

FOSSIL CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
JEANNE E. BURCH BUILDING
August 14, 2018

Mayor MacInnes called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Council Present: Carol MacInnes, Jerry Beckham, Julie Knox-Lyon, Melanie Sperry, Cindy Burlingame
Staff Present: Bill Potter and Teresa Aldrich

Community Present: Brenda Potter, Steve Bray, Elaine Bray, Terri Hunt, Linda Philbrick, Cathy McCarron, Tyler Eoute, Randy Eoute, Margaret Eoute and Tami Stockton

Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to approve the agenda. Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilor Sperry moved to approve the minutes from the July 10, 2018 council meeting. Councilor Knox-Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to approve the minutes from the August 8, 2018 special meeting. Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilor Beckham moved to approve the July 10, 2018 to August 13, 2018 bills as presented. Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE

Fossil Museum

Mayor MacInnes read an invitation from the Fossil Museum to tour the museum prior to the council meeting on August 14, at 6:00 pm. Mayor MacInnes went on to say that Councilors Beckham, Knox-Lyon, Sperry, Teresa Aldrich and herself all attended the tour. She went on to congratulate the museum for the fantastic work the volunteers have done reorganizing and labeling the museum. The museum looks great and encouraged all in attendance to make time to go see the wonderful Fossil Museum.

OLD BUSINESS

Anderson Perry

Bill Potter reported that he had received a call from Brad Baird from Anderson Perry with an update on the Facilities Plan and One Stop meeting. News from Brad is that he has received feedback from IFA with some minor changes suggested to the facilities plan. He is waiting for feedback from DEQ. Bill Potter asked the council if they have had time to read the plan and if they had any questions or feedback. Councilor Knox reported that she had read the plan and it was laid out very well and she had no questions at this time. No other comments from City Council.

NEW BUSINESS

Wheeler County Community Development – Tami Stockton

Tami Stockton informed the council that she had been approached by local businesses and was asked to research amenity signs to be placed on the highway. The hopes are to encourage visitors to come into town and spend some time, eating, shopping, and enjoy what Fossil has to offer. Tami presented some sample signs Lee Brouhard had provided. This project is in the early stages and more research needs to be completed, approval from ODOT to place the signs on the highway, etc. Tami Stockton wanted to let council know that she had been approached and if the city would be on board to help with the signage. Council discussed that it was a good idea, but agreed that this project is in the early stages and more research and costs need to be presented. Tami suggested that perhaps the mammoth welcome sign could be updated. Mayor MacInnes said that she thought that the sign was funded by a grant and she would look into if it could be altered. Tami also presented a flyer from Oregon Natural Desert Association regarding an event on September 6, 2018 at Tigertown Brewing Co. in Mitchell. The event will explore the economic future of Wheeler County, with speaker Damon Runberg, our regional economist for the State of Oregon. Tami has also placed flyers around town and city hall.

Thrift Store – Debbie Woody

Mayor MacInnes read a letter from Debbie Woody asking for a variance to run a thrift store at 1010 B Street, a residential area. The town has recently lost the thrift store and Debbie would like to be able to provide this much needed service to the community. Mayor MacInnes was confused by the information in the letter, which is different from what Debbie and the Mayor has discussed. Bill Potter said he thought it would be a conditional use permit, not a variance and will do some research. Mayor MacInnes suggested we invite Debbie to the next council meeting to discuss further.

Volunteer Drive List Haven House

Mayor MacInnes is reaching out for Haven House to create a drivers list for non-life threatening, non-emergency transport drivers. The Mayor would like to relieve the pressure on the ambulance for these types of transports. Linda Philbrick who serves on the Haven House board was in attendance and asked if she could talk more with Marj about the needs of Haven House. Linda also said she would talk with Wheeler County Transport and try and find some common ground.

City Cell Phones

Mayor MacInnes started a discussion on city employee cell phones. The Mayor said it is advantageous for the staff to have city cell phones in the case of any ligations. Currently Bill and Teresa use their personal cell phones for work related issues. Councilors Knox-Lyon and Sperry like the idea of city cell phones for the staff. Bill Potter liked the idea as well. It would be advantageous when Bill is out of the office to be able to hand a city cell phone to whomever is covering in Bill's absence, to handle emergencies, etc. Bill suggested that the city take over his current phone number since a lot of residents have that number. Council liked the idea. Mayor MacInnes suggested quality phones, with a basic plan. Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to approve the purchase and plan of two cell phones for city

employees. Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. The previous motion on employee cell phone stipends was tabled until further research can be completed.

Appointment of Council Position No. 4

Mayor MacInnes introduced new city council member Cindy Burlingame and asked Council President Sperry to swear in Cindy Burlingame as the new city council member for position no. 4. Council President Sperry read the oath, Cindy repeated the oath. Welcome to Councilor Burlingame.

