask for specifics on the program.

Councilor Shorey said they are getting a ductless heat system put in. He said by the time they get done with the rebates, it will be a really reasonable cost.

The Oakridge LRAPA Advisory meeting went through a few things. The goal is to come back to the next meeting with suggestions on how to lower the particulate level. The particulate trend is going down, but we still haven't met the Federal guidelines. We still need to get below the threshold level.

The next meeting is October 4th at 6:00 p.m. at the Willamette Activity Center.

Trails – GOATS is sponsoring a Mountain Bike Day for kids on September 25th from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. The Hostel is putting on an "Over the Top" ride to McKenzie River. Work party the first weekend of October on Hardesty Trail.

Library - Mayor Hampton said a report from the Oregon State Library said that voluntary reading on the part of kids is just as effective as or more effective than direct reading instruction in developing reading skills. The Library Board meeting was September 13th. Janet Milandin has reached the end of her term and George Samuelson was welcomed as the new board member. There were updates on the new library in the environmental review. The Library Board recently initiated an overdue policy on fines and so forth on books and videos.

OEDAC - next meeting is September 27th at Noon at Mannings' Café.

Team Oakridge O.W.L. - met and talked about the calendar and how all organizations could be posting their information on events and avoiding conflicts.

Parks, Trails, & Trees - discussed lights at Osprey Park and rules. Opening hour will be 7:00 a.m. with closing at 10:00 p.m. These hours will apply to all parks. The group discussed putting in security cameras at Salmon Creek Park. They talked about the vandalism that has been going on at the parks.

ACT - no action items. They discussed 42nd St. in Springfield and the train at the mill going back and forth to the switching station. He found out there is no limit on how long any train can block a railroad crossing. It used to be a 20-minute time limit on blocking the crossing, but that law was repealed by the Legislature. Will meet again the second Wednesday of the month and Councilor Fortune will be at the next meeting. Mayor Hampton had a handout for the Council about how projects get into the State Transportation Improvement Plan. He has extra for interested people.

LEC - meet next week on Tuesday, September 20th.

UBRA – received a \$200 donation from Lane Electric for assistance in purchasing six more brackets to hang banners.

HUB - working with Rick Little on Hwy 58 closure. Mayor Hampton said Klamath Falls had some concerns as well. Councilor Barclay asked if it was possible to do one end during May and the first half of June and the other half during September and first half of October leaving June, July, and August open for the season. Elizabeth Barclay said the message she sent to them is you can close down the highway all you want, but there has to be some sort of compensation.

Mayor Hampton recognized Lane County Commissioner Faye Stewart in the audience. He asked where the missing ballots? Commissioner Stewart said he knew nothing about the missing ballots until he came to Oakridge.

ADJOURNMENT: The Council adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council October 6, 2011.

Signed: _____
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: _____
Ruthann Plumlee, City Recorder

