



March 7, 2013
City Council Regular Session
City Hall Council Chambers
48318 E. 1st St.
7:00 p.m.



MINUTES

1.0 CALL MEETING TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council Present: Gerald Shorey, Mayor
Rayetta Clark, Council President
Glenn Fortune
Jim Coey
Ernest Baszler
Les Biggerstaff
Christine Slaven

Staff Present: Louis Gomez, City Administrator
Dale Scobert, Chief of Police (Absent)
Jackie Taylor, Assistant Planner / Public Works Secretary
Susie LaDuke, Finance Director/City Recorder

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

2.0 PUBLIC COMMENT

Kari Westlund 754 Olive St, Eugene Or 97401 - Kari is the President and CEO of Travel Lane County; they work with 10 Chambers throughout Lane County. We can be really proud of our Chamber; they have done a lot of work with the Chamber and City over the years around marketing Oakridge. When they are out at Annual Conferences, the Governors Conference and out in the marketplace they hear very positive things about Oakridge and recognition of Oakridge. The Mountain Biking has been a differentiator for our community.

Travel Lane County is happy to provide assistance if there are any questions about the TRT or the allocations.

Oakridge's numbers have grown about 4% in terms of overall hotel stays and our room tax collections over that last four or five years, that is pacing well ahead of some of the other rural communities.

Meg Trendler 754 Olive St, Eugene Or 97401 – She is the Tourism Sales Manager for Travel Lane County; it is her job to talk to Travel Agents, Tour Operators and the International Media and tell them why they should come to Lane County, why they should come to Oakridge. There are a lot of rural communities that have hiking, fishing, camping and hunting, but it's really Mountain Biking that puts Oakridge on the

map. One gentleman from Vancouver B.C. told her that Mountain Bike Oregon is the highlight of his summer, he saves up for this every year, this will be his 3rd year attending.

Edward Hodges, Portland Or - He is involved a lot in outdoor sports in Portland, universally people talk about Oakridge and Mountain Biking, so he would agree that our brand for Mountain Biking is significant outside of Lane County.

Dawn Kinyon School St, Oakridge Or - She asked for an update on the Secret Millionaire money.

Susan will report on that during the Finance Director/City Recorder report.

3.0 MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Coey recommends to anyone, to attend the Mountain Bike Oregon events. It's an amazing event, he has volunteered the last couple events, and people come from everywhere just to come ride here. It is a huge draw for this town.

Councilor Clark wanted to remind everyone about the Miss OHS pageant; it is tomorrow evening at 7:00.

Councilor Slaven received an email from a citizen about the amount of trash around town. Can we put up signs showing the fines for littering; the amount of trash is getting overwhelming.

4.0 ADDITIONS, CORRECTIONS, OR ADJUSTMENTS TO THE AGENDA

6.6 TRT Discussion

5.0 CONSENT AGENDA

5.1 Approve Minutes from the March 7, 2013 Council meeting

Motion: Councilor Coey moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the recommended changes. Councilor Clark seconded the motion.

Mayor Shorey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.0 ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES

6.1 City Administrators Report

Louis updated the Council on the Atherton property, the City Attorney is still on track for the foreclosure and putting it up for auction.

Regarding the Surety Bond, they are awaiting a response from the bond company.

Louis wanted to touch on the website changes, he sent a copy of Councilor Slaven's report, to Jackie and Susan, they are the ones who will primarily work with the website.

6.2 City Recorder-Finance Report

Susan gave her financial report to the Council.

Regarding the Secret Millionaire money; a volunteer came in and tried to contact everyone who still had a check here, that was very successful, a lot of people did come in and pick them up. Susan is going to prepare to close this account out.

Louis said the donor has said the City can use the left over money as the City see's fit. Primarily they would like to see the money used for the community.

6.3 Adopt the FY 13-14 Budget Calendar

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to adopt the FY 13-14 Budget Calendar. Councilor Coey seconded the motion.