REPORTS

Councilor Knox-Lyon: Planning Commission, Dog registration, Library. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that she will be stepping aside from the planning commission. Mayor MacInnes thanked her for getting the planning commission up and running again. Currently the planning commission needs two more volunteers to fill the board. Councilor Knox-Lyon asked Teresa to give an update on dog registration. Teresa reported, after the note on the August utility billings 6-7 people have come in to register their dogs. This is a step in the right directions. Councilor Knox-Lyon expressed concern with enforcement and the mentality of those who do not follow the rules. Councilor Knox also has been talking with dog owners when she is out walking her dog and reminding them to stop by city hall and register their dogs. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that Dan Robinson resigned at the last Library board meeting. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported to the council that the library board would like to recommend Mollie Carter and Keri Bianco to fill vacant positions. Councilor Sperry asked if the library board is now full, yes, the board is full. Councilor Sperry moved to appoint Mollie Carter and Keri Bianco to the library board. Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that Cathy Goldsmith has been using the grant money to purchase new children's books. Cathy has also been hard at work, posting updates on Facebook, organizing a float and booth for the Wheeler County Fair. Councilor Knox-Lyon then presented a contract for services for computer maintenance and support services for the library from Butte Creek Studios. After a discussion, council would like the city attorney to look at the contract. Councilor Sperry moved to accept contract upon approval from the city attorney. Councilor Beckham seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilor Sperry: Reported that the summer swim program is complete. Fossil had 11 kids participate in the program this year. Special thank you to Mollie Carter who supervised the kids during the program. Mollie also has stopped by city hall and said she would work again next year. Councilor Sperry reported that the ambulance has had 56 runs this year and a total of 86 last year. Linda Philbrick asked how many volunteers the ambulance has. Mayor MacInnes said the ambulance has 5 volunteers and a couple of volunteer drivers. Linda asked is the volunteers have to be EMT's. Mayor MacInnes explained that the volunteers in the back of the ambulance have to be EMT's or EMR's. Terri Hunt asked how do you recruit more volunteers. Mayor MacInnes said this is an ongoing process and a county wide problem getting qualified volunteers.

Councilor Beckham: No updates.

Mayor MacInnes: With the recent additions and resignations to the city council the Mayor suggested the following matters of record be considered.

Attorney of Record: Paul Sumner
Engineer of Record: Anderson and Perry
Streets: Cindy Burlingame

Water: Julie Knox-Lyon

Sewer: Jerry Beckham

Parks and Ambulance: Melanie Sperry

Also, with Councilor Knox-Lyon resigning from the planning commission we need to have a replacement. Councilor Burlingame asked how often does the commission meet and other questions. Councilor Knox-Lyon explained that the councilor on the commission is for guidance only and does not vote. Cindy volunteered for the position. Moved by Councilor Knox-Lyon to accept Councilor Burlingame to the planning commission. Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Mayor MacInnes expressed excitement over the participation to the Wheeler County Fair this year. Attendance and entries seem to be up, along with participation in the parade, rodeo and booths. The Mayor also suggested for the future that we a friendly competition with Spray and Mitchell to bring in more entries. Perhaps even have a traveling trophy for the winning city to display at city hall. She also suggested a friendly competition between the schools with a traveling spirit. It was said that Keri Bianco was talking with the high school for float parades for next year. The Mayor suggested she contact the other schools and get them involved.

City Recorder: Teresa reported that she attended a class hosted by League of Oregon Cities in John Day in July. Municipal Operations in Oregon. It was a very informative class. Solutions Public Accountants were in the office August 13 and 14 working on the 2017-18 audit. With the recent change in the marital status for Councilor Knox-Lyon, the city needs to have new bank account signature cards. Moved by Councilor Sperry to sign new signature cards reflecting the name change for Councilor Knox-Lyon. Motion seconded by Councilor Knox-Lyon. Motion carried by unanimous vote. After much discussion and schedule checking, the volunteer thank you dinner has been scheduled for Tuesday, September 25, 6:00 pm at the fire hall.

Public Works: Bill reported that ODOT will be in town August 22 for a final walk through on the Heritage Trail project. Councilor Knox-Lyon asked Bill if he was going to be on the walk through with ODOT. Yes, Bill will attend the walk through. There was a discussion on the quality issues with some of the work. Mayor MacInnes said she has spoken with ODOT on some of her concerns. Bill reported that the sewer issue at Nickerson's and three other homes is almost completed. There has been some resistance from one of the homeowners with his portion of the repair. Bill said that he has spoken with the homeowner and let him know when issues arise with his sewer, they are on their own. The City has applied for next the next special city allotment, which would resurface Jay Street. This grant would be for \$100,000. We are currently waiting to hear back from 7 Peaks Paving to schedule the resurfacing project on Chase and A Street.

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND CONCERNS: Elaine Bray had two announcements. The community yard sale is scheduled for September 15, 2018. The proceeds from the sale at Marilyn Garcia's will be used to benefit the downtown beautification project. Clean and gently used items may be donated by contacting Karen or Brenda at Bank of Eastern Oregon, Fossil Branch. There will be maps available with all the locations of the yard sales. Elaine also informed the council that she is now working at North Central ESD print shop in Condon. If the city is in need of any signs, flyers, etc. please consider using North Central ESD. The owners of Cross Rifles BBQ announced that they will be moving into RJ's old location. They are in the process of obtaining a liquor license, and hoping to be up and running by Labor Day. Brenda Snow Potter said that it was brought to her attention that there were some motorcycles parked on the sidewalk of the Merc over the weekend. There was a discussion on asking the owners not to park on the sidewalks.

ADJOURNED 8:15 pm

Approved: _____

Carol E. MacInnes, Mayor

Teresa Aldrich, City Recorder