



CITY OF EAGLE POINT

"Gateway to the Lakes"

OREGON

EAGLE POINT CITY COUNCIL
17 BUCHANAN AVE. SOUTH, EAGLE POINT, OREGON

MAY 24, 2011

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00 P.M.

Mayor Russell called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Council members present: Bob Russell, Kathy Sell, Mike Parker, Ruth Jenks, Jonathan Bilden and Bill Fierke.

Council members absent: Alan Curriston.

Staff members present: David Hussell, City Administrator; Joe Kellerman, City Attorney; Vern Thompson, Chief of Police; Melissa Owens, Finance Officer; Robert Miller, Public Works Director; and Dena Roberts, City Recorder.

2. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION.

Councilor Fierke led the flag salute and Councilor Bilden led the invocation.

3. AUDIENCE QUESTIONS OR COMMENTS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA.

4. PRESENTATIONS.

4.1 Gary Whittle regarding park property.

Gary Whittle of Whittle Construction introduced himself noting that approximately a year and a half ago he had spoken with the city regarding a city park in the Sienna Hills area.

Mr. Whittle advised there were wetlands issues at that time but those should be completely resolved within the next month. He then identified the location of the property he owns on a map. He stated he would be interested in selling the land to the city for park purposes.

Mr. Whittle advised all developers pay park SDCs when they develop a piece of property.

He noted the city allowed him SDC credits for his contribution when he built Chamberlain Park in 1999. He explained the Sienna Hills area has approximately 600 homes in the area and that several hundred more will be there when it is completely built out. He noted they all have or will have paid park SDCs and there is not park for them. He stated his property is six acres, is mostly flat, has good access and is in a good central location for a park for those residents. He explained if it isn't turned into a park, it will be developed into 25 homes. He advised he is frequently asked by homeowners when they are going to get a park and he doesn't have a good answer. He concluded by asking Council if they felt a park in the area a worthwhile.

Mayor Russell asked for clarification of the wetland issues. Mr. Whittle reviewed the irrigation and drainage issues using the map displayed. Councilor Sell asked where the additional homes will be built. Mr. Whittle identified them on the map, stating there are several hundred more homes yet to be built in the area. Councilor Sell asked when he thought they would be built. He responded it was hard to tell but probably 8-9 years before they would be completely built out and that with the homes that will be in the area they will have paid approximately \$1M to \$1.5M into park SDCs. Councilor Jenks asked if he wanted cash or a swap of some sort for the land. Mr. Whittle responded his previous proposal was 50/50 in cash and SDC credits. He stated cash was preferable, but he would be willing to work out a similar arrangement. Mayor Russell asked if Mr. Whittle knew the approximate value of the property. Dave Hussell advised the city had an appraisal done a few years ago, but that it would not be valid now as property values have decreased. If council is interested staff would have another appraisal done. Mr. Whittle stated believed the price would be approximately \$80,000-\$100,000 an acre. Mr. Whittle concluded by stating he is interested in selling the property and would very much like a park for all the people for whom he has built homes that have paid park SDCs. Council instructed staff to proceed with an appraisal.

Mayor Russell then asked Mr. Whittle the status of the Sweet Café building. Mr. Whittle responded he will be taking the building down and rebuilding. He further advised he originally was going to build living space above the store front, but has decided to redesign the building without living space. There will be approximately 4,000sf retail front space and possibly offices on the side or back. Mr. Whittle stated he plans on building it in two phases because there are two tax lots and will begin with taking the building down either next year or the year after and begin the first phase.

Mr. Whittle asked the status of the downtown streetscape plan. Mayor Russell responded the city is doing something every year and the city intends moving forward as quickly as possible.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR.

6.1 Presentation of regular meeting minutes of May 10, 2011.

Mayor Russell announced the consent calendar and asked for a motion. Councilor Bilden moved that Council approve the Consent Calendar as presented. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Bob Russell, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Mike Parker, yes; and Kathy Sell, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR.

8. PRESENTATION OF BILLS TO BE PAID.

Mayor Russell announced the bills to be paid and asked if there were questions. There were none. He asked for a motion to approve the bills. Councilor Parker moved that Council approve the bills as presented including the additional bill list. Councilor Bilden seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Kathy Sell, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bob Russell, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Mike Parker, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

9. OLD BUSINESS.

9.1 LDS Church community service project.

Dave Hussell referred Council to the information in their packets regarding potential community service projects in Eagle Point. He explained Bishop Hill was in attendance to discuss which projects the Council would like the LDS Church to do. Mr. Hussell further advised Bishop Hill had indicated to him that they would be willing to remove the blackberries along the creek as well as some smaller projects. Mr. Hussell also noted Jerry Zieman had asked they paint the senior center as one of their projects and Bishop Hill has indicated they are willing to do that. He has talked with a painter in the area relating to pricing and quantities, as well as a potential donation of paint.

