

City Council Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, MARCH 17, 2011

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

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

CONVENED:

Mayor Young called the regular meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Mayor Young and Councilor Marson delivered the invocation, and Mayor Young led the flag salute.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Cheryl A. Young
Councilor Sally Ann Marson
Councilor Shannon Fitzgibbons
Councilor Josh Fromm
Councilor Casey Wheeler (by phone)

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Micah Rogers, Public Works Superintendent
Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

None

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

AGENDA ITEM 2 **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None.

AGENDA ITEM 3 **CITIZEN INPUT:**

None.

AGENDA ITEM 4 **COUNCIL REPORTS:**

4.1 **Parks Committee:** Chair Fitzgibbons said the Parks Committee met recently, and the minutes have been distributed. She said the main focus of the meeting was budget cuts and relocating a rock for the Harvard Anderson memorial plaque.

Leahnette said ODOT may assist us with relocating a rock for the plaque.

4.2 **Water Source and Development Committee:** No report.

4.3 Street Committee: No report.

4.4 Sewer Committee: Micah said the RCE Sewer Main Replacement Project is finished except for a small section of curbing and some reseeding.

Councilor Marson inquired about a recent sewage backup at the Heller residence. Micah explained that upon investigating the problem, the Public Works crew discovered that the Heller's sewer lateral was crushed, and it has since been repaired.

Mayor Young inquired about the repairs to the Heller residence. Councilor Marson said the contractor hired by the insurance company is working on the repairs.

Micah commended TFT Construction for their work on the RCE project. He said Erik Olsen was extremely careful about the City's budget for this project, and it was an absolute pleasure to work with him and the TFT crew.

4.5 Audit Committee: Secretary Wheeler said the Audit Committee will meet on March 29 to review proposals for Auditing Services.

4.6 Library Report: Leahnette said she and Cathy Lundberg met with Kevin Diegel to inquire about a reduction in the monthly rent amount for the Library. She said unfortunately, Kevin is not able to consider any reductions in rent at this time.

4.7 Hazard Mitigation Planning Group: Team Leader Fromm said the Hazard Mitigation Planning Group will meet tomorrow at 4:00 p.m. Micah said he completed a Post Earthquake Building Inspection course yesterday, and he is now certified to inspect buildings for occupancy following an earthquake.

4.8 Other Reports: None.

AGENDA ITEM 5

CONSENT AGENDA:

5.1 Financial report for the period ending February 28, 2011.

5.2 Bills paid during the month of February 2011 with check numbers 15654 through 15714.

5.3 Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of March 3, 2011.

5.4 Written report from the Public Works Superintendent.

5.5 Written report from the Chief of Police.

5.6 Written report from the City Administrator/Recorder.

MOVED (FROMM) AND SECONDED (MARSON) TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

Councilor Fitzgibbons questioned the purpose of the payments made to Cascade Columbia Distributing, EBS Trust, City of Scappoose, ASI Flex, and Valic. Micah explained that the City purchases chemicals for water and sewer treatment purposes from Cascade Columbia Distributing. Leahnette said the payment to EBS Trust is for employee insurance benefits. She said the payment to the City of Scappoose was for the recent City/County Quarterly dinner meeting. Leahnette noted that ASI Flex handles employee flexible spending accounts and Valic receives employee compensation deferrals.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

AGENDA ITEM 6

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM 7 NEW BUSINESS:

7.1 Council Bill No. 11-585; Resolution No. 11-1000-R: A Resolution to temporarily reduce the City of St. Helens' portion of the Sewer System Development Charges applicable to development within the City of Columbia City as established by Ordinance No. 08-648-O.

MOVED (FITZGIBBONS), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 11-585.

7.2 Council Bill No. 11-586; Resolution No. 11-1001-R: A Resolution adopting a Safety Manual for the City of Columbia City, Oregon; rescinding Resolution No. 00-692-R.

MOVED (FROMM), SECONDED (MARSON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 11-586.

7.3 Council Bill No. 11-587; Resolution No. 11-1002-R: A Resolution approving a rental agreement and rules and regulations for the Columbia City Community Hall, Columbia City, Oregon.

The Mayor and Council discussed the details of the agreement at length with staff. It was the consensus of the Council that renters be allowed to preheat the building at no additional cost, all-day reservations be permitted as far in advance as requested, non-profits pay 100% of all applicable fees if their event includes serving alcohol, and the fee for serving alcohol be set at \$200.00.

MOVED (MARSON), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 11-587 WITH THE AFOREMENTIONED CHANGES TO THE POLICY.

AGENDA ITEM 8 OTHER BUSINESS:

Celebration Breakfast: It was the consensus of the Council that the City forgo all Celebration activities this year, including the breakfast, due to the declining financial situation.

Columbia County Rider Request: The Council reviewed a letter dated February 18, 2011 from Janet Wright, Transit Director for the Columbia County Rider (CCR). In the letter, Janet requested support in the form of a \$2,000 donation to CCR in 2011-12.

It was the consensus of the Council that the City forgo all donations and contributions to local services during the 2011-12 fiscal year, with the exception of the dues contribution to Columbia County Economic Development, due to the declining financial situation.

Renaming of a portion of Columbia River Highway: The Council discussed recent efforts to rename a portion of the Columbia River Highway in memory of Chief Ralph Painter. Mayor Young expressed concern about the amount of expense associated with changing all of the addresses. Leahnette said she did not believe the memorial section would change the legal addresses for the properties. Councilor Wheeler said he believes the memorial would only involve the placement of signs at each end of the memorial section of highway.

Suspicious traffic stop: Sergeant Harper said a citizen was recently approached by someone who said they had run out of gasoline along Highway 30. He said shortly thereafter, the citizen carried a can of gasoline out to the three occupants of the stranded vehicle. He said as the vehicle left Columbia City, it was pulled over by a member of a neighboring police agency who found that two of the occupants had outstanding warrants, fairly extensive criminal records, and possessed several questionable items.

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He said the driver had duct tape and gloves, and the passenger in the backseat had concealed a knife in his pant leg, and had stowed a stun gun on the floorboard of the car under his feet. Sergeant Harper said it appears as though the occupants may have lured the citizen to the car with possible intentions of taking him captive.

AGENDA ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m. The previously anticipated Workshop did not follow the meeting.

APPROVED:

Cheryl A. Young
Mayor

ATTEST:

Leahnette Rivers
City Administrator/Recorder