

City Council Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 4, 2018

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

AGENDA ITEM 1 **CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**

CONVENED:

Council President Marson called the Regular Meeting to order at 6 pm.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Council President Sally Ann Marson
Councilor Karli Ebert
Councilor Nell Harrison
Councilor Gordon Thistle

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator
Stacey Goldstein, City Planner

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

None

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

AGENDA ITEM 2 **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

AGENDA ITEM 3 **CITIZEN INPUT:**

Casey Wheeler announced that, in conjunction with the City of St. Helens, the Columbia Food Bank has received a \$1.5 million Community Block grant award to renovate their new building.

Sue Ziglinski, candidate for City Council, introduced herself to the Council.

AGENDA ITEM 4 **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

4.1 Parks Committee: Chair Marson said the Parks Committee met recently and the minutes will be distributed soon.

4.2 Water and Sewer Committee: Chair Thistle said the leak detection work was successful. Leahnette said they discovered the largest service line leak they had ever seen, and it was creating an underground cavern. She said the crew has already repaired the leak, and a full survey of the entire City revealed only a few other small leaks. She said now that the large leak has been repaired, we should have a pretty tight system.

4.3 Street Committee: Chair Marson said the paving contractor has started working on the Sixth Street project.

4.4 Audit Committee: Secretary Harrison said the report from the last meeting is in the packet, and the next meeting will be held on October 23rd.

4.5 Hazard Mitigation Planning Group: Member Ebert said they are continuing their review and update of the Hazard Mitigation Plan, and they discussed the recent Prepare Fair activities.

4.6 Other Reports: None.

AGENDA ITEM 5

CONSENT AGENDA:

5.1 Bills Paid with check numbers 31307 through 31361 during the month of September 2018.

5.2 Activities Report from the Public Works Superintendent.

Item 5.2 was not available and was removed from the Consent Agenda.

MOVED (HARRISON), SECONDED (EBERT) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AS AMENDED.

AGENDA ITEM 6

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM 7

NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Short Term Rental Discussion: Discussion with City Planner regarding options and issues for short term rentals within the City of Columbia City.

Stacey said she has been discussing the topic of affordable housing with the Planning Commission, and during a recent meeting the issue of short-term rentals came up. She said the current code does not permit short-term rental activities, such as Airbnb, and the Planning Commission was discussing whether or not the code should be changed to permit short-term rentals, and if so, under what conditions. She said rather than make a recommendation, the Planning Commission decided to push the idea forward to the Council for their consideration.

The Council reviewed a memo from Stacey dated September 21, 2018, discussed options at length with staff, and reviewed the information contained in an August 8, 2017 memorandum from Reeve Kearns about the topic of short-term rentals. Stacey noted that nuisance issues associated with noise, traffic, parking, trash, etc., are the most common problems resulting from short-term rental activities. She said certain conditions, such as requiring the property owner to remain on the premises rather than allowing the short-term rental of the entire home, can help to curb nuisance problems.

Leahnette said there are a few property owners within the City that have expressed an interest in the ability to conduct short-term rental activities.

Following a lengthy discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the property owners that are interested in conducting short-term rental activities be invited to share their interests with the Council during a Council Meeting, and that Stacey get some sample regulations that other cities have adopted for the Council to review.

AGENDA ITEM 8

OTHER BUSINESS:

Staff Commendations: Mayor Young expressed her sincere appreciation for the City's outstanding staff.

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Holiday Party: It was the consensus of the Council that this year's holiday party be held on December 9.

AGENDA ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 pm.

APPROVED:

Sally Ann Marson, Council President,
in the absence of the Mayor

ATTEST:

Leahnette Rivers
City Administrator/Recorder