

FOSSIL CITY COUNCIL  
MEETING MINUTES  
WHEELER HIGH SCHOOL  
March 9, 2021

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

**Council Present:** Melanie Sperry, Cindy Burlingame, Jerry Beckham, Terri Hunt.

**Staff Present:** Bill Potter, Cathy Goldsmith, Lea Walker, and Brooklynn Griffith.

**Community Present:** Jackie Brown, K'Lynn Lane, Marsha Holly, Mollie Carter, Steve Allen, Deputy Hines.

**Approve/Amendments to Agenda:** Councilor Sperry moved to approve the March 9th agenda with the addition of appointing budget committee members for the 2022 FY, museum correspondence; Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of February 9<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting minutes:** Councilor Sperry made a motion to approve the February 9<sup>th</sup> Council meeting minutes, Councilor Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of bills from February 6<sup>th</sup> to March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021:** Councilor Burlingame abstained from voting due to personal conflict. Councilor Sperry made a motion to approve the bills from February 6<sup>th</sup> to March 5<sup>th</sup>, 2021, Councilor Beckham seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approval of financial statement for February 2021:** Councilor Sperry made a motion to approve the financial statement for February 2021, Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

CORRESPONDENCE:

**Library Support:** Library board members are concerned the librarian position will be defunded by the City. Mayor MacInnes stated that they are not cutting funding for the library. The librarian has historically not been paid for by the City but paid for through programs, and that the City provides the library space, utilities, insurance, and budget line items for grants and donations. The only reason the librarian payroll was added to the budget was because of an agreement between the City of Fossil and the library board. In 2016 the library board told council that the program that funded the position was re-organizing the program and it would not be complete in time for the next budget cycle. The library board asked for funding until they could obtain their own. The city council agreed to provide one year of funding, but after one year, they would have to come up with their own. The library board agreed to one year. Mayor MacInnes went on to explain that the Council was at fault for not removing the librarian payroll the next year. She also said that the library was at fault for not making any attempt to secure funding over the years. When asked if the council would fund them another year, the Mayor stated that the council would visit that conversation soon. Chamber of Commerce offered assistance in finding funding or grants to the library.

OLD BUSINESS:

**Anderson-Perry Project Update:** ASR project is still in the design phase. Regarding the Wastewater Project, Beam will be back this next week to replace some more manholes and sewer main line. We will also have to update some residential lines.

**Industrial Park:** PWD has been working with Tenneson to complete the minor partition for the road.

**Ordinance Fee Schedule:** Tabled.

**Childcare:** Tabled.

**CARES Act:** To be removed.

**Museum Roof:** Opportunity for federal funding for a new museum roof, infrastructure, or applying the funding to water and sewer. Rutherford's did a temporary repair to the roof for 440.00. Bill spoke to CIS and CIS will cover the museum roof repair. Rutherford's handed in their proposal which includes brick and mortar, parapet wall, and a new roof. CIS is going to give a bid price.

**Gateway Signs:** Council provided an update on the current status of the gateway signs. We need to get together some ideas on what signs we want and total costs, we'll need a total of three gateway signs. Council would like city recorder to reach out to nearby communities (Spray, Prineville, etc) and see where they completed their gateway signs, they would like an estimate on the brass lettering. Seeking donations of the rock. Locations where we would like the gateway signs be placed. Jackie Brown asked to put it in the city budget for the next fiscal year. Writing up whoever donates in the Times Journal. Posting in town and on social media on our ideas which is liked more. Placing steps to move smoothly for our gateway signs.

#### NEW BUSINESS:

#### **Ordinance 447 | CBEC 10-Year Franchise Ordinance – First Reading:**

**Bluegrass Festival:** First committee meeting was held last month, and the committee is going to reach out to vendors/musicians to see how much interest there is before making an official decision on whether or not to have the festival in June this year. Chamber of Commerce offered assistance. Council suggested also reaching out to the car show folks to see if they'd like to do a meet-and-greet during the same time. Councilor Burlingame offered to help coordinate the camping for the bluegrass festival.

#### ACTION ITEMS:

**Safety Deposit Box:** Councilor Burlingame moves that we remove all signers to the safety deposit box, adding Carol MacInnes, Melanie Sperry, and Jerry Beckham as signers to the safety deposit box at the Bank of Eastern Oregon. Motion seconded by Councilor Sperry. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Adopt Resolution 434 | Supplemental Budget:** Councilor Sperry read into record Resolution 434. Councilor Beckham moved to adopt Resolution 434, supplemental budget for the Aquifer Storage & Recovery project, Councilor Burlingame seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Budget Committee Members:** Councilor Burlingame made a motion to appoint the following budget committee members for FY22; Tom McNeill, Joe McNeill, Marilyn Garcia, Sally Potter, and Jeanne Burch, Councilor Sperry seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

**Approve hiring of City Recorder:** Council recommends the hiring of Lea Walker as the City Recorder. Councilor Burlingame moves to approve the hiring of Lea Walker as the City Recorder, Councilor Hunt seconded the motion. Motion passed by unanimous vote.

REPORTS:

**Councilor Hunt:** Completed the water systems tour with PWD Potter, no further update. The Friends of Fossil library is hosting their first movie night on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 up at the High School, for families

**Councilor Sperry:** The ambulance has been having lighting issues, but Rodney Hines took it to get fixed. Susan is working to get a list of the items they are requesting for the ambulance prior to next month's meeting. Three of the four EMT students passed their psychomotor exams, they are fully qualified EMTs now and able to respond on ambulance calls!

**Councilor Beckham:** No update.

**Councilor Burlingame:** No update.

**Mayor MacInnes:** ACHC is getting the Johnson & Johnson vaccine and will be working through the tiers. The Mayors Association has since heard from Governor Brown in regards to the concerns of the current COVID restrictions.

**Public Works:** No update.

**City Recorder:** Reminding Council to complete their SEI form.

**Ordinance Officer:** Went to court twice this past month, justice and criminal court. No further updates.

COMMUNITY ISSUES/CONCERNS:

Meeting adjourned at 8:11 PM.

April 13<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Approved



Carol E MacInnes, Mayor



Melanie Sperry, Council President

