

BROWNSVILLE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES

January 24th, 2012

ROLL CALL: Mayor Ware called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Councilors Van Sandt, Shepherd, Cole, Chambers and Gerber present. City Councilor Boyanovsky was excused. Administrator Scott McDowell, Public Works Director Karl Frink and City Planner Bill Sattler were also present.

PUBLIC: Bobby Lee, Senator Lee Beyer, Representative Phil Barnhart, Sarah Dyr Dahl, Denise Hoffert-Hay, Bud Baumgartner, Mark Running, Chuck Knoll, Scott Wright, Kaye Fox, Edi Smith, Dan Wright, Dee & Kathleen Swayze, Jo Ann McQueary, Rick Dominguez, Jim Bitle, Jennifer Moody, Patty Linn, Sarah MacDonald, Don Lyon, Chenoweth Robertson, Dot Marsh, Eric Gerber, Charlie Stokes, Cheryl Hayworth, Roger & Alice Tetamore.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: Mr. McDowell added a discussion item regarding the Senior Center.

MINUTES: The Council reviewed the minutes of the January 10th, 2012, meeting. Councilor Cole moved to approve the minutes as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:

1. Calapooia River Erosion – Town Hall. Mr. McDowell began by introducing some of the attendees, including State Senator Lee Beyer, State Representative Phil Barnhart, Mr. Bobby Lee of the Regional Solutions Team from the Governor's Office, Linn County Engineer Chuck Knoll, Sarah Dyr Dahl from the Calapooia Watershed Council and Mr. Scott Wright of the River Design Group. Mr. McDowell explained how the process of the hearing would work and gave a history of the river erosion in Pioneer Park. Mr. McDowell explained that the City has applied for funding assistance from the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB) through the Calapooia Watershed Council and worked with several other agencies with no success. Mr. Scott Wright then gave a presentation showing various examples of riverbank restoration project he has been involved in along the Calapooia River. Mr. Wright pointed out the common themes of installing large pieces of wood to roughen the bank, sloping the bank back more gently and planting vegetation such as willows to stabilize the bank. In addition, Mr. Wright said that any restoration project needs ongoing maintenance to succeed. Mr. Wright estimated the cost of the restoration work in Pioneer Park at \$180,000, not including engineering and permitting costs. He said that it might be possible to reduce the cost if the large wood pieces could be obtained inexpensively or donated as they are a large component of the cost. Mr. Wright said that it might be possible to extend the project into the existing waterway to save more of the bank. McDowell clarified that Staff has been told by the Army Corps that the City cannot extend the bank or reclaim any lost property. Councilor Cole said that there was a concern about the project being destroyed by high flows and asked what Mr. Wright thought were the chances of the project surviving long enough to stabilize for the long term. Mr. Wright said that there are no sure bets. He said that the project becomes less vulnerable as time goes by and it gets more established. Mr. Chuck Knoll spoke next. He said that Linn County uses large rocks as ballast for engineered wood structures in bank stabilization work. He said that if the project follows the approved Federal guidelines that permitting is fairly quick and easy. Ms. Sarah Dyr Dahl of the Calapooia Watershed Council gave a history of their involvement. She said that the Watershed Council had obtained a grant from the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for engineering on some projects in the area, including Pioneer Park, and that they had applied for funding from the OWEB twice with no success. She said that she didn't think the chances of obtaining funding from them were very good due to the criteria they use in selecting projects. Ms. Dyr Dahl explained that any project needs to be permitted through the Oregon Department of State Lands (DSL) and also through the Army Corps of Engineers. She said that there are pre-approved designs that are easy to permit but that other designs are very expensive

and difficult to permit. Mayor Ware then opened the floor to public comments. Mr. Chuck Knoll spoke again, saying that all of their projects were built out from the waterline. He said that the City should investigate possible funding through FEMA. Mr. Charlie Stokes spoke, saying that the erosion in the park was caused by trees falling down and causing high current to flow into the river banks. He passed out diagrams and photos to support his point. Mr. Stokes said that the fallen trees needed to be removed to prevent further erosion. Mr. Stokes said that no permit is needed to remove the trees according to his research with DEQ. Mr. Bobby Lee then spoke, introducing himself as a member of the Governor's Regional Solutions Center. He said that his team will be here next Thursday to look at the site to try to come up with possible solutions. Mr. Lee indicated that he may be able to come up with some matching funds but not funding for the entire project.

2. Brownsville Art Association – Ms. Alice Tetamore. Ms. Tetamore provided a report on the last year's activities of the Art Association. She said that they are up to about 40 active members from Brownsville and the surrounding rural areas. Ms. Tetamore said that the art shows they have put on have brought people into the community and have been very successful. They have been teaching art classes with good success and their classes for Central Linn students had 16 attendees for both classes. Ms. Tetamore said that remodeling of the space is still ongoing. She said that the floor had been professionally cleaned but that there is still grease in the floor. They are looking at options for how to proceed. The City received a \$1,000 grant on behalf of the Art Association for new storage cabinets and Mr. Rick Dominguez is working on those. She said that the Art Association is doing very well and is financially sound.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Sheriff's Report. Sgt. Kelly was unable to attend. The Council received a written report.
2. Planning. Mr. Sattler said that due to the short time since the last Council meeting he did not do a written report but would answer questions. The Council did not have any questions for him.
3. Public Works. Mr. Frink provided a written report and told the Council that the Public Works shop had flooded the previous week during the high water. There was some discussion about relocating the shop buildings but due to the cost of taking on such a project, no action was taken.
4. City Administrator. Mr. McDowell stated that Sweet Home Sanitation would like to have the annual Clean Up Day on April 21st, 2012 which is the usual time period for it. He said that the collection process would be the same as last year; depot style. Mr. McDowell said that staff had met with Ryan Quigley from Erwin Engineering to discuss the Oak Street waterline project. Mr. Quigley said that the bidding environment is very favorable and he is hoping the bids come in around \$195,000. The project will go to bid soon and the estimated start date is April 28th, 2012. Mr. McDowell said that work is continuing on Washington Street. Mr. McDowell indicated that the paving has deteriorated to the point where it cannot be maintained so the plan is to grind the paving and maintain the street as gravel. Mr. McDowell said that he had also met with Mr. Quigley regarding the waterline leak under the Calapooia River. Mr. McDowell said that after much consideration he believes that the best option will be to bore a new line under the river rather than attempting to repair the existing line as there is too much chance of the line breaking again, based on the worst case scenario. A new line could be bored deep enough to be much safer. Mr. McDowell said that the cost of boring would be in the range of \$500 to \$1,000 per foot and given the depth required would probably be near the top of that range. There are a total of 365 linear feet. Erwin Engineering is preparing an estimate for the cost. Mr. McDowell was asked if funding might be obtained from FEMA. McDowell indicated that at the most recent League of Oregon Cities Conference the threshold was discussed for the State and was very high. There would need to be massive, wide scale damage for the State to be eligible to receive FEMA funding. McDowell said that he wouldn't hold out much hope but that he would certainly pursue the opportunity. Councilor Shepherd asked if the Oak Street project should be postponed. McDowell recommended that Council continue with the completion of the project since it has been planned for such a long time and the Engineer is

currently bidding the project. Mr. McDowell said that he water line repair or replacement definitely needs to be done but it will be in the next fiscal year and he will be looking at all possible funding options. He said that Sarah McDonald is not available to perform the design work for the Pioneer Park restroom project so he is exploring other options. McDowell is also working on finalizing the details for the Rec Center gym floor maintenance project.

5. Library Report. Ms. Lemhouse provided a written report.
6. Court Report. The Municipal Court provided a written report.
7. Council Comments. None.
8. Citizen Comment. Mr. Rick Dominguez said that he lives near Washington Street and it has been a problem for a long time but he didn't want to see it made into gravel. He said that he was concerned about dust in the summer. Mr. McDowell said that the road simply cannot be maintained as it is. If the street were gravel, then the street could be graded and treated for dust control. He said that it will be an improvement over the existing conditions. Mr. Kelly Lovelace introduced himself and said that he is running against Phil Barnhart for State Representative. He said that it appeared the City was well organized and prepared for the big projects ahead of it.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. Resolution 673 – Appointing Pro Tem Judges (Annual). Councilor Cole moved to approve Resolution 673. The motion was seconded by Councilor Van Sandt and was approved unanimously.
2. Resolution 674 – Authorize 2012 Pressure Reducing Valves Maintenance. Mr. McDowell said that since this is a sole source contract he would like the Council to approve it by Resolution. Councilor Cole moved to approve Resolution 674. The motion was seconded by Councilor Shepherd and was approved unanimously.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Riverbank Stabilization. Councilor Cole thanked Mr. McDowell and Mr. Wright for their excellent presentations. Councilor Van Sandt said that the project on the Nealon property looked great. Mr. McDowell said that when the water goes down it will be possible to see how well it survived the high flows. Mr. McDowell said that the first step in the project will be to retain a design firm such as River Design Group. He estimated the cost of the work at \$20,000 to \$30,000 for engineering and design. Mr. McDowell said that if the work is started immediately he will need to move some funds around in the budget. He said that the design and engineering work is necessary in order to seek funding for the project and that it may not be possible to do any work this summer. Councilor Shepherd made a motion to move forward with engineering and design work. Councilor Cole seconded the motion and it was approved unanimously. Councilor Van Sandt suggested that it may be possible to incorporate the work to repair the waterline into the overall project.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Council Retreat. Mr. McDowell reminded the Council that the retreat will be held on February 7th, 2012, at 7:00 p.m. Mr. McDowell said that he will go over Council roles and responsibilities.
2. 2011 Audit Report Review. The Council decided by consensus to address this at the February meeting.
3. December Financials. No discussion.

4. Senior Center. Mr. McDowell said that the Seniors are moving to their new location on Main Street and they had asked if the Council would continue to pay for a phone line and they hoped to have internet service added. Mr. McDowell said the City had provided phone line for the Seniors for a number of years but that a few months ago the Seniors had said that they no longer needed a phone line as almost everyone has a cell phone. He said that the cost would be around \$60 to \$70 per month for the phone and internet. Councilor Cole agreed that with cell phones there was little need for a wired phone. Councilor Shepherd moved to pay up to \$45 per month toward their phone bill. The Council discussed their policy regarding donation requests for non-profits and decided not to approve the expenditure at this time. Councilor Shepherd withdrew his motion and the Council decided to postpone a final decision until the February meeting when the Seniors could be present to discuss the request in person.

CITIZEN COMMENT: NONE

ADJOURNMENT: Councilor Shepherd moved to adjourn. The motion was seconded by Councilor Chambers and was approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 p.m.



City Administrator S. Scott McDowell



Mayor Don Ware