Mayor Russell invited Bishop Hill to the podium. Bishop Hill advised he had met with his congregation to discuss ideas. They discussed painting the senior center and he asked one of his members to evaluate the project. He reported back that the space is approximately 6,000 square feet and would require one full day to wash and prep it and another ½ day to clean it and get it ready to be painted. He suggested the paint be sprayed on, but that would require that it be done by experienced individuals. Bishop Hill advised the LDS Church's goal is to have families involved, with younger kids. He advised the painting project is doable but not in the capacity originally thought as it requires experts. The gentleman doing the evaluation suggested that it be an interfaith project, with people who have the expertise working together. Bishop Hill advised the project the LDS Church would like to do would have a start and finish in the same day. He noted they could do the fire hydrant painting project as that would be a good project for children. He noted they have already sent the children around town to count the fire hydrants. Nancy Leonard asked if they were planning on using plain colored paint or painting designs. Bishop Hill responded those who have the skills could paint designs if the Council desired. He suggested a family be assigned to each hydrant. Bishop Hill stated the project involving painting the yellow lines on the streets would be doable project as well as the Butte Creek clean-up.

Councilor Parker asked when they would be available to start work. Bishop Hill responded they can get groups together fairly quickly but in order to make it a worthy project they would like to have some planning time. In other instances they have done the projects at the end of the summer before school begins. Councilor Jenks asked whether there were any legal complications. Attorney Kellerman responded the city had insurance to protect it. Mayor Russell asked how many people would be involved. Bishop Hill advised it would depend upon

the project; they have 200 Eagle Point residents, but there are others outside Eagle Point who would be involved. Bishop Hill stated they would have the necessary number of people for the project. Councilor Parker asked what needed to be done to get the project moving. Mayor Russell suggested a motion be made for one or two projects.

Councilor Parker moved that the LDS Church undertake to remove the blackberry vines and creek debris from Little Butte Creek in the areas discussed with a secondary project being painting the city's fire hydrants. Councilor Fierke seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call: Mike Parker, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Bob Russell, yes; Kathy Sell, yes; and Bill Fierke, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

10. NEW BUSINESS.

- 10.1 **Resolution 2011-27.** A Resolution authorizing the use of office space at the Judge Stewart House for the Little Butte Water Quality Program and Little Butte Creek Watershed Council.

Mayor Russell announced **Resolution 2011-27** and asked for the staff report. Dave Hussell reported over the last eight months, the city has been working with a group of various agencies on improvements to Little Butte Creek water quality. He further advised the City has partnered with the Watershed Council for many years working on similar measures. This particular effort is to bring a staff person who has some expertise on board to work on water quality issues for Little Butte Creek. Two grants were written and one, for \$25,000, has been accepted. The other grant is before the Oregon Water Enhancement Board and it is for staffing services. The city's contribution is for office space for that individual. Mr. Hussell suggested using office space at the Judge Stewart House. There are currently three unoccupied offices in the building. The other part of the request is to move the Little Butte Creek Watershed Council staff from the old fire station to the Judge Stewart House. Councilor Fierke asked whether the proposal was for one year or more. Dave Hussell responded it would be for a year at a time, with review annually.

Councilor Parker moved that Council approve **Resolution 2011-27**. Councilor Jenks seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call: Bob Russell, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Kathy Sell, yes; Mike Parker, yes; and Ruth Jenks, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

- 10.2 **Resolution 2011-28.** A Resolution authorizing the donation of \$3,000 to the Eagle Point/Upper Rogue Chamber of Commerce to support the Community Flower Basket Program.

Mayor Russell announced **Resolution 2011-28** and asked for the staff report. Dave Hussell reported the proposal to support the flower basket program had been made at prior council meetings. Mr. Hussell explained that when the program began, the city paid for all the flower baskets but as finances became tighter, there wasn't funding to support it. He noted the city did contribute \$3,000 towards the program last year and it is being proposed that the city again support the program with a \$3,000 donation. Mr. Hussell noted there is funding in the city's general fund contingency if Council chooses to contribute. Councilor Parker asked Mayor Russell's opinion. Mayor Russell stated he felt it an excellent program. He advised that over

\$9,000 has been donated in private funds and \$3,000 will complete the funding for the program.

