



December 1, 2011  
City Council Regular Session  
Oakridge School District Board Room  
47997 W. 1<sup>st</sup> Street  
7:00 p.m.



# MINUTES

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## 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 (absent)

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

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

## 2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Donald Hadley- 47696 Beaver St. - handed out a paper to Council which was copy of Resolution 3-2010. He said it was about a shortfall the City had in 2009.

Kurt Andrews - 76138 Rigdon Drive - he said the Council is unpaid but they are making decisions for the City. He said on the agenda tonight was a discussion about raising water rates. He said he thinks all the Council is in on this mess.

James Affa - 76340 Garden Road - said Mr. Hopkins, of the Secretary of State Audits Division, said he will no longer take calls from citizens of Oakridge concerning audits. Mr. Hopkins said for citizens to take any questions to the Council. He also handed out a note on LRAPA/EPA standards. He asked why Oakridge could not apply for a waiver of for the EPA standards. A copy of this note is in the file for this meeting date.

Rob DeHarpport - 46811 Sunset Ave. - Westfir - handed out a packet for creating a Middle Fork Forest Legacy Stewardship Council. A copy of this packet is in the file for this meeting date.

Sherry Lowe - 48434 E. 1<sup>st</sup> St. - said she talked with school people. She wants to know how much match the City needs to put in for the Library grant. She said we have facilities in Oakridge that are not being utilized or promoted.

Robert Baker - 76326 Klohn Road - said his personal crusade is term limits for the whole spectrum of government. He said at the last Council meeting doing away with term limits for the Library Board was brought up. He said to do away with any term limit is not a good idea.

LaVern Beasley - PO Box 1408 - said she is excited over the new library. She said we can get the books out of storage. She said she has envelopes for people to make a donation towards the City match amount. She said it is tax deductible and will mail out a receipt if requested with donation.

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

Mayor Hampton asked the City Administrator how much the matching funds were for the library. Gordon told Ms. Lowe the total match is \$10,000.

Mayor Hampton asked Ms. Beasley who to make the check out to for the library donation. Ms. Beasley said make checks out to City of Oakridge Library Building Fund.

Councilor Baszler asked the City Administrator if Oakridge has the \$800,000 grant for the library. Gordon said yes. Councilor Baszler asked if we still had to have the match. Gordon said yes. Councilor Baszler asked if we had the money. Gordon said yes, it was budgeted and Ms. Beasley is raising donations for the match also.

Councilor Barclay said the checks were going to be made out to Library Building Fund. He asked if we have a Library Building Fund for it to go to. Gordon said the line item for that was in the General Fund Revenue under Library Donations. Councilor Barclay asked if that would go directly to that line item. Gordon said yes.

Councilor Barclay said in response to some of the comments regarding firing people and term limits, he said these topics are covered in the City Charter. He said if changes are to be made they are done at the ballot box. He said as far as Mr. Affa's idea about the waiver of air quality standards, he said that is something we should pursue. He said when Mr. DeHarpport speaks he makes sense. He said also that he appreciates everyone being here and participating.

Councilor Shorey said Mr. Hadley was correct and this information was discussed and a rate increase for several fees was implemented. He said this was prior to the budget for 2010-2011. He appreciated Mr. Hadley bringing that in as he was looking for that document.

Councilor Shorey said he appreciated Mr. Affa bringing in his ideas for the smoke problem. He said as long as the Warm Homes Program stays around that will help in the future and it is working.

Councilor Shorey said he supports Mr. DeHarpport's stewardship program and if he needs help to let him know.

Councilor Shorey told Mr. Baker he supports the term limits.

Councilor Shorey told Ms. Beasley that she has pointed out what he has known is that the Oakridge citizens always step up and do something that needs to be done.

Councilor Clark said she also supports the stewardship program. She said she also agrees with Mr. Affa in that Oakridge needs to explore other ideas regarding the smoke issue as in the waiver. She said Ms. Beasley should get her angel wings soon for all the things she does for the community.

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

Added 6.4 Waiver of Conflict Request

Added 11.0 ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations (changed from (f)

(f) Consideration of Information Exempt by Law from Public Inspection

Added 6.5 Forensic Auditor Report

Deleted 6.1 Library Board Vacancy - needs to be advertised per 11/17/2011 Council meeting

#### **5.0 CONSENT AGENDA**

##### **5.1 Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of November 17, 2011**

Councilor Shorey said on page nine of the Council packet under section 10.0, the Library Board will be meeting at 5:00 p.m. not 1:00 p.m.

Councilor Clark said there was a typo on page six of the Council packet, third paragraph down. The word "the" needs to be removed before "Gordon and Ruthann".

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the above corrections. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion. G. Fortune (Absent), R. Clark (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

#### **6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

##### **6.2 Approval of Sale of Surplus Property**

**Motion:** Councilor Kordosky moved to accept the offer from Robin Kever of \$41,000 less any applicable closing costs for the sale of surplus property identified as Tax Lot 21-35-22-20-01700 and 01800. Councilor Shorey seconded the motion.

Councilor Shorey said there is some question about where the money from this sale is going to be recorded. He said he doesn't think it should be going into the Industrial Park Fund. He thinks it should not have been used to buy property outside the Industrial Park area and it should go into the General Fund as we are short of money.

The City Administrator said he would be working on a resolution to add it into the budget and what to do with it.

A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (absent). Motion carried 6-0.

### **6.3 Christmas Dinner Fee Waiver Request**

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to approve Karon Tiller's request to waive the fee for the rental of the Community Building in Greenwaters Park for her free Christmas dinner. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion. R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (absent), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

### **6.4 Waiver of Conflict Request**

**Motion:** Councilor Clark moved to approve the waiver of conflict with the Local Government Law Group in our relationship with the Lane Council of Governments in the fiber optic project currently under construction. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion.

