

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
MARCH 24, 2014
5:30 P.M.

THE DALLES CITY HALL
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Mayor Steve Lawrence

COUNCIL PRESENT: Bill Dick, Carolyn Wood, Tim McGlothlin, Linda Miller

COUNCIL ABSENT: Dan Spatz

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie Krueger, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Acting Police Captain Steve Baska, Administrative Fellow Jon Chavers, Engineer Dale McCabe

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk Krueger; Councilor Spatz absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lawrence invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

It was moved by Wood and seconded by McGlothlin to approve the agenda as amended, by moving Action Item 11, C to a Presentation. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

The Dalles Area Chamber of Commerce Annual Tourism Report

Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Farquharson provided copies of her report and packets of information that are handed out at conferences, including brochures and magazines that contained articles about The Dalles. She summarized the personnel, facilities, operating, and marketing aspects of the program.

Mayor Lawrence asked if hotel occupancy rates were tracked. Farquharson said they were not being tracked at this time. She said the Chamber was working to have better communications with the local hotels and hoped to establish quarterly meetings with them.

Mayor Lawrence asked what percentage tourism was compared to the overall budget of the Chamber. Farquharson said it was half to two-thirds of the total budget.

Farquharson was asked about the \$20,000 special project to install fencing and picnic tables at the Chamber of Commerce and a kiosk. She said the kiosk at the Festival Park was her top priority, noting the one that had been installed was not user friendly and needed to be updated to better serve the tourists. She said she hoped to install fencing at the Chamber to keep out transient people who were not conducting themselves appropriately and for better security.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the proposal was for another five year contract. City Manager Young said that was being proposed, but the Council could choose a shorter duration. He said five years helped provide continuity and the City did require the Chamber to provide an annual work plan and budget.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Bill Lennox, 1005 Federal Street, provided a map of his neighborhood, showing water lines from the main on Tenth Street to residences on Federal Street. He said he wanted to make the City aware of this area because he was concerned that the service line to his home traveled from Tenth Street, through three other private properties. Mr. Lennox said he thought a service should run along Federal Street for the homes in that neighborhood and said that with 80 year old lines, if there was a line failure, it could be catastrophic.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Young reported the American Empress cruise ship would be making it's first Columbia River cruise this week. He said the Mayor had been invited to participate, along with

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other Gorge Mayors. Young asked the Council to consider this trip as economic development for The Dalles and to authorize the City to pay for return transportation costs from the end of the trip, back.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Dick to consider the trip as economic development and to pay the return air fare costs for the Mayor. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

City Manager Young said staff was working on a presentation regarding a possible design/build program for the Wastewater Treatment Plant improvements. He said the City of Wilsonville had recently completed their plant work using this method and asked if the Council would like to hear from them about their experience. The Council agreed to invite Wilsonville representatives to speak at the next meeting.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Parker said he had been working to develop an ordinance that would place a moratorium on medical marijuana dispensaries for one year, saying this would allow cities time to develop standards and criteria. He said it would be on the April 14 agenda for Council consideration.

Mayor Lawrence said City of Hood River was considering an ordinance at their meeting this week. He asked the City Attorney if he believed such an ordinance would be defensible. Parker said he believed it would be.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Wood said she would be attending the Council of Governments meeting on Tuesday. She said the plan for the Transportation Center was in the design phase and would be built and operational next year. She said she was still waiting to see a budget, but that it was expected that the Center would be self-sufficient. Wood said the Historic Landmarks Commission would be hearing an application for some windows to be replaced in a church and said she would attend the QLife meeting on Thursday.

Councilor Dick said he would be attending the QLife meeting on Thursday.

Councilor Miller said she had attended the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee meeting and the items approved would be presented to the Agency for approval at their meeting later in the evening.

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Mayor Lawrence said he had met with people who were interested in developing a youth shelter; attended the Community Outreach Team follow up meeting; met with Mike Davis, who was instrumental in bringing several businesses to Wasco County, one in The Dalles; attended a Regional Solutions Team meeting; met with Representative Walden; met with Artist Jeff Stewart regarding the Lewis and Clark Park sculpture/fountain project; and welcomed a Porsche Club at the Discovery Center.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Dick and seconded by Wood to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

The item approved by Consent Agenda was approval of the March 10, 2014 regular City Council meeting minutes.

ACTION ITEMS

General Ordinance No. 14-1333 Amending Section 7 of General Ordinance No. 99-1234 Concerning Billing and Lien Procedures for Assessment for the Cost of Abatement of Hazardous Vegetation

City Attorney Parker reviewed the staff report.

City Clerk Krueger read General Ordinance No. 14-1333 by title.

It was moved by Wood and seconded by Dick to adopt General Ordinance No. 14-1333 amending Section 7 of General Ordinance No. 99-1234 concerning billing and lien procedures for assessment for the cost of abatement of hazardous vegetation, by title. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

General Ordinance No. 14-1334 Establishing a Revised Procedure for Liquor License Review and Recommendation From the City to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, Establishing Fees and Repealing General Ordinance No. 84-1059

City Attorney Parker reviewed the staff report.

Mayor Lawrence expressed concern regarding the criteria listed in the proposed ordinance. He said it would be impossible for staff to ensure all criteria were met and felt the City staff would be doing all the work on behalf of the State. He said it seemed to put a lot of responsibility on the local government.

City Attorney Parker said the list of criteria were possible things that could be considered, not required for the City's endorsement. He said the ordinance now incorporated the language of the law and had not been updated for many years. Parker said this would bring the City into compliance with the State law.

Councilor Dick asked if the criteria list had been expanded. Parker said it had, based on the Oregon Liquor Control Commission's (OLCC) criteria.

Councilor Miller asked how this would be more efficient. City Clerk Krueger said allowing staff to endorse routine applications administratively would reduce the wait time for applicants and would reduce the number of items on the City Council agendas. She said any applications that were in question would still come before the Council for approval.

City Clerk Krueger read General Ordinance No. 14-1334 by title.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Wood to adopt General Ordinance No. 14-1334 establishing a revised procedure for liquor license review and recommendation from the City to the Oregon Liquor Control Commission, establishing fees and repealing General Ordinance No. 84-1059, by title. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion Regarding Traffic Plan for Intersection of East 10th Street, Old Dufur Road and Thompson Street

Public Works Director Anderson reviewed the staff report.

Councilor Dick said there had been a lot of development and density had doubled in this area of town. He said it was no longer a rural area. Dick said if the City was going to allow parcels to be divided and developed, it had a responsibility to provide sound infrastructure to support this development. He said the current transportation system in this area was insufficient for emergency services and pedestrians were at risk. Dick said he supported the staff recommendation to proceed with a study of the intersection, as a first step to fixing a major problem in the area.

Mayor Lawrence said this study would not fix Thompson Street. He said most property owners supported a delay of a local improvement district to fix Thompson Street. Public Works Director Anderson said the City had surveyed those property owners and the majority did support delaying the project for two to five years, even though they understood it would likely be more expensive at a later time and the City would likely have less funding to put into the improvements.

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Councilor Wood said five streets intersect and said it was a dangerous intersection for vision clearance and confusion. She said it was important to address this intersection before considering a local improvement district (LID) to improve Thompson Street.

Councilor Miller questioned a safety issue, saying there had only been three accidents there in a 15 year period.

Public Works Director Anderson said if the City planned to move forward with the LID in 2017, the timing for this study should be now. He said the information and whatever fix was needed should be completed prior to the LID work.

Councilor McGlothlin suggested the funds be carried over to the next fiscal year to allow time for the Traffic Safety Commission to re-evaluate the need for the study.

Councilor Dick said people didn't want to pay for their share of LID's but this was a collector intersection and gets a lot of traffic. He said it was important to have the study and ensure the safety of motorists and pedestrians.

Mayor Lawrence pointed out there were many streets in the City in worse condition and suggested waiting until the Council had a report from the Planning Commission regarding proposed street standards.

City Manager Young provided some options for the Council to consider, including: delay the study and use the money for street maintenance; delay the study until a plan was developed for all streets, rolling the funds into the next fiscal year for the study; or proceeding with the study now.

It was the consensus of the Council to delay the study until the next fiscal year, to allow time for street standards to be completed.

Discussion Regarding Upcoming Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) Project to Reconstruct Interstate 84 Through The Dalles

Brad DeHart, Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) provided an overview of the reconstruction of Interstate 84 at The Dalles, saying the project had moved up on the schedule and would be done in 2015. He said one thing that was being considered for the project, was to install taller median barriers.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the taller barriers would obstruct the view of the City from the westbound lanes of the freeway. DeHart said it could obstruct the view, but would be safer for

the large volume of vehicles in the area. He noted that the culvert box at Three Mile Creek would also be worked on during this project and said the plan was to keep all ramps open except for incidental tie-in's, which would be done at night.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the project would create jobs locally. DeHart said it would depend on the successful contractor. He said the project would start in February or March 2015 and should be completed by winter.

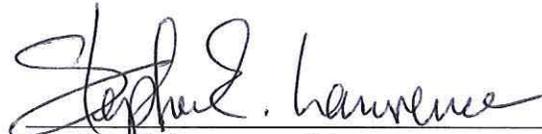
Mr. DeHart provided information about another project, a stone monument sign on the historic Columbia River Highway. He said that project would be completed in summer of 2014.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:42 p.m.

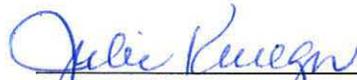
Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Stephen E. Lawrence, Mayor

ATTEST:



Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk