

FOSSIL CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
JEANNE E. BURCH BUILDING  
March 12, 2019

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

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

Community Present: Brenda Potter, Randy Eoute, Margaret Eoute, Rick Shaffer, Marsha Holly, Jerry Anderson, Suzette Greer, Mollie Carter, Tyler Eoute and Kalyn Stern

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

Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to approve the minutes from the February 12, 2019 council meeting. Council President Sperry seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on February 11, 2019. Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Council President Sperry moved to approve the February 13, 2019 to March 12, 2019 bills as presented. Councilor Burlingame declared a conflict of interest. Councilor Knox-Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote, with Councilor Burlingame abstaining.

CORRESPONDENCE - None

OLD BUSINESS

Anderson Perry

Bill Potter reported that the funding notification award will be coming from Business Oregon within the next couple of weeks. Council members were also given an email from Brad with Anderson Perry outlining an estimated project schedule. In the email Brad also explained that the city needs to request proposals from engineering firms (in accordance with state law) due to the amount of the project. After we complete the process for proposals for engineers, we should be able to use the same engineer for the ASR project. In the email Brad also asked to present and discuss all this information at the April 9 meeting.

City Property

Mayor MacInnes reported that the survey is not done at this time. More information will be discussed under new business.

## Ordinance Enforcement – Tabled

Mayor MacInnes did report that the deputy's will be getting out of the academy this month and more information will be coming in the next couple of months.

## RDI

Teresa reported that she has spoken with Anne about the First Impressions program and Anne said she would check and get back to her. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported she had texted Anne and got no response. The Mayor asked council how long they were going to wait on the project. RDI already has the \$500 required for the project. Council asked Teresa to follow up with RDI on the status of the project.

## Discussion/Action vacating B Street - Tabled

## Economic Development

The Mayor reported on the public meeting held on March 11, 2019 hosted by the city and ECONorthwest. Attendance was low, perhaps we could have done a better job advertising, no local businesses were present. When the recap of the meeting adding the new information gained at the meeting arrives, it will be presented to council.

## Solutions CPA's – Segregation of Duties

Mayor MacInnes reported council gathered for a work session to discuss segregation of duties. The Mayor will get together with Teresa and discuss further.

## NEW BUSINESS

### Special Meeting with County Court

Mayor MacInnes reported there was a meeting with the county court and the fair board. Commissioner Shaffer stopped by city hall and requested a meeting to discuss the issue. Council President Sperry and Councilor Knox-Lyon met with Commissioner Shaffer at city hall today. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that it was agreed that the emails, etc. will stop and we will all work together towards an agreement. It was reported that the fair board will be reporting to the county court and will work with the city to make progress. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that Commissioner Shaffer came up with the idea to make a lot line adjustment to the property, when the survey is complete. There was a discussion of the area where the lot line adjustment would be. The county owns the equipment and the chutes, etc. in and around the arena. Councilor Knox-Lyon reported that Rick reported that the county had given the city considerable property for the well on the hill. Since the county donated the property for the well, perhaps the city would consider the lot line adjustment. It was discussed that perhaps there could be an intergovernmental agree with the county to use the property how they see fit. Commissioner Shaffer reported that the county would take care of the property during camping functions and that the arena, fence, chutes, etc. would be the counties. There was a long discussion regarding ugliness towards the Mayor and city regarding the property. The bottom line is the city hopes to restore the ball field for the children of Fossil, it was never about the fair. Mayor expressed concerns about giving property away that was given to the children. The Mayor asked the council to decide something and move forward.

Commissioner Shaffer said he hopes we can all come to a permanent decision and move forward. The Mayor asked council to mull over the plan outlined by Commissioner Shaffer and suggested we speak with Paul Sumner. When council has had some time, we will get in contact with Commissioner Shaffer to discuss further. Councilor Knox-Lyon suggested a 5-year agreement and then re-evaluate. Commissioner Shaffer said that he was afraid that if we don't make a permanent decision then next council and court will have to deal with this again. Councilor Beckham said we need to contact Paul Sumner and see what we can and can't do with the property legally. Mayor MacInnes reported that land laws have changed and you can no longer state what you can and can't use the property for. There was a long discussion and agreed by all that there needs to be an equitable agreement, so we can all move forward and put this to rest once and for all.

#### Cross Rifle BBQ

Margaret Eoute from Cross Rifle BBQ was on hand to request street closures, outside seating, permits and other activities for the summer. Cross Rifles has taken on the huge job of the July car show, they requested road closures, verified the use of brocades, additional outside seating and drinking areas. They also asked for outside seating and drinking areas in front of their restaurant for Bluegrass, Wheeler County Fair, Memorial Day and Labor Day weekends, in addition to street closures for the Fossil Festival (possible) on June 15. Cross Rifles along with other local businesses are trying to put together a family friendly Fossil Festival on June 15. They are hoping to have local vendors and entertainment for the event. Council President Sperry moved to approve the street closures for the summer events, Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote. Councilor Burlingame moved to approve the permit/permission for the outside drinking area. Councilor Knox-Lyon seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### Parks Maintenance Job

Council President Sperry reported that it is that time of year again to start the hiring process for the summer parks position. There was a discussion about going out for RFP (bids) and advertising for the position. It was suggested that Teresa, Bill and Council President Sperry get together and talk about the possibly of making this position a contract position. The committee will bring a recommendation to the next council meeting. Councilor Knox-Lyon moved to make the summer maintenance position a contract position. Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

#### Wheeler County Public Health – Karen Woods

Unable to attend

#### Equipment Rental – Randy Jaeger

Bill explained that during the recent winter storms Randy had come to Bill and offered to help with the snow removal. Bill asked the council to consider a \$250 payment to Randy to cover maintenance on his equipment. Council President moved to approve a \$250 payment to Randy Jaeger for his help with snow removal. Councilor Beckham seconded the motion. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

## REPORTS

Councilor Knox-Lyon: Water no updates. Library board will be meeting tomorrow, Mollie Carter was present and gave an update. Mollie informed the council that the Oregon Library Association has sent out library standards. There are eleven minimum requirements of which the library meets most. But there is one the library has asked the city council for help. The library needs to be staffed 20 hours a week, by a paid staff member, not volunteers. Mollie wanted to inform the council because budgeting is just around the corner. Cathy currently works 12 hours a week and the library is requesting 20 hours a week. There was a discussion of what the library board is working on to improve the space and make it a gathering space. Mollie reported that the library has been awarded the Ready to Ready Grant for this summer. Amber Jaeger and Mollie Carter will be returning to heading up the summer kids' programs. Councilor Knox-Lyon shared that Cathy has a reading program on Wednesday's for younger kids to come and enjoy. The library is currently open on Saturdays and they are working on perhaps evening hours. The Fossil Library is the only library in Wheeler County that is not a school library. Councilor Knox-Lyon shared that a library patron was excited that the library has a drop box.

Council President Sperry: Parks no update. Ambulance - meets April 8

Councilor Beckham: Sewer no update

Councilor Burlingame: Streets – has been busy with snow removal Planning Commission – application has been received for new construction in Fossil Heights, meeting scheduled for Monday night.

Mayor MacInnes: The Mayor reported that she has been contacted by Jackie Brown with the Bluegrass Committee regarding the camping during the festival. The Mayor said that the camping on the ball field property will be handled by the city. The camping structure is a work in progress, we will talk about the fee structure, garbage and the details at a later date. She requested that we ask the county to put something on their website regarding the camping change. The Mayor said that she asks the council to consider a pay increase for the seasonal help.

City Recorder: Teresa thanked the council and community for their understanding during the recent snow storms and the office being closed. Teresa discussed the possibility of attending the Condon Chamber of Commerce meeting on March 14. It was decided that the council and/or Teresa should be attending the meetings, but maybe not monthly. Teresa will be attending the March 14 meeting and report back next month. Teresa did not attend the annual CIS conference due to weather.

Public Works: Bill reported that he would like to thank Matt Mortimore, Jerry Luther and Randy Jaeger for all their help with snow removal. The tank cleaning by Midco Diving will be performed this spring. No sewer or water issues reported. Bill will be at short school April 1-4 in Pendleton, Jerry will be covering. Bill is still having some issues with his neck and will be taking some time off for doctor appointments. Councilor Sperry asked Bill if he was concerned about flooding issues with the snow melt. Bill explained he is always concerned about an overflow, but it all depends on how fast things melt and if we get any more snow or rain.

COMMUNITY ISSUES AND CONCERNS: Commissioner Rick Shaffer wanted to commend Bill and his crew for the snow removal. The commissioner then spoke about Frontier Telenet services. Both Wheeler and Sherman counties has loaned \$100,000 to Frontier Telenet, Gilliam County did not. The state mandates each county has an EMS system in place. He explained that people are working very hard to get Frontier

Telenet back on track. Rick also said that the county will be making a decision on the RFPS's received from two companies at the next court meeting. There was a discussion about the towers, equipment, staffing and the digital switch.

ADJOURNED 8:26 pm

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

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Carol E. MacInnes, Mayor

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Teresa Aldrich, City Recorder