City Council Meeting Minutes

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THURSDAY, APRIL 19, 2012

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF COLUMBIA CITY, COLUMBIA COUNTY, OREGON

AGENDA ITEM 1   <u>**CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL:**</u>

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 Sally Ann Marson
Councilor Josh Fromm
Councilor Casey Wheeler

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

None

ALSO PRESENT:

Michael McGlothlin, Chief of Police
Leahnette Rivers, City Administrator/Recorder

ATTORNEY PRESENT:

None

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

AGENDA ITEM 2   <u>**PUBLIC HEARINGS:**</u>

None.

AGENDA ITEM 3   <u>**CITIZEN INPUT:**</u>

Chief Mike Greisen of Scappoose Fire Department gave a presentation as a representative of the Portland Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). He said UASI is one of two organizations within the five-county Portland Urban Area Security Initiative organization that focuses on all-hazards emergency preparedness. He said UASI is an organization created to manage the implementation of the UASI grant program and to develop and implement a Portland Urban Area Homeland Security Strategy. The other group within the five-county area is the Regional Emergency Management Group (REMG) which focuses on information sharing and networking among emergency managers from private and public sectors.

Chief Greisen presented a slide show detailing the activities and the many accomplishments of the two organizations, which included an overview of the equipment acquisitions and training and planning opportunities that were made available over the years as a result of the UASI grant funds.

Chief Greisen said a recent study was conducted to evaluate the current organizational structure relating to emergency preparedness within the Portland Urban Area, and some restructuring was recommended. He said they are now looking to involve some local elected officials - one from the County and two from City government - and he asked if someone from the Columbia City Council might be interested in participating. He said the elected official would need to attend two annual meetings per year, and a few additional meetings initially to get the process started. Councilor Wheeler volunteered to serve with the support of the Council. The Mayor and Council thanked Chief Greisen for his informative presentation.

AGENDA ITEM 4   COUNCIL REPORTS:

4.1   Parks Committee: Councilor Marson reported that Paulette and Jim Lichatowich, with assistance from Joyce Heller and Barbara Gordon, purchased and planted three climbing rose bushes in Carolyn King Memorial Park.

4.2   Water Source and Development Committee: No report.

4.3   Street Committee: No report.

4.4   Sewer Committee: Leahnette reported that the television inspection work on the sewer system will begin on Monday.

4.5   Audit Committee: No report.

4.6   Hazard Mitigation Planning Group: No report.

4.7   Other Reports: Councilors Wheeler and Marson attended a recent League of Oregon Cities (LOC) meeting in Forest Grove. Councilor Marson said one item under consideration is a possible constitutional amendment that would protect local option levies from compression, and extend the maximum length of a local option levy to 10 years. Councilor Wheeler said they cannot eliminate compression, but they can place them outside of the compression equation.

Leahnette said the information contained in the handouts from that meeting was very informative, and did an excellent job of identifying the inequities in Oregon's current tax structure as it applies to each community.

Councilor Wheeler said another town in Oregon recently passed a levy for their police department, but lost the levy through to compression.

AGENDA ITEM 5   CONSENT AGENDA:

   5.1   Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting of April 5, 2012.
   5.2   Minutes of the Special City Council Meeting of April 12, 2012.
   5.3   Monthly written report from the Chief of Police.
   5.4   Monthly written report from the Public Works Superintendent.
   5.5   Written report from the City Administrator/Recorder.

MOVED (WHEELER), SECONDED (FROMM), 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   First reading of Council Bill No. 12-634: An Ordinance declaring the City's election to receive state revenues.

The Council completed the first reading of Council Bill No. 12-634.

7.2   Council Bill No. 12-635; Resolution No. 12-1043-R: A Resolution authorizing the closure of the Sewer Debt Service Fund and authorizing the transfer of Sewer Debt Service Fund assets and liabilities to the Sewer Fund effective June 30, 2012.

MOVED (MARSON), SECONDED (FROMM) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 12-635.

7.3   Council Bill No. 12-636; Resolution No. 12-1044-R: A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Columbia City, Oregon, endorsing the Morrow-Pacific Coal Export Project by Barge.

MOVED (FROMM), SECONDED (FITZGIBBONS) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 12-636.

7.4   Council Bill No. 12-637; Resolution No. 12-1045-R: A Resolution authorizing a transfer of appropriations within the General Fund and the Water Fund during the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2011.

MOVED (WHEELER), SECONDED (MARSON) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 12-637.

AGENDA ITEM 8   OTHER BUSINESS:

Kinder Morgan Coal Export Project: Mayor Young said she expects residents to have an opportunity to hear from Kinder Morgan and Portland and Western representatives during a future City Council Meeting, with an open house forum directly following the Council Meeting to provide residents with an opportunity to ask questions. She said June 7th is currently being considered for the meeting date, and the City will provide information about the event in the City Newsletter. Leahnette said the June 7th meeting date is tentative and has not been confirmed.

Police Update: Chief McGlothlin reported that three vehicles were broken into on Sunday night - two on Weown Court and one on Fifth Street. He said two of the three vehicles were unlocked, and the passenger door on the third vehicle was pried open.

Chief McGlothlin said the Department has received four applications for the position of volunteer Police Reserve Officer, and they are expecting a fifth application to come in soon. He said the applications are currently under consideration, and the candidates that are selected will attend a six-month Reserve Academy beginning in September or October. He said Reserve Officer Erickson is just finishing up her reserve training and is about ready to patrol on her own.

Mayor Young thanked Jessica McGlothlin for her efforts to date with the annual Shop with a Cop Program, which has become a successful annual occurrence.

John Hunnicutt complaint: The Council reviewed a letter dated April 12, 2012 from John Hunnicutt. In the letter, Mr. Hunnicutt raised concerns about the areas upon private property and within right-of-ways that are choked with blackberry vines. He also expressed concern about the trees on the west side of the Fifth Street right-of-way between "I" and "J" Streets. He said the trees are unhealthy, entwined with ivy, and may be a danger to traffic passing along the street.   Leahnette said she has called some licensed tree specialists to take a look, make a recommendation and provide a quote for the work. She said she was not certain about his complaint about blackberries, but she would check with him to get more specific information.

Request to modify Community Hall rental: The Council reviewed an e-mail message dated April 17, 2012, from Jennel Fortier. In the e-mail, Jennel asked the Council to

authorize a change to her Community Hall rental date by moving it from May 26th to May 27th. She said she originally planned to book the reservation on May 20th, which turned out to be unavailable, so she was required to decide upon another date. She selected May 26th, and then later learned that her family had other commitments on that day. She said the Hall rental is for her daughter's birthday celebration, and her daughter would be very disappointed if her family was unable to attend.

MOVED (MARSON), SECONDED (WHEELER) AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CHANGE AS REQUESTED.

Business Attraction Action Plan: Councilor Wheeler said the Columbia County Economic Team (CCET) hired a firm that helped to develop a Business Attraction Action Plan. He said the first step was a mock proposal, which all of the cities participated in, to measure how ready we are to respond to and attract business. He said we learned a lot from the process, and we have some work to do. He said the Business Attraction Plan is a series of recommendations with cost estimates for each item. He said we may not be able to fund it all. Up until this point the majority of the economic development funding came from local governments, and during this next funding phase CCET will be moving towards a funding structure that relies primarily upon the private sector for funding. He said he will be assisting with the implementation of various parts of the Business Attraction Action Plan. He encouraged the Council to take a look at the newly improved CCET website.

Transient Room Tax: Leahnette said Columbia City has not established a transient room tax to date. It was the consensus of the Council that staff work on developing an ordinance establishing a transient room tax.

Spring Clean Up Event: Councilor Marson reminded the Council that the Spring Clean Up Event is scheduled for Saturday from 8 a.m. to noon.

AGENDA ITEM 9   ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 6:52 p.m.

APPROVED:

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Cheryl A. Young
Mayor

ATTEST:

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Leahnette Rivers
City Administrator/Recorder