L. Biggerstaff (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), R. Clark (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.4 Amendment to LCSO Dispatch Contract

Louis said the original contract expired February 28, 2013, we are still running of course, and basically what they are doing is extending the previous contract to August 15, 2013. We do have a two year commitment with LCSO. It is the same amount, they are not changing that.

Councilor Coey asked if turning the dispatch over to the Sheriffs Department has proven to be profitable for us? Are we making money or saving money.

Louis said it is more profitable to sub out to LCSO.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved that the Mayor sign the Amendment for Dispatch Services from the Lane County Sheriffs Office. Councilor Slaven seconded the motion.

C. Clark (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

6.5 Lease Agreement with Seventh Day Fellowship

Louis said one their members is a licensed contractor, he is willing to give us four hours a month to do maintenance as our Public Works Supervisor would guide and direct. One of the first things we would ask is to repair and patch the roof.

This isn't something we have done in the past but he feels this would be to our benefit.

Councilor Coey asked if he would be doing maintenance to the whole building, not just the room specific for his use.

Louis said he will be working on the whole building.

Councilor Biggerstaff asked what we are going to do with the WAC. Are we going to keep it?

Mayor Shorey said at this point we are going to keep the WAC, at one point we were going to tear it down, but we were told there was an asbestos problem; we are better off remodeling the building. The building does have value; we are going to look at CDBG grants to remodel.

Edward Hodges the City Engineer said he did an extensive cost estimate with a local contractor, his estimate came in at about 1.2 million to get the building back on line to be a valuable asset to the City. Asbestos abatement these days is not that big of a deal, although it is always cheaper to knock things down and start over.

Motion: Councilor Coey moved that the Mayor sign the proposed agreement and Lease with the Seventh Day Fellowship Group. Councilor Fortune seconded the motion.

E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

6.6 TRT Discussion

Mayor Shorey said the Chamber Board met Tuesday, a large part of the discussion was on the TRT and how we are going to deal with that as a City. In talking about this the biggest issue was the money going in to the Chamber without accountability. There should be accountability. We are coming in late in their budget year when they have already been using this money for the past number of years. Mayor Shorey's proposal is to continue to fund them at \$10,000 this year subject to the following conditions; they submit an accountability report every three months, a budget every year and a profit and loss report.

Louis said since this discussion began accountability has been the issue. He believes that this agreement accomplishes that. The Community Services Committee and some other Committees will work on a long term process and policy for this money.

The Chamber has expressed that they no longer want to decide who gets the money for numerous reasons, but they will assist us. Mayor Shorey wants to form a Committee called the RTMP Advisory Committee; the Committee will consist of the Mayor, the Chairman of the Administration Committee, the Chairman of the Community Services Committee, City Administrator, a Citizen at large, a member of the Chamber and a Hotel/Motel representative to sort through the various requests for funds.

Mayor Shorey's goal is to move closer to cooperation with the Chamber of Commerce, but at the same time have more formal processes in place.

Councilor Biggerstaff said the Chamber needs to put less focus on bicyclists and more focus on bringing jobs to Oakridge.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved to give the Chamber of Commerce \$10,000 with the agreement that they will provide the financial reports so we know where the money is going. Seconded by Councilor Fortune.

Amended Motion: Councilor Fortune wanted to make a friendly amendment to the original motion to include a contract signed by the Chamber and the City Council as to what the conditions are. Seconded by Councilor Clark.

L. Biggerstaff (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0.

7.0 COMMUNITY SERVICES

7.1 Report from City Engineer on Salt Creek Canal

Larry Phipps gave a report on the Salt Creek Canal. Earlier this fall the Forest Service came to the City and gave us an ultimatum that they were going to close the ditch unless we do something about it. This ditch feeds water from Salt Creek to the Fire Ponds. Larry and John Milandin were asked to investigate what the city could do to solve the problem of the leaky ditch on to Hwy 58 which was a big concern for ODOT. Fish and Wildlife would like to see the ditch closed because of the effect on indigenous fish in the area and the Forest Service has a great deal of liability if there was a slide created by the leakage from the ditch. Ultimately they've been trying to get the city to do something about this for a long time which they knew nothing about. When they did find out they took action and created a committee.

