



City of Eagle Point

City Council

APRIL 23, 2019

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Jenks called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Ruth Jenks, Bill Fierke, Bernie Grossman, David Lacombe, James Mannenbach, Michael Stanek, and Kevin Walruff.

Staff Members Present: Henry Lawrence, City Administrator; Darin May, Police Chief; Robert Miller, Public Works Director; Souvanny Miller, City Attorney; Melissa Owens, Finance Director; Mike Upston, Planning Director; and Cindy Hughes, City Recorder.

Guests: Jackson County Commissioner Strosser (left at 6:54 p.m.); Jackson County Sheriff Nathan Sickler (left at 6:54 p.m.); Bryan Woods and Devin Price of Discovery Ed (left at 7:27 p.m.); Suzi Collins, Planning Commissioner; Jerry Close (left at 6:54 p.m.), Planning Commissioner; Eric Gunn, Budget Committee Member; Millie Wewerka, Budget Committee Member and Planning Commissioner; and members of the public and press.

2. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilor Mannenbach led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jerry Zieman offered the invocation. Following the invocation, Mayor Jenks reminded everyone about quieting cell phones until after the meeting.

3. AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

Jim Brick of Eagle Point inquired about an update on the reduction of speed to 25 m.p.h. at Robert Trent Jones Boulevard (RTJ) and Alta Vista, and adding speed radar reader boards. Mayor Jenks responded that no decision had been made and Robert Miller, Public Works Director, reported there were several items to follow up on. Those items included trimming of a bush at Pumpkin Ridge and RTJ, looking into pedestrian activated push button signs, and adding lighting at the intersection. Mr. Miller further reported the speed radar board was down for data retrieval but would be back up soon, and purchasing additional speed radar boards will be presented for approval at the Budget Committee meeting. There was also a brief discussion about striping bike lanes. Mr. Miller concluded with plans to report back at the May 14th Council meeting, depending on Pacific Power & Light's availability to add a new street light.

There were no other audience questions or comments.

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4. PRESENTATIONS

There were no presentations.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

There were no Public Hearings.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6.1 Presentation of Regular Meeting Minutes of April 9, 2019.

Mayor Jenks announced the Consent Calendar. There were no questions or comments. Councilor Walruff moved to approve the Consent Calendar and Councilor Fierke seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; Michael Stanek, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; and Ruth Jenks, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items considered for removal from the Consent Calendar.

8. PRESENTATION OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Mayor Jenks asked if there were questions about the bills to be paid including the additional bills list. Councilor Fierke asked about the payment to ECSO (Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon). Melissa Owens, Finance Director, confirmed the payment to ECSO is a quarterly payment. Ms. Owens further clarified that a check had been voided and reissued for mileage. There being no further questions, Council President Stanek moved to approve the Bills to be Paid in the amount of \$72,297.16 and the Additional Bill List in the amount of \$117,541.29 for a total amount of \$189,838.45 (Submission No. 1). Councilor Mannenbach seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: James Mannenbach, yes; Michael Stanek, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; and Ruth Jenks, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS

There was no Old Business.

10. NEW BUSINESS

10.1 Resolution No. 2019-17. A Resolution approving a Jackson County Order to initiate formation of a Jackson County Law Enforcement Service District and consenting to the inclusion of City Territory within the boundaries of the District.

Henry Lawrence, City Administrator, noted Sheriff Sickler made a presentation to the City Council on March 26 and had a shorter presentation to make on the proposed jail and service district (Submission No. 2). Highlights of the presentation

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by Sheriff Sickler, accompanied by Jackson County Commissioner Strosser, included the following points:

- Southern Oregon University student study indicated an economic loss of \$171M per year in Jackson County and \$1.37B statewide for the cost of more serious crimes with the per capita cost in Jackson County higher than any other place in the State.
- Location of the proposed jail is near Highway 62 and Vilas with all soil testing favorable or mitigation being more economical than selecting another location.
- Use of a professional jail design team with input from various focus groups including the District Attorney's Office, Mental Health Services, and others.
- The initial cost projection of \$200M was reduced to \$166M.
- The jail model includes room for future growth as well as mental health and addiction treatment services, with staffing estimated at 25 additional staff members to service nearly a doubled jail population. If the district is approved and everything is on schedule, construction completion is anticipated in August or September 2023.
- If voted in by the citizens of Jackson County, funding for the jail and service district will come from a tax rate of .83 cents per assessed value and Jackson County's \$66M contribution from discretionary funds (approximately \$6M of that amount used on the land purchase). In addition, funds already allocated by the County for funding these services will continue. It was noted that the Library Bond of approximately .13 cents will be coming off of taxes this year.
- Transportation to courts was also discussed with the possibility of a courtroom in the proposed jail while some arraignments and hearings are done via video; however, additional transport staff is built into the proposed staffing model.
- The possibility of adding courtrooms would be decided separately from this item as well as possible future uses for the existing jail space.
- Support of all cities sought with the last city voting mid-May. It was noted that the City Council was voting to be within the boundaries and to take it to the voters.
- Tours of the existing jail facility will be available to the City Council in May and Sheriff Sickler noted that citizens can be accommodated as well.
- Mayor Jenks invited Chief May to comment and he offered support of the new facility.

Following the presentation and discussion, Mayor Jenks asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-17, a Resolution approving a Jackson County Order to initiate formation of a Jackson County Law Enforcement Service District and consenting to the inclusion of City Territory within the boundaries of the District. Councilor Walruff made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-17 and Councilor Mannenbach seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Michael Stanek, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; and Ruth Jenks, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Jackson County Sheriff Sickler, Jackson County Commissioner Strosser, and Eagle Point Planning Commissioner Close left at 6:54 p.m.

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10.2 A discussion regarding the Upper Rogue Youth Project.

Henry Lawrence, City Administrator, noted the former presentation was about keeping people in jail and this item giving youth things to do to keep them out of jail. Bryan Wood, known by many as Eagle Point School District's past athletic director, school principal, Crater Lake Charter Academy Director and CEO, and now as the CEO of Discovery Ed. Devin Price, Director of Discovery Ed, joined Mr. Wood in presenting a PowerPoint presentation about the Upper Rogue Youth Project, also included in the agenda packet.

Prior to the presentation, disclosures were made by the following individuals: Councilor Mannenbach volunteers without compensation as a Community Ed Board Member; Robert Miller, Public Works Director, serves as the Crater Lake Charter Academy Board Chair which was one agency with Community Ed until most recently; and Councilor Lacombe's spouse is employed by Discovery Ed. Mr. Lawrence explained that Discovery Ed representatives were not there to solicit funding and the presentation was not considered to be a potential conflict.

Mr. Price expressed appreciation for being able to make the presentation and began with statistics about Oregon's low graduation rates, most recently reported as the 3rd lowest in the Nation. A lack of developmental programs and challenges with accessibility to programs was noted as an obstacle for students in this area. Discovery Ed provides extended learning opportunities and character development programs for youth in the Upper Rogue with after school programs, summer programs, summer camps, youth athletics, and extended learning opportunities.

Mr. Wood discussed the importance of children learning to read by 3rd grade and providing educational opportunities to children in this area. To support this, the Discovery Ed Learning Center will be located in the building previously used by Cascade Bingo in White City. Enrollment for all children is encouraged and programs will be developed to meet an individual child's needs to help them discover their potential. Discovery Ed is set to open on June 17th and will be open from 7:30 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., at rates more affordable than other programs. Funds are also being set up so that children are not excluded based on the ability to pay. The Discovery Ed Learning Center is designed to include a tech lab with 3-D printing, web design, video lab, audio lab, screen printing, gaming lab with connection to e-sports, performing arts stage and center with interactive floors, and pre-school area; all with a focus on mental and physical health. .

The goal in the fall is to bring as many players to the table as possible which will bring down the cost of sports activities in Eagle Point and eventually extend to the Upper Rogue. The program is designed to bring the youth of Eagle Point to an even playing field of other students in the area that had once only been available to the wealthy or people living in Medford.

Mr. Price went on to discuss the expertise of staff, all local, with 100% of the funds reinvested back to the community. While there is support of getting students to college or training, there is also a focus on bringing students back to this area.

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Mr. Woods continued with an update on their capital campaign with approximately \$130,000 raised and working toward raising \$230,000 to \$240,000 to cover start up costs but assured the Council that they will do this with or without donations.

Discussion continued wherein Robert Miller, Public Works Director, discussed the City's memorandum with the YMCA but wanted the Council's input prior to discussions with the YMCA. There was also discussion about the Kids Unlimited program in Medford that serves approximately 200 students from White City in an afterschool program. While there was some support of looking into the Kids Unlimited program, it was noted that there is no reinvestment back into the community by Kids Unlimited. There was further discussion about funding, plans to purchase the building, supporters including School District 9 offering support for the after school care program, which was followed by many positive comments by the Council.

Mr. Wood and Mr. Price left at approximately 7:27 p.m.

11. REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL AND CITY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Fierke reported on the budget process for School District 9, and announced a candidate forum would be held later in the week in the Ashpole Community Center.

Councilor Lacombe reported helping to move items to the Discovery Ed campus.

Council President Stanek reported on the Showa Homestay students putting in a lot of work raking leaves at the alpaca ranch, and on a fundraising event at Walmart and the Applebee's pancake breakfast.

Mayor Jenks reported attending the League of Oregon Cities conference in Ashland with courses on housing, marijuana, and wildfire. Mayor Jenks further reported attending the 4th of July Planning Committee meeting, and plans to attend the upcoming Rogue Valley Council of Governments meeting. Mayor Jenks also commended the efforts of the Showa Homestay program.

12. STAFF REPORTS

Mike Upston, Planning Director, reported on the Butte Creek Baptist Church being ready to put in a second driveway on Teakwood Drive, and construction fencing is anticipated at the old state bank building with renovation beginning soon for office or retail use. Mr. Upston also announced plans to attend the Oregon Heritage Summit later in the week.

Melissa Owens, Finance Director, announced the Finance Report is in the Agenda Packet. At 75% through the fiscal year, revenues and expenditures through March 31st are as expected. However, Ms. Owens noted that interest rates are higher than budgeted as well as some of the SDCs and building permit fees. Ms. Owens further reported staff is working on budgeting and the Budget Committee meeting is scheduled on May 16. If needed, a second meeting date of May 20th has been selected, and the completion date for the budget document (hard copy and .pdf) is anticipated soon. Additionally, Ms. Owens reported on

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the City receiving a PERS “Reporting Star” for submitting 100% of the 2018 reports on or before the due dates. Meanwhile, recruiting efforts continue for multiple vacancies.

Robert Miller, Public Works Director, reported networking at the Oregon Chapter - American Public Works Association Conference, and expressed appreciation for the Council’s support of continuing education. Additionally, Mr. Miller reported attending the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization meeting earlier in the day, and provided a brief progress report on Stevens Road and Linn Road.

Police Chief May reported on a new car being added to the fleet as well as Officer Stover being nearly ready for solo patrol. A new officer is also anticipated as soon as testing results are cleared.

City Attorney Souvanny Miller reported on the old fire station property about whether it is possible to put in a clawback provision or otherwise retain control of the property or portions thereof if the developer doesn’t do what they say they will do. Attorney Miller noted it is possible and there is a lot of flexibility in doing so.

Henry Lawrence, City Administrator, announced plans to attend the upcoming Northwest Regional Managers Conference (NWRMC) in Hood River with training focused on emergency management and disaster preparedness. In addition, Mr. Lawrence noted the flower baskets are going up around town. Mayor Jenks added that the women’s club is also having discussions on emergency preparedness.

There were no other reports.

13. INFORMATION

There were no information items for discussion.


15. ADJOURN

There being no further business, Mayor Jenks closed the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Hughes, City Recorder

ATTEST:


Ruth Jenks, Mayor