

City Council Meeting Minutes

THURSDAY, DECEMBER 15, 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 delivered the invocation and led the flag salute.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:

Mayor Cheryl A. Young
Councilor Shannon Fitzgibbons
Councilor Josh Fromm
Councilor Sally Ann Marson

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

Councilor Casey Wheeler

ALSO PRESENT:

Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

Harold Olsen, City Attorney

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

AGENDA ITEM 2 **PUBLIC HEARINGS:**

None

AGENDA ITEM 3 **CITIZEN INPUT:**

Patrick Trapp, Executive Director of the Port of St. Helens, said he looks forward to the opportunity to work with the City during the upcoming visioning process. He said the Port is also about to begin its Strategic Business Plan process, which will take about eight months. He said they will be looking at all of the properties within their portfolio in an effort to determine how they can best take advantage of the various commodities each has available, along with the state's identified priorities, and they will be involving each of the communities in the process. He said the process will satisfy a state requirement that allows the Port to continue to work with the state for continual grant and loan opportunities. He said only six of the 23 port districts within the state have reached this point, so they are well ahead of most port districts in staying competitive in today's market. He said the Port is also looking forward to participating in the City's upcoming water and wastewater facilities planning process with a cash match and staff support.

Pat said the Port has many good things happening right now. He said they are about to begin construction on a \$1.5 million hanger and office space area at the airport for an expansion opportunity for Oregon Air. He said ORPET's plastic recycling plant is nearly constructed, and they are looking at starting up in January or February with 25 employees. He said the Columbia Pacific Bio Refinery in Clatskanie is just about to start up again, which means that corn unit trains of about one mile in length will be coming through town about four times per month.

AGENDA ITEM 4 COUNCIL REPORTS:

- 4.1 **Parks Committee:** No report.
- 4.2 **Water Source and Development Committee:** No report.
- 4.3 **Street Committee:** No report.
- 4.4 **Sewer Committee:** No report.
- 4.5 **Audit Committee:** Leahnette said the Audit Committee will meet in January.
- 4.6 **Hazard Mitigation Planning Group:** No report.
- 4.7 **Other Reports:** None.

AGENDA ITEM 5 CONSENT AGENDA:

- 5.1 **Bills paid with check numbers 16226 through 16278 during the month of November 2011.**
- 5.2 **Financial Report for the month ending November 30, 2011.**
- 5.3 **Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of November 17, 2011.**
- 5.4 **Monthly written reports from the Public Works Superintendent.**
- 5.5 **Monthly written report from the Chief of Police.**
- 5.6 **Written report from the City Administrator/Recorder.**

MOVED (FROMM), SECONDED (MARSON), AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY BY ROLL CALL VOTE TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

AGENDA ITEM 6 UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

None.

AGENDA ITEM 7 NEW BUSINESS:

- 7.1 **Canvass of Votes:** Canvass of votes cast at the Special Election held November 8, 2011.

The City Council canvassed the votes cast in the November 8, 2011 election.

- 7.2 **Council Bill No. 11-617; Resolution No. 11-1029-R: A Resolution of the City of Columbia City, Oregon, authorizing a financing loan from the Water Fund by entering into a financing contract with the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority.**

MOVED (MARSON), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 11-617.

- 7.3 **Water Fund Technical Assistance Project Financing Contract:** Approval of Water Fund Technical Assistance Project Financing Contract for the Columbia City Water System Master Plan between the State of Oregon, acting by and through the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority, and the City of Columbia City.

MOVED (FROMM), SECONDED (FITZGIBBONS) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT.

- 7.4 **Water Fund Technical Assistance Project Financing Contract:** Ratify Water Fund Technical Assistance Project Financing Contract for the Columbia City Wastewater Master Plan Update between the State of Oregon, acting by and through the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority, and the City of Columbia City.

MOVED (FITZGIBBONS), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RATIFY THE CONTRACT.

7.5 DLCD State Grant Contract: Approval of State Grant Contract between the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) and the City of Columbia City.

MOVED (MARSON), SECONDED (FITZGIBBONS) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONTRACT.

AGENDA ITEM 8 OTHER BUSINESS:

City/County Quarterly Meeting: Leahnette noted that the City/County Quarterly Meeting is scheduled for January 17, 2012, and will be held at the St. Helens Senior Center.

Island Annexations: Leahnette said the Planning Commission discussed the topic of island annexations at a recent meeting. She said the Commission looked favorably upon the annexation of the county islands provided the City is sensitive to the concerns raised by the owners of the property subject to annexation. Leahnette recommended the Council proceed with initiating the island annexation process, which would then go back to the Planning Commission as a formal application.

Councilor Marson asked how long the property owners would have before they are required to connect to City sewer. Leahnette said that is one of the items that would be discussed and decided during the process. For instance, she said they might be allowed to continue to use their septic system until such time as it fails. She said the effective date for annexation could also range between 3 and 10 years. She said the process would involve public testimony, and the Planning Commission and the City Council would consider the public testimony when making decisions about whether or not to approve the annexation, when to require the connection to sewer, the effective date of the annexation, etc.

MOVED (FITZGIBBONS), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED TO INITIATE THE ANNEXATION OF THE COUNTY ISLANDS WITHIN THE CITY. Councilor Marson abstained from voting.

“Through Traffic” sign: Leahnette said a resident on Fourth Street just to the south of “L” Street has requested a “Through Street” sign at the south end of Fourth Street because often times motorists assume that “M” Street is a driveway or a one-way street, so they turn around at the end of Fourth Street rather than travel through “M” Street. No objections were heard from the Council.

“We Support our Veterans” sign: Councilor Fitzgibbons questioned whether the term “support” or “honor” should be used in the signs along Highway 30. It was the consensus of the Council that the word “support” should be used. Leahnette said she’s been working with ODOT on getting approval to put up the signs.

AGENDA ITEM 9 ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:31 p.m.

APPROVED:

Cheryl A. Young
Mayor

ATTEST:

Leahnette Rivers
City Administrator/Recorder