This is not an emergency and this needs to be a well thought out decision.

John Milandin said the city is very lucky to have Edward Hodges as our Engineer, they asked him to find a solution to this problem and he didn't just look at one solution, he looked at several. These ponds are nine feet deep, when we stopped the water flow in August they only lost 11 inches. We don't have to hurry to make this decision.

John went over the alternatives that we have to look at.

Edward Hodges read his report that he turned in to the City.

The committee did an outstanding job in getting all of the stakeholders involved in this process. We need fire protection at the Industrial Park; our fire protection is a pond that is fed by a canal. That canal is closed and there is a myriad of options to get that open.

Ed discussed the costs of the alternatives that were reported by John. Ed came up with two alternatives. Alternative #4 the City water system is in generally good shape. Even though we have a decent amount of storage, we have six wells but in reality only two of them really work. At some point we are going to need a new well.

He then looked at putting in a new well and storage tank. We can pursue money for this alternative. The funding sources for drinking water systems are excellent.

There was discussion between the Council and Ed on the different alternatives and costs.

Ed said he is more than happy to go and try to get a grant for us.

Councilor Slaven said it would make sense to explore option #5 since it covers option #4 as well and what if we go out there and discover there are millions of dollars of money waiting to be given to us while we have done the ground work for our dream option.

Ed said if he goes out there and finds us 1.3 million bucks with 50% grant and the rest 1%, 30 year, he's not going to tell us to just drill the well.

Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to pursue #5 and throw this back to our City Engineer to find funding for this project. Seconded by Councilor Coey.

Amended Motion: Councilor Fortune moved to select option #5 and direct the City Engineer to pursue a Technical Feasibility Grant. Seconded by Councilor Coey.

G. Fortune (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), Mayor Shorey (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

*****Old Business**

Chapter 30 Revisions

Louis said the emergency clause is not there since we are doing this by a second reading.

Motion: Councilor Clark moved that we approve Ordinance 904 and read by title only. Councilor Coey seconded the motion.

Mayor Shorey (Aye), J. Coey (Aye), R. Clark (Aye), L. Biggerstaff (Aye), G. Fortune (Aye), E. Baszler (Aye), C. Slaven (Aye). Motion carried 7-0

Councilor Fortune read Ordinance 904 by title only.

Junk Amnesty

Louis gave the Council a copy of the letter he turned in to Lane County Solid Waste, the conversations he had on the phone have been pretty positive. He went back to Chuck to confirm costs; our cost is closer \$7,500 with the \$1,500 deduction.

Mayor Shorey asked about how much we recoup in recycled items.

Louis said in the past it has been anywhere between \$1,200 and \$2,000.

Most of the money will come out of the Street fund.

8.0 POLICE SERVICES

None

9.0 EMERGENCY SERVICES

None

10.0 REPORTS FROM BOARDS AND COMMITTEES

Administration – Councilor Slaven attended that meeting to present her website presentation. She has some great ideas regarding the website. She wants to take \$5,000 from the TRT money to get the new website up and running.

Community Service - They will be meeting March 8 at 8:30 am. Lynda Kamerer and Rusty Ackland will be the citizen volunteers.

Public Safety - Fire chief gave report, we need to have back up batteries installed at the radio tower. The new ambulance went on its first transport. They discussed issues with LCSO and also micro chipping pets in Oakridge. They are working with the School District for disaster assistance. Troy Allen has been working very hard on code violations through out the city.

Chamber of Commerce – They had a report given by Lane Metro Partnership; they are trying to help new and existing businesses. There is a new paper being placed in various business locations around town.

The Chamber is working on getting all of their papers and financial reports in line.

ADJOURNMENT: The Council adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted before the City Council March 21, 2013

Signed: _____
Jerry Shorey, Mayor

Signed: _____
Susan LaDuke, City Recorder