**CITY OF FOSSIL**

**COUNCIL MEETING**

**JANUARY 10, 2017**

**MINUTES**

The regular City Council Meeting for the City of Fossil was called to order by Mayor Carol MacInnes at 7:00 P.M. This meeting was held in the Fossil Elementary School, Main Street, Fossil, Oregon.

Council Members Attending: Mayor Carol MacInnes, Councilor Mary Mountain, Councilor Melanie Sperry and Councilor Jerry Beckham.

Also Attending: Julie Knox, Marsha Holly, Jack Lyon, Brenda Snow Potter, Brad Baird, Launa Wing, Candy Thornton, Jim Stephan, Public Works Superintendent Bill Potter, Chief Sheriff Deputy Michael Boyd and Interim City Recorder, Jeanne E. Burch.

Approval or Amendments to Agenda: Moved by Melanie Sperry, seconded by Jerry Beckham that Agenda be approved as presented. Motion carried with all present voting aye.

Swearing in of Mayor and City Council: Mayor Carol MacInnes, Councilor Mary Mountain and Councilor Julie Knox all took the Oath of Office and were sworn in as Members of the Fossil City Council by Interim City Recorder Jeanne E. Burch.

Election of City Council Officer: Moved by Melanie Sperry, seconded by Jerry Beckham to elect Mary Mountain Fossil City Council Present. Motion carried with all present voting aye.

Communications: None

Approval of Minutes of Council Meetings and Approval of December Bills: Moved by Mary Mountain, seconded by Jerry Beckham to approve the minutes of December Council Meeting of December 13, 2016 and Emergency Council Meeting of January 4, 2017. Julie Knox protested the minutes of January 4, 2017 meeting as she felt they were not correct as pertained to the hiring of an Interim City Recorder due to the resignation of Teresa Hunt as City Recorder. Mary Mountain withdrew her motion and Jerry Beckham withdrew his second. Moved by Mary Mountain, seconded by Jerry Beckham to approve the December 13, 2016 Council Meeting Minutes as presented. Motion carried with all present voting aye. The January 4, 2017 minutes and Interim City Recorder will be discussed under new business.

Old Business:

City Web Page: Julie Knox inquired about the contract with web designer. Carol MacInnes replied that this was being followed up on and at this time there is no report on the progress of web page design.

Park Lights: No update at this time. Marsha Holly asked if these lights would have a dimmer installed. Bill Potter replied they would not have a dimmer as this is on the basketball court.

Eclipse: Michael Boyd reported that there are several meetings regarding the eclipse being held in the next few weeks and he will be attending and report to Council at the next regular meeting.

Logo: So far there are three submissions for the City of Fossil Logo Contest and more will be coming.

Title Issue with Fossil Heights Property: At this time there has been no communication with Fossil City Attorney. Mary Mountain reported that the City Attorney had been in contact with Wells Fargo Bank regarding title to these properties. Mayor MacInnes requested that Mary Mountain contact Attorney Paul Sumner and if this process is not going forward to consider if the Fossil City Council wishes to proceed with the foreclosing procedure. Mary will research this matter and report back to Council. Launa Wing asked if property taxes are being paid. Carol MacInnes pointed out that City does not pay property taxes. Marsha Holly commented there might be a more cost effective way by just paying Wells Fargo what they are requesting.

New Business:

Water Feasibility Study: Brad Baird of Anderson Perry & Associates met with the Council and presented an update on the Water Feasibility Study. A grant was secured to find where to drill a new water supply well. Brad reported that lots of work was done on geology and a new source was not found. At the present time, Fossil has three wells, identified as Well 1, Well 2 and Wells 3. Aquifer Storage was discussed at length. This method stores water in the winter when it is not needed and provides needed water during the summer when wells and Star Spring do not provide ample water. During the winter the Star Spring excess just goes into the sewer. Solution could be a storage well with this excess water. Well No. 3 is a candidate for this method. At this time the water level in Well no. 3 has dropped significantly all year around. The excess water in winter months from Star Spring could fill the present Well 3 and provide ample

water during the hotter months. There would be a need to run a dedicated line from the Concrete Storage Reservoir to the well site. In the winter months, October through April, the water would be injected into well 3 for storage. The benefits of this method are storage of spring water, do not drill a new well, recharge Well 3, and a cost estimate of $400,000.00 or less which should qualify for favorable funding opportunities due to the low and moderate income of Fossil residents. Numerous charts and maps were provided to support this presentation. These documents will be in the City of Fossil Feasibility Study File at Fossil City Office.

