



Council Minutes

March 24th, 2015

ROLL CALL: Mayor Don Ware called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with Councilors Shepherd, Chambers, Van Sandt, Neddeau and Gerber present. Councilor Cole was excused. Administrative Assistant Tammi Morrow, Public Works Superintendent Karl Frink and City Administrator Scott McDowell were also present.

PUBLIC: June Schlosser, Kaye Fox, Alex Paul, Allen Buzzard, John Morrison, Trisha Thompson, Sal and Leda Sepulveda (The Times), JoAnn Neddeau, Brian Hoffman and Scott Johnson (Sweet Home Sanitation), Jim Smith, Albert Sparks, Elizabeth Young, Elizabeth Coleman, Jon Younce (McFarland Cascade), and Randy and Gayle Simpson.

The pledge of allegiance was recited.

ADDITIONS AND DELETIONS: No additions or deletions tonight.

MINUTES: Councilor Gerber made a motion to approve the February 24th, 2015 meeting minutes as presented. Councilor Chambers seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Councilor Gerber made a motion to approve the March 3rd, 2015 special Council meeting minutes with Council Van Sandt's correction as noted. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARINGS OR PRESENTATIONS:

McFarland Cascade – Mr. John Younce, Vice President of McFarland Cascade, stated that they have received some concerns regarding the noise levels of the new peeler plant in Brownsville. They have initiated noise level testing to determine the benchmark for the City. The testing revealed that they are well within the allowed limits. Mr. Younce did state that McFarland Cascade desires to be a good neighbor and toward that end, have implemented more noise reduction practices. They have more revisions planned, but are waiting on Linn County to acquire the needed building permits, etc. Mr. Younce assured everyone again that they want to do all they can to mitigate noise in the community and continue to be a good neighbor and community partner.

Sweet Home Sanitation – Brian Hoffman – Brian Hoffman and Scott Johnson from Sweet Home Sanitation were present. Mr. Hoffman spoke on their behalf and informed Council that he is replacing Josh Metcalf as the new site manager for Sweet Home. He intends to keep the same open door policy. He presented Council with a brochure full of facts. On page 17 of the report, community donations and reduced rates for the City are highlighted. The tentative date for this year's clean up day is October 3rd, 2015. The Household Hazardous Waste Day is scheduled for October 10th, 2015. He asked if Council had any questions about the proposed rate increase. Councilor Van Sandt made a motion to pass R 2015.07. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion. A vote was called for on the above motion, and it passed unanimously.

Tim Housley – Washington Street - Tim Housley was present to address concerns he has about nuisance abatement within the City. He has one particular neighbor that is quite often not in compliance. After driving around and reviewing the whole city, he is more aware than ever the need for strong nuisance abatement policies and ordinances to maintain our community. He stated that he leans on Council to address these issues. Mr. McDowell responded that it has been the City's goal for a long time to focus on community development and the importance of maintaining the tax base. McDowell explained that he has been working on this point "ad nauseum" with Council, as



Council Minutes

Councilor Van Sandt may say, for quite some time. The City the urban growth boundary instituted by Oregon limits how cities have traditionally grown throughout the United States and around other developed nations. Strong nuisance abatement policies keep property values high, which in turn encourages folks to want to move here and be part of our community. Historically, the town has not done a good job with nuisance abatement, and it always seems to be a source of contention. Many folks agree that the City policies should be stricter, others are more ambivalent. Council is striving for balance, and is currently reviewing Council goals for the upcoming two years. The City has made strides in nuisance abatement in some areas. You may remember the dismantled trailers that were west of town for several years. Sweet Home Sanitation was instrumental in helping the City remove those, and they continue to work with us in cleaning up several properties around town. Hopefully, Council will continue to address nuisance and weed abatement issues and find the proper balance for our town.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Sheriff's Report. No report tonight.
2. Public Works. Mr. Frink reported that the new infiltration pumps at the water plant have been installed, and are ready for summer. The manhole project on Northpoint is finished. Holderman Paving will be here around the end of April of the beginning of May, dependent on weather, to complete the planned street improvements. Grading has been done on the gravel roads. The Park electrical work is continuing, and should be finished hopefully within the next month. After that the next project will be the landscape project at the front of City Hall.
3. Administrator's Report. Mr. McDowell reported that the feral cat agreement at Moody Court has been recently reviewed, and conditions still appear to be under control. The situation will continue to be monitored. Nuisance abatement will be starting up in May, but there is a situation at 108 Blakely that is currently not in compliance. A letter requesting compliance will be sent soon. Many license plate tags around town were found to also be in non-compliance, and those will be addressed soon as well. Kaye Fox would like to remove her name from the list requesting to be on the Library Advisory Board. Mr. McDowell has requested a June deadline to comply with the CJIS (Criminal Justice Information System) audit issues. The employee handbook will need to be finished to come into compliance with this audit as well. The May ballot referral has been accepted at Linn County, and it should appear on the May 19th election. Staff is still working on the Utility and Finance Software upgrade. We may need to budget more funding for this project. The Oregon Government Ethics Commission (OGEC) has sent out the annual SEI (Statement of Economic Interest). Each official should have received theirs in the mail. These need to be completed and returned by April 15th. If possible, please return it to City Hall so that a copy can be kept on file. If you mail it back yourself, please let Ms. Morrow know for our records.
4. Library Report. No comments.
5. Court Report. No comments.
6. Council Comments. No comments.
7. Citizen Comments. Allen Buzzard thanked McFarland Cascade for being a good community neighbor to the City. In regards to the leash law, he would like Council to check with Mr. Frink to see how long the signage will take to put up,



Council Minutes

and he suggested a July 1st implementation date for the leash law. Albert Sparks, Washington Street, spoke in favor of cleaning up the town and implementing a strong nuisance abatement policy. He says that it is not an accident that communities are maintained and kept clean. Kaye Fox thanked the LCSO for being a presence in the community again and making the streets safer by issuing traffic warnings and citations.

LEGISLATIVE:

1. O 751: Land Use Options for Marijuana Facilities (Second Reading). Councilor Gerber made a motion to read O 751 by title only. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Councilor Gerber made a motion to approve O 751 as presented. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.
2. O 752: Elected Official Replacement Policy (First Reading). Councilor Gerber made a motion to read O 752 by title only. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. Discussion was called for – Councilor Chambers thought it looked great.
3. O 753: Dog Leash Law (First Reading). Councilor Gerber made a motion to read O 753 by title only. Councilor Van Sandt seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously. No changes or editions were mentioned by Council.

ACTION ITEMS:

1. Appoint Library Advisory Position. Mr. McDowell informed Council that three candidates have applied for the open Library Advisory Board position: Sandy Saltzer, Marilyn Grimes, and Kristen Whitehead. Councilor Van Sandt made a motion to appoint Kristen Whitehead to the Library Advisory Board. Councilor Gerber seconded the motion, it passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEMS:

1. Weapons Discharge Policy. Mr. McDowell presented some suggestions on the weapons discharge policy that Councilor Van Sandt compiled. Mr. McDowell put the current language and proposed language underneath for comparison. Recently, Staff has allowed a couple of provisional permits. Councilor Van Sandt wonders why the City would sign off on weapons discharge permits if the local law enforcement agency is uncomfortable doing so. Councilor Shepherd also recommended going back to the rule of no weapons in town. Councilor Gerber commented that Council seems to have a good consensus on this issue, and requested that Staff bring legislation back to Council for consideration.
2. Vision Statement and Council Goals. Councilor Gerber presented a vision statement that she and Councilor Cole worked on. Council seems happy with the slogan, "Brownsville Welcomes You Home", but will review the presented materials and bring any changes to the next Council meeting. Councilor Van



Council Minutes

Sandt would like to see something added about kids – citizens of all ages, young and old, something like that.

3. Economic Development Strategy. Mr. McDowell reminded Council of several current projects that have improved economic development around town. Projects such as the development of water and sewer services on the south side of town that will potentially open up several acres for future development. McFarland Cascade, Kirk's Ferry, Brownsville Body Shop, Dari Mart and Dr. Kirt Glenn have all implemented new buildings or done facelifts (redevelopments) to existing structures. It is quite impressive overall. Mr. McDowell asked if there were Councilors that would like to discuss the possibility of planning an economic development committee with a few of the local business owners. Councilor Chambers and Mayor Don Ware volunteered to serve.
4. Council of Governments Meeting. Mayor Don Ware reported that he had attended the COG meeting last week in Albany, and was quite fascinated by it. He said that they talked about several interesting issues that were common between cities, and that it is probably a good thing to be involved in. The meetings are held every other month.
5. February Financials. No comments.

CITIZEN COMMENTS: No comments.

COUNCIL COMMENTS: No comments.

EXECUTIVE SESSION entered @: 8:09 p.m.

- Council will be discussing a real property transaction.
- Oregon Revised Statutes, Chapter 192.660 governs the conditions for a public body to convene in an Executive Session. The City will invoke Section (e) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.
- Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No decision may be made in executive session
- A final decision may be made after this Session.

Exit @: 8:21 p.m.

The regular meeting was called back into session at 8:21 p.m.

DISCUSSION: Councilor Chambers called attention to the "Tall Cop Says Stop" information on Council's desk. She said that this seminar will be presented April 2nd, 2015 in Albany at the Expo Center, and she encouraged the Councilors to sign up and attend. It looks like good information. Judge Lemhouse attended one of these seminars, and said that it was very good. Also, Mr. McDowell put marijuana facts on the table



Council Minutes

tonight. He asked that Council review it and let him know if they would like it released publicly. Councilor Neddeau remarked that it is nice to hear information from other people than 20-year olds from Corvallis.

ADJOURNMENT: *Mayor Don Ware moved to adjourn at 8:26 p.m. Councilor Shepherd seconded the motion, and it passed unanimously.*

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be "SM", written over a horizontal line.

City Administrator S. Scott McDowell

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "DW", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Don Ware