Councilor Barclay asked if we are partnering with the county on an 8.3 million dollar project, how is that being funded. Gordon said it's the Lane Council of Governments, not Lane County. Councilor Barclay asked what City money is in this project. Gordon said zero.

Mayor Hampton said the goal is to upgrade the internet connectivity in rural areas. He said after ten years of work this is finally coming in. Gordon said they are laying cable towards Douglas County first.

D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (absent), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

### **6.5 Forensic Auditor Report**

The forensic auditor, Tiffany Couch, sent an update by email for the Council. The Mayor said a copy of it would be posted on the City of Oakridge website. A copy of the report is in the file for this meeting date.

The report had findings after each item. The report also had some recommendations for the Council to consider. The report also had attached schedules and an email.

Councilor Barclay requested the Council schedule a Special Session or Town Hall meeting Thursday evening, December 8<sup>th</sup>, while the forensic auditor is in Oakridge.

**Motion:** Councilor Shorey moved to extend the contract limit for Acuity Group to \$10,000. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion.

Councilor Kordosky asked where we were going to get the money.

Councilor Shorey said they could stop the letter of engagement with Chris Hays of Jones and Roth and use the left over money from that to pay Acuity Group.

Councilor Shorey withdrew the motion.

**Motion:** Councilor Shorey moved to terminate the Letter of Engagement with Jones and Roth and use the left over amount to extend the contract amount with Acuity Group to \$10,000. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion.

G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (absent), E. Baszler (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

**Motion:** Councilor Shorey moved to terminate the City of Oakridge's association with Jones and Roth and recover all the data in their possession that belongs to the City. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion. Mayor Hampton (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (absent), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

Councilor Shorey requested a town hall meeting for Thursday, December 8, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. when the forensic auditor is in Oakridge to discuss her report the Council just received.

Mayor Hampton said he would contact Ms. Couch of Acuity group and make the arrangements.

## **7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES**

### **7.1 Garden Road Contract Extension Approval**

Mayor Hampton said the contract for the Garden Road Project that was approved at the last Council meeting has had some changes. The State ODOT Coordinator called and discussed the project. He said the City could not leave out sidewalks, as that was the reason the award was made. The ODOT Coordinator said the City could postpone it for up to two years.

The City Administrator said that would give the City time to collect the State Gas Tax for the next two years and do the whole \$133,756 project which includes replacing the water and sewer mains.

**Motion:** Councilor Shorey moved to approve the ODOT SCA Contract Extension. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (absent), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 6-0.

### **7.2 Water Rate Discussion**

Mayor Hampton said disregarding everything else, if this City is going to provide water to its citizens, it has to be done in a sustainable way. This means you have to get more revenue than it costs you to deliver the water. That's not the situation we find ourselves in now. He said you are either going to have to increase the revenue or decrease the costs.

Councilor Shorey said the three options presented by the City Administrator were well thought out. He said he would note that by the figures presented here, Oakridge is at the bottom of the scale in total bill amount. He said the only increase we have had is the Portland CPI (Consumer Product Index) but unfortunately the costs increase greater than the CPI. He said that's what we have to struggle with. Nobody wants to raise water rates.

The City Administrator said there are three options. Option One is to raise the usage rate, the amount of water used over the base amount of 1,000 gallons, which would make the customer's bill dependent on the amount of water he/she used. Option Two would be to raise the base rate amount, which would affect everyone, including customers that don't use over the base amount. Option Three would raise the base rate by fifty cents and the usage rate also.

Councilor Clark said the Community Services Committee said Option One is the best, as it does not affect seniors that don't use over the base amount of 1,000 gallons and doesn't affect their budgets. She said this option would make the bill amounts made by user choice. The consumer would determine the amount of his/her bill by the amount of water he/she used. This might even help people to use less water.

Mayor Hampton said the other thing the Council should be aware of is the longer it takes to make this decision the worse the predicament gets.

Someone in the audience asked how does the City know that each account is being charged the correct amount and the same amount as everyone else?

The City Administrator said the computer system is set up with a table of rates by category. There are residential and commercial and water line size rates. He said the accounts are linked to the table for their line size and residential or commercial and the software gets the amounts to charge from that information.

Mayor Hampton said this discussion will be on the agenda each time until a decision is made.

## **8.0 POLICE SERVICES**

Chief Gomez said the radio tower does not interfere with internet connections unless the connection is wireless and then it may. He said the radio tower is on a different frequency than other utilities in the area, so any interference probably does not come from the new radio tower. He said if a wireless user is having any difficulty, he/she needs to contact his/her provider.

Chief Gomez said most of the department went through a Standard Field Sobriety Refresher Course. He said he completed a Crisis Negotiation Course.

## **9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES**

Chief Demers said the Light Parade and Holiday Festivals are coming. You will see flyers out for those. He said we have a medic unit out of service with heater issues from a short in wiring.

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

The City Administrator asked if item 10.0 Reports from Boards and Committees could be made next Council meeting, as it was getting late and there was an Executive Session to hold still.

The Council recessed at 9:05 p.m. before going into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (d) Labor Negotiations and (f) Consideration of Information Exempt by Law from Public Inspection.

The Council reconvened under Regular Meeting at 9:50 p.m.

**Motion:** Councilor Kordosky moved to approve Resolution 17-2011 Establishing Special Donation Trust Account. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), G. Fortune (absent). Motion carried 6-0.

**ADJOURNMENT:** The Council adjourned at 9:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council December 15, 2011.

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

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