

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
APRIL 27, 2015
5:30 P.M.

THE DALLES CITY HALL
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Mayor Steve Lawrence

COUNCIL PRESENT: Tim McGlothlin, Linda Miller, Russ Brown, Taner Elliott

COUNCIL ABSENT: Dan Spatz

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie Krueger, Administrative Fellow Daniel Hunter, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Finance Director Kate Mast, Planning Director Dick Gassman, Police Captain Steve Baska, 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 Miller and seconded by McGlothlin to approve the agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

MINUTES (Continued)
Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2015
Page 2

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Lawrence read a Proclamation, declaring the month of April, 2015 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month.

Parkinson's Awareness Month Proclamation

Mayor Lawrence read a Proclamation, declaring the month of April, 2015 as Parkinson's Awareness Month. The Mayor also read a letter from President Obama encouraging awareness of this disease.

Kevin Mansfield, representing the Parkinson's Action Network, was in attendance to receive the Proclamation. He thanked the Mayor for the Proclamation and highlighted some resources available to those who suffer from Parkinson's, and for their families and care givers. Mansfield said a local support group met monthly on the first Wednesday at Water's Edge.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Chamber of Commerce President Lisa Farquharson thanked everyone for their help in making the Cherry Festival successful.

Jerry Johnson, 3102 East 13th Street, The Dalles, asked that the City Council schedule an agenda item to discuss the City's sewer ordinance. Mayor Lawrence asked Mr. Johnson to meet with the City Manager to discuss specific issues and schedule for a future meeting agenda.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Young said the Fort Dalles Fourth Committee had requested the Council consider funding their event at the full amount requested. Young said he invited Mr. Kirchhofer to attend the May 4 Budget meeting to make the request to the Budget Committee.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Parker said he was working with Airport staff to prepare documents for the purchase of the hangar building; noted higher activity with codes enforcement, and said he was working with Public Works staff regarding utility lines located on private property, with no easements.

MINUTES (Continued)
Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2015
Page 3

Mayor Lawrence asked if there were any developments with the marijuana regulations. Parker said one person was working to find a location, but no formal application had been received. He said he would be working on the recreational marijuana proposed regulations for Council consideration in the near future.

Councilor Brown asked if any consideration had been given to a municipal marijuana store, such as the City of North Bonneville had done. He said it could be a good source of revenue for the City.

Councilor Elliott asked for an update on the overgrown tree on East 13th Place. Parker said staff had advised the owner that an arborist was needed to inspect the condition of the tree, but he had not heard back from the property owner. Parker said he would follow up on the matter.

Councilor Miller asked the status of the burned residence at the corner of 10th and Mt. Hood Streets. Parker said the Codes Enforcement Officer was working with the owner on a schedule to get it taken care of. He said he would follow up on this issue.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Brown reported on his attendance at the Traffic Safety Commission meeting, noting there had been some requests for various signs, all of which had been approved by the City Manager.

Councilor McGlothlin reported on the Airport Board meeting, saying staff was working on weed control, the flex building, marketing, and budget. He said a new mechanic had been hired, and noted the café had closed. McGlothlin said he and the Mayor, along with other local officials, had met with two of the vandals that had been responsible for graffiti and had an opportunity to explain to them the damage they did and how important it was to have a nice looking community.

Councilor Elliott reported on his attendance at the QLife meeting, saying the primary subjects were the budget and a discussion regarding expansion of the network.

Councilor Miller said she had attended a DEQ workshop regarding oil spills and said it was very informative. She urged the various emergency response groups to conduct a meeting for the general public to alleviate fears in the community. Miller said she had also attended the April Urban Renewal Advisory Committee and Historic Landmarks Commission meetings.

MINUTES (Continued)
Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2015
Page 4

Mayor Lawrence said he had attended a meeting with Business Recruiter Gary Rains and several local Realtors, regarding economic development opportunities, attended the final NORCOR Budget meeting, attended the Business After Hours at the Civic Auditorium, and participated in the Cherry Festival Parade.

CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution No. 15-019 concurring with the Mayor's appointments to the Urban Renewal Budget Committee, was added to the Consent Agenda.

It was moved by Elliott and seconded by Brown to approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

Items approved by Consent Agenda were: 1) approval of April 13, 2015 regular City Council meeting minutes; 2) approval of April 6, 2015 special City Council meeting minutes; 3) approval to declare Police Department Vehicles as surplus property; and 4) Resolution No. 15-019 concurring with the Mayor's appointments to the Urban Renewal Budget Committee.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

Public Hearing to Receive Testimony Regarding Amendments to the Sign Ordinance

Mayor Lawrence reviewed the procedures to be followed for the public hearing.

Planning Director Gassman reviewed the staff report. He thanked the Committee for their work on the project and said their primary goal had been to make sure the Ordinance was flexible and provided balance. Gassman said there had been concern regarding digital signs in residential zones, so they recommended a conditional use permit be required for them. He also noted that internally lit signs would no longer be allowed in residential zones. In response to a question, he said existing internally lit signs would not be required to be removed. Gassman said another change was to allow commercial signage to be placed on the side or back of a building, where previously it was only allowed on the front of a building.

Gassman said the A frame signs on sidewalks were discussed and it was decided that the Main Street Program Director would work with downtown business owners to develop regulations for them. He said permits were required for these signs and there were regulations regarding the size and location of them.

Mayor Lawrence questioned why there was a proposal to remove only a portion of the language regarding indecent or obscene signs. Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to remove the entire subsection (13.030.030 A).

Testimony

Hearing no testimony, the public hearing was closed.

Council Deliberation

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Miller to approve the amendments to the Sign Ordinance as recommended by the Planning Commission, and removal of Section 13.030.030 A and direct staff to prepare an ordinance with appropriate findings of fact and bring the ordinance to Council for approval at a later date. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD ACTIONS

Authorization to Purchase Excavator

Public Works Director Anderson reviewed the staff report. Anderson said he had included information regarding the safety programs to assure the Council that measures had been taken to avoid accidents, as had happened previously.

Councilor Brown said if an excavator was only used an average of 100 hours per year, the City should consider purchasing a used one because an excavator could last for about 5,000 hours. He said he had done some research and found one available for \$44,500. He suggested staff consider the purchase of a used excavator instead of purchasing a new one, based on the number of hours used, and the price.

Public Works Director Anderson said they had been using the equipment a lot more in the past few years, so a 10 year average may not be an accurate reflection of how many hours the excavator is used. He said the Department was doing more in-house projects in recent years, replacing sanitary and storm lines.

There was discussion regarding the use of the equipment beyond its capacity. Concern was expressed regarding previous accidents. Mayor Lawrence said he appreciated seeing the safety information and that safety was being considered a priority.

It was the consensus of the City Council to direct staff to investigate the purchase of a used excavator.

ACTION ITEMS

Approval of Amendment to City's Budget Guidelines and Procedures for the Street Fund

City Manager Young reviewed the staff report.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Miller to amend the City's Budget Guidelines and Procedures for the Street Fund by adding c. additional funds transferred from the General Fund as identified through a thorough review of revenue opportunities and potential savings in General Fund activities. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

Consideration of Economic Development Staffing Plan

City Manager Young reviewed the staff report.

Councilor Elliott asked the status of contract employee Dan Durow. City Manager Young said some of his duties would shift to the new position, but Durow would continue to work on the Riverfront Trail issues. Young said the current, one year Fellow position would shift to a four month intern position, to reduce costs, helping pay for the proposed new position.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the contract for Mr. Durow expired in November. Young said that was correct but he proposed to extend the contract through the calendar year.

Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to take the proposal to the Budget Committee prior to making a decision on the new position.

MINUTES (Continued)
Regular Council Meeting
April 27, 2015
Page 7

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:56 p.m.

Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED:



Stephen E. Lawrence, Mayor

ATTEST:



Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk