



January 19, 2012
City Council Regular Session
Oakridge High School Auditorium
7:00 p.m.



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: 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

Mayor Hampton said there are five speakers signed up and they will have three minutes each.

Jody Allen - Oakridge - asked about the water rate increase. He asked what provisions have been made for people that can barely afford their water now.

Larry Phipps - 76581 Westoak Rd. - said he received unsatisfactory service when he was at City Hall to get a copy of the agenda. He said this was his last attempt to try to persuade the Council to understand the position they are in. He said spending has to be cut.

Sherry Klosterman - 48314 Hills St. - said the Community Garden is a safety issue. People are driving into the garden and onto private property. People have been walking onto private property also.

Dawn Kinyon - 47709 School St. - wants the Council to look at revenues and expenditures before raising water rates and move forward from there.

Rob DeHarport - 46811 Sunset Ave. - thanked the Council and Mayor for considering the forest stewardship resolution tonight.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Barclay said the water rates would be discussed later. He told Mr. Phipps to let him know about the unsatisfactory service. He agreed with reducing spending. He said if people are accessing the Community Gardens on public property that is one issue. If they are on private property that is a different issue, and the police would be interested in that one.

Councilor Baszler asked Ms. Klosterman if she had a no trespassing sign and asked if she had called the police on the issue. He asked her if she thought about building a fence.

Councilor Baszler asked if it would be cheaper to farm out the court business until Oakridge gets straightened out. He said we need to look at the WAC, also.

Councilor Shorey said the court is making money, not spending it. He said the court is not funded by anyone. The court supports itself. He said the DMV is closed indefinitely due to water leaks. He said the WAC serves the community members, but rents do not cover costs. He said water rates are a big discussion.

Councilor Clark said the Community Garden had local people. She doesn't know who members are now but they send surplus food to the food box.

Councilor Shorey said they are working on a permit system for levy access to the Community Garden for delivering supplies.

Mayor Hampton gave his State of the City address. A copy is attached to these minutes.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

Add 6.3 Interim City Administrator

Add 8.2 Levy to Community Garden

Add 9.1 Hiring for Retention and Recruitment Officer for SAFER Grant

Mayor Hampton moved 6.3 up on the agenda

6.3 Interim City Administrator

Councilor Baszler asked Mr. DeLong when he worked for the City before. Mr. DeLong said from 1983 to 1987. Councilor Baszler asked him if the community was respectful to him at that time. Mr. DeLong said that was one of the main reasons he was here today. He said the community was good to him and his family. He said if he could be of service in a very difficult time, he was happy to do so.

Councilor Barclay asked what skill sets or experience he had that would help in moving forward and did he have a plan to do that. Mr. DeLong said when he was here before they earned the respect of the citizenry. He said you cannot raise taxes without it. He does not have a plan at this time but he said it's all about the City's financial management system. He said the first thing he would do is call Tiffany Couch and ask her first three items he should be focusing on. He said second would be concentrating on the audits. He said next is the budget.

Councilor Shorey asked Mr. DeLong why he left Oakridge. Mr. DeLong said he went to progressively larger cities. It was a combination of professional and personal goals. Councilor Shorey asked Mr. DeLong to name the cities. Mr. DeLong said they were Redmond; Astoria; Puyallup, Washington and Salem. He ended in Salem.

Mayor Hampton said they have gone through the contract from the attorney and the only addition in cost would be mileage expense. The contract states the City can terminate the contract at any time and the Interim can quit at any time. He wants his time as Interim to be done by June 17, 2012. Mayor Hampton said according to the Charter, the City has to have a replacement City Administrator in place by June 15, 2012.

Motion: Councilor Baszler moved to hire Mr. DeLong as Interim City Administrator. Councilor Clark seconded the motion.

Councilor Shorey said his understanding was Mr. DeLong was working 40-hour weeks and would be living in Oakridge during the week and go home on the weekends. Mr. DeLong said that was correct.

Councilor Barclay said his concern was they were voting on hiring Mr. DeLong while the contract did not contain mileage and bonding. He said they were making a decision on a rough draft to start working next week. He would suggest that the February 2, 2012, Council meeting have the formal contract correct for action at that meeting.

Mayor Hampton said we could do that but when would you have him start work.

Councilor Barclay said February 2nd after the contract is final.

Councilor Shorey said the City Attorney prepared the short two page contract. He asked Councilor Barclay what was wrong with it.

Councilor Barclay said there was nothing about bonding in it and the mileage added.

Councilor Shorey asked if they could wait two weeks as things are already falling behind. He wondered if they could wait two more weeks.

Mayor Hampton said they could have a special meeting next week.

Councilor Baszler asked what the Interim salary was.

Mayor Hampton said it was \$5,062, which is the department head salary. There are no benefits. They only added the travel allowance.

Mayor Hampton said if the contract was approved in concept, they would not need a special meeting before they signed it after the City Attorney finished with the additions. He said he would email it to the Council and let them look it over. He has stated what would be different and the only cost difference was the mileage.

D. Barclay (Nay), A. Kordosky (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), G. Shorey (Nay), Mayor Hampton (Aye). Motion carried 5-2.

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Minutes of Regular Council Meeting of January 5, 2012

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Baszler seconded the motion. G. Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 Resolution 1-2012 Supporting & Participating with the Middle Fork Forest Stewardship Council

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to accept Resolution 1-2012. Councilor Barclay seconded the motion. 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.

6.2 Acuity Group Proposal

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to approve the proposal with Acuity Group for the 2010 and 2011 audits up to the cost of \$16,650. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion. 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.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Resolution 18-2011 Adjusting Water Rates

The Community Services recommendation is to raise the base rate 50 cents and the usage rate by \$1.45 per 1,000 gallons. This would make the average bill of 7,000 gallons go up by \$9.20.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to approve Resolution 18-2011 adjusting water rates effective February 1, 2012, with Option 2. Councilor Kordosky seconded the motion.

Mayor Hampton said to clarify how the meters work, he said the meter turns over at 1,000 gallon increments. He said you could use 1,999 gallons and you would be charged for 1,000 gallons. You don't pay for the water until the meter turns over to the next 1,000.

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to postpone the water rate increase. Motion was withdrawn pending further research and analysis.

Councilor Clark withdrew the motion.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

8.1 Approve Contract for Emergency Services Dispatch

Chief Gomez said the response time will not be exactly the same as we have now until the process is refined. He said we should realize approximately \$125,000 in savings over time. The savings will not happen immediately. He said they will have one and one half people to staff the office Monday through Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. He said you will still have local people to come to during the week. He said if you call dispatch for an officer, you will get an officer.

Motion: Councilor Barclay moved to enter into an Intergovernmental Agreement with Lane County Sheriff's Office. Councilor Shorey seconded the motion.

Chief Gomez said that the two agencies that responded to our Request for Proposal were Junction City and Lane County Sheriff. The cost from Lane County Sheriff includes dispatch for the Police Dept., Fire Dept., and after hours call out to Public Works. He said if you call the Police Dept. number, 541-782-4232, it will ring into the dispatch and sending out Public Works. He said if you need Fire call 911. He said we need office personnel for records keeping, communications with the DA's office, and the Department of Youth Services. He said we still have an evidence technician, also. He said the only change is from a thirty-day cancellation to sixty-day cancellation.

Fire Chief Demers said we need to look at it in two pieces. The 911 piece and the after hours piece. He said barking dogs are not 911 and it will be an after hour's non-emergency transferred call and not a page out. They will still inform an officer but it would not be an emergency call.

Councilor Clark asked what happens to the dispatch equipment we have now? Chief Gomez said we keep it. He said it is an asset and we are by ourselves for disaster management. We need the equipment to communicate with the valley in case of a situation like that.

Councilor Kordosky asked if we are not happy with the service from Lane County within a year we can start shopping around. She asked how hard it would be to get our dispatch back.

Chief Gomez said it would be difficult money wise. He said realistically it would be five to ten years before you could bring dispatch back.

Councilor Kordosky asked how many more people were getting laid off.

Chief Gomez said two more. He said that will reduce the size of the police department from 12 to 5.5. He said more than half the staff has been reduced. He said to remember just because the staff has been reduced doesn't mean the work has been reduced.

G. Shorey (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye), A. Kordosky (Nay), E. Baszler (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 6-1.

8.2 Driving on the Levy for Community Garden

Chief Gomez said the issue at hand is the levy is a road and the Council can decide if it is okay for people to use the levy to deliver supplies to the garden.

Mayor Hampton said delivering supplies would be good as some supplies are heavy. He said to drive on the levy just because someone doesn't want to walk there is not a good reason to drive on the levy.

Mayor Hampton asked if there was a consensus allowing people to drive on the levy with a permit for the garden. He said the Community Services Committee needs to look into signs for animal waste and driving on the levy.

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

9.1 Hiring of Volunteer Recruitment and Retention Officer

Chief Demers said this is not an ambulance shift paramedic position and cannot be used to respond to emergencies. There is no match on the City's part and all funds for salary and benefits come directly from the grant. There is no requirement to continue funding the position after the grant sunsets. There is no fiscal impact to the City of Oakridge.

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to approve the hiring of a full time Retention and Recruitment Officer for Oakridge Fire and EMS. Councilor Clark seconded the motion. G. Fortune (Aye), G. Shorey (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Hampton (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), A. Kordosky (Aye), D. Barclay (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Administration - meet Monday, January 30th.

Community Service - meet February 6th.

Public Safety - will meet January 25th at Noon at City Hall.

LCOG - no report.

Chamber - speaker was Ruben Garcia, the person instrumental in getting washers and dryers to Oakridge. Laverne Beasley spoke about the library. The Moose Lodge spoke about its declining membership.

LRAPA Advisory Committee - will meet next week with Sally Markos and the door hangers.

GOATS - no report.

Tree Planting - will have a volunteer for the parade.

Library - met January 10th. The pre-construction meeting for the Library Project is January 24th at City Hall in the Council Chambers and starts at 10:00 a.m. Laverne Beasley and Faithe Simington want to be there. They talked about State requirements for the library. Faithe Simington said the committee will have the \$10,000 before the construction of the library. Councilor Shorey said we have 5,000 books in the current library and 5,000 books in storage.

ODEAC - meet fourth Tuesday, February 26th, at Noon sat Manning's Cafe.

Team Oakridge - said if you want to post an event on the Community Calendar on the City's website contact City Hall and they will help you get the process started.

Regional Fiber - they are going to start work in Metro area and in one or two years from now all local governmental buildings, schools, and medical offices will be ready to go with high speed broadband.

Parks, Trails, & Trees - meeting cancelled.

ACT - meets Wednesday, January 25th.

LEC - meets next Monday, January 23rd.

HUB - would like to know when the City will be sending out the new business licenses.

UBRA - said 1st St. has one dozen "Welcome to Uptown Oakridge" banners. They helped Public Works take down Christmas lights and they helped hang the banners.

The Council recessed at 9:03 p.m. before going into Executive Session under ORS 192.660 (2) (f) Consider Material Exempt from Public Inspection.

The Council reconvened under Regular Meeting at 9:23 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT: The Council adjourned at 9:24 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council February 2, 2012.

Signed: _____
Donald E. Hampton, Mayor

Signed: _____
Ruthann Plumlee, City Recorder