Councilor Fierke moved that Council approve **Resolution 2011-28**. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Ruth Jenks, yes; Mike Parker, yes; Kathy Sell, yes; Bob Russell, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; and Jonathan Bilden, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

10.3 **Resolution 2011-29.** A Resolution setting wage and benefit levels for management positions for the City of Eagle Point (2010-2013).

Mayor Russell announced **Resolution 2011-29** and asked for the staff report. Dave Hussell reported the Teamsters General Unit has ratified their contract but the police unit has not. Mr. Hussell explained that he has worked very hard make the labor groups as homogenous as he could as they relate to wages and benefits. Management has always received exactly what the bargaining units have received. This has made all groups feel comfortable and has contributed to a sense of team spirit. Mr. Hussell advised the resolution simply follows past practice in treating management the same as staff. Councilor Fierke asked how the lieutenant leaving and the police chief beginning employment would be handled. Dave Hussell responded he would need to look at it, but that it could be handed as a proration for both parties. Councilor Fierke stated he felt that was the best way to address the issue.

Councilor Fierke moved that Council approve **Resolution 2011-29**. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call: Jonathan Bilden, yes; Kathy Sell, yes; Mike Parker, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bob Russell, yes; and Ruth Jenks, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

10.4 **Resolution 2011-30.** A Resolution authorizing the Museum Mystery Clue game for 2011 and the solicitation of local businesses for the weekly prizes.

Mayor Russell announced **Resolution 2011-30** and asked for the staff report. Rob Miller reported the city's museum staff came up with an idea to conduct a game that would engage the youth of Eagle Point with the museum, library and local businesses. The "clue" would be something at the museum and the winner would draw for a prize. The prizes would be connected with local businesses such as "buy one, get one free candy bar" at the Little Butte Market, or a free soda at Tony's, etc. Staff intends to solicit the prizes from local businesses. Councilor Sell asked how many winners there would be. Rob Miller responded there would be one each week and it would run through the summer.

Councilor Bilden moved that Council approve **Resolution 2011-30**. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call: Bill Fierke, yes; Kathy Sell, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Mike Parker, yes; and Bob Russell, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

Mayor Russell suggested Mr. Miller attend the next Chamber meeting to ask for donations of prizes. Nancy Leonard asked who came up with the idea. Dave Hussell interjected it was one of the employees who works at Harnish Park.

10.5 **Resolution 2011-31.** A Resolution authorizing the suspension of the Summer Day Camp Program for the 2011 sessions.

Mayor Russell announced **Resolution 2011-31** and asked for the staff report. Rob Miller reported the program has occurred for the last seven years. It was originally a two week program, but moved up to eight weeks. It has been for children in kindergarten through fifth grade. Last year 92 children were served and of those 92 1/3 were on scholarships. There were 21 leaders in training which were middle school and high school students. Mr. Miller advised staff had previously discussed with council the challenges with running the program this year. Mr. Miller stated one councilor asked if Central Point has a similar program. Mr. Miller explained Central Point cancelled their program last year and are trying to do some fundraising this year; Eagle Point is not the only city having difficulty. He recommended suspending the program this year and look into what can be done next year. Mr. Miller advised he is looking into partnering with the YMCA. Councilor Fierke expressed his concern over lettering the program go. Dave Hussell responded the program was initiated and created by Sherry Bailey. She knew how to organize and run it but has recently had some health problems which will prevent her from being involved. In addition to Sherry Bailey being unavailable to organize and run the program, the previous "Day Camp Director" and staff are not coming back this year so there is no one with the knowledge base to run it, especially at this late date. By next year the city will be in a much better position.

Councilor Parker moved that Council approve **Resolution 2011-31**. Councilor Parker seconded the motion. There was no further discussion. Roll call: Bill Fierke, yes; Jonathan Bilden, yes; Mike Parker, yes; Bob Russell, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Kathy Sell, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

10.6 Redistricting 2011.

Mayor Russell announced Item 10.6 and asked for the staff report. Dave Hussell reported over the last few weeks staff has been following the redistricting issue. Oral testimony ended today and now is the time for written testimony. The city can submit a letter if council chooses. The committee working on the redistricting has submitted for consideration several versions of redistricting maps. Mr. Hussell advised he contacted Senator Whitsett to inquire about the different versions of the maps that were being released because they seemed confusing. Senator Whitsett agreed that they were very confusing and advised that none of those maps will be used; the final map will be a hybrid. Mr. Hussell explained the need to keep Eagle Point with White City, Shady Cove and Central Point. He explained if the republicans and democrats can't come to an agreement the Secretary of the State has the authority to draw the maps. Councilor Bilden interjected stating there is hope that an agreement will be reached between the parties and that the Secretary of State will not draw the maps. Eagle Point is greatly affected but the rest of the valley is fine. He explained that if the Secretary of State ends up drawing the maps, she will be required to conduct forums in the community. Councilor Bilden further advised there was discussion regarding a measure going on the 2012 ballot to create an independent commission to redraw the lines in 2013. Dave Hussell asked council if they wanted staff to write a letter expressing Eagle Point's concerns. He further advised the largest problem is that the maps proposed thus far do not include Eagle Point's urban growth areas so

Eagle Point will be split between two or more districts. Council asked staff to prepare and send a letter asking that Eagle Point be kept with Central Point, White City, and Shady Cove and include the city's urban growth boundary.

11. REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL AND CITY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES.

Councilor Fierke reported he attended a School Board work session on May 11. He stated they did a good job with middle school awards and the students did a very nice job in explaining what they are doing. Councilor Fierke advised the district has some very nice programs which most people probably do not know about. They are focusing programs on academic achievement and they have committees spending time in classrooms to pick out the good things that they can pass around. They are using best practices and statistics and measurements to go towards best practices. They are also posting test scores around the high school, visually getting people interested. And, they have an open communications program to increase staff involvement as well as problem solving groups. He stated he was very impressed with what they are doing. Councilor Fierke then advised there is another meeting tomorrow and Thursday.

Councilor Jenks reported that at the MPO meeting she spoke with Julie Brown from the RVTD and received an update regarding the grant. She stated they expect the grant to be approved shortly. Funding will be received later in the year and action will be taken the following year. Councilor Jenks advised RVMPO is responsible for CMAQ funds from the federal government that support any type of project which would improve air quality. One of the items discussed was converting funds that had been set aside for a parking lot at the trail head of the Bear Creek trail that was not approved. The funding was converted for the City of Central Point to receive a Toyota Prius and two 4-wheel drive Ford Escape hybrids. The additional funds from the parking lot will go towards a new street sweeper for Central Point. Councilor Jenks advised Eagle Point's Mattie Brown parking lot is being supported with CMAQ funds. Rob Miller interjected Central Point is working on a hybrid program for all their vehicles, not only electric but CNG (compressed natural gas). One of the reasons their street sweeper was funded is because it is used 7 days a week. Eagle Point's is used 1 ½ days week. Staff will be looking at this type of funding if there becomes a need to replace Eagle Point's street sweeper.

Councilor Parker advised RVS approved a new two year labor agreement with their union on very similar lines with Eagle Point's.

Mayor Russell reported the Medford Water Commission annual cities and districts meeting will be tomorrow.

12. STAFF REPORTS.

Melissa Owens reported staff was finishing up the city's budget and the first budget meeting would be on Thursday, June 2, 2011 at 6:00 p.m. She asked that the City Recorder be advised if they could not attend. Councilor Fierke asked if there was anything Council should be made aware of. Ms. Owens responded there are no big surprises.

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Councilor Jenks reported she attended a RVMPO meeting at which they voted to support a grant for the Rogue Valley Transit study. She stated they expect the grant to be approved shortly. Funding will be received later in the year and action will be taken the following year. Councilor Jenks advised RVMPO is responsible for CMAQ funds from the federal government that support any type of project which would improve air quality. One of the items discussed was converting funds that had been set aside for a parking lot at the trail head of the Bear Creek trail that was not approved. The funding was converted for the City of Central Point to receive a Toyota Prius and two 4-wheel drive Ford Escape hybrids. The additional funds from the parking lot will go towards a new street sweeper for Central Point. Councilor Jenks advised Eagle Point's Mattie Brown parking lot is being supported with CMAQ funds. Rob Miller interjected Central Point is working on a hybrid program for all their vehicles, not only electric but CNG (compressed natural gas). One of the reasons their street sweeper was funded is because it is used 7 days a week. Eagle Point's is used 1 ½ days week. Staff will be looking at this type of funding if there becomes a need to replace Eagle Point's street sweeper.

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Rob Miller reported the Eagle Point hardware project is underway and the school project is moving forward. He further advised he hoped to start work fixing the water line to the 3.6MG reservoir but the weather made it impossible.

Chief Thompson reported the new bridge ordinance is working very well with a great deal of compliance. It is accomplishing what was intended.

Dave Hussell reported he, Melissa and Rob are working with Steve Vincent from Avista on a new franchise agreement. He stated once the agreement is complete it will be sent to legal counsel for review and then back to City Council for adoption. Mayor Russell interjected that Avista donated \$600 to the flower basket program.

Dave Hussell next reported he and Melissa Owens attended a public managers