Sealed Bids for Surplus Property: Mayor MacInnes opened bid. Three bids were received for 1999 Chevrolet Pickup. Bids were for $700.00, $1,053.00 and $1,800.00 respectively. Moved by Jerry Beckham, seconded by Mary Mountain to accept the $1,800.00 bid for 1999 Chevrolet Pickup from Otis Cody. Motion carried with all present voting aye.

High School Athletic Sign: A discussion held on the Athletic Sign located at the east entrance to Fossil. This sign needs attention and a request has come to Mayor to have the City take care of sign. The consensus of the Council to refer this matter back to School for maintenance.

Interim City Recorder: Julie Knox questioned the hiring of the Interim City Recorder. Councilor Knox felt that the procedure was not correct and that the salary was not included in the Emergency Minutes of January 4, 2017. Mayor MacInnes stated that the City of Fossil is committed to transparency and explained that the Interim City Recorder was requested to come in on a temporary basis until a permanent replacement could be found. She also pointed out the qualifications of the temporary help. Julie Knox asked if there was also going to be hiring of other part-time help. Mayor MacInnes stated no, since Interim Recorder could give more time than they had anticipated. Mary Mountain moved, Jerry Beckham seconded to amend the minutes of January 4, 2017 meeting to read that the Interim City Recorder will be paid at the per hour rate of the previous City Recorder and that minutes be approved with that amendment. Motion carried with all present voting aye. Mayor MacInnes also clarified a statement she had made noting that the Mayor and Council were new. She stated what she met is that the Mayor and Council are not new to Oregon Public Meeting Law, Oregon Revised Statutes and Municipal Government. The Mayor and Council are relatively new to Fossil City Government.

Staff Report:

Deputy Michael Boyd: Abatement issues were discussed. Deputy Boyd reported that he had started Abatement Process at 405 Sixth Street, Fossil, Oregon. Deputy Boyd requested the council permission to move forward with the formal process. Mary Mountain asked the resident of this address what the plans were to avoid this procedure. Resident replied he would comply as soon as the weather cooperates and he can dispose of everything. Michael Boyd replied that it is important to move forward.

Jim Stephan reported that he would be presenting a plan to the Fossil City Council to clean up his property at the February 2017 meeting.

Living in Business: Deputy Boyd reported that he had followed up on a complaint of someone living in a retail business in the downtown area. He found that they were not living in the business but doing rehab work to be able to open the store.

City Recorder: Jeanne Burch reported that she was happy to help on a short-term basis until a new City Recorder was hired. Jeanne also reported that Teresa Hunt had been very helpful in this transition and was available to answer questions. Jeanne stated she very much appreciated Teresa’s help.

Public Works Director: Bill Potter reported that he was purchasing a dump trailer to haul heavy supplies in town. Bill also reported that he needed a jackhammer and a snow blower. Moved by Mary Mountain, Seconded by Melanie Sperry, to allow Bill Potter to purchase a jackhammer with an estimated cost of $2,000.00 to $3,000.00. Motion carried with all present voting aye. Moved by Melanie Sperry, seconded by Mary Mountain to authorize Bill Potter to purchase a snow blower. Motion carried with all present voting aye.

Community Issues and Concerns:

Launa Wing asked that research of records be done to clarify the use of her second residential lot about water and sewer installation.

Mayor and Council Report:

Julie Knox discussed Board of Directors for Fossil City Library. Councilor Knox stated that she will be the President of this Board and wanted to be sure this was not a conflict. Mayor MacInnes stated she had checked on this and since this is an advisory board, if issues come before the City County, Councilor Knox will have to abstain.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:04 P.M.

Approved:\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

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CAROL MACINNES, MAYOR JEANNE E. BURCH, INTERIM CITY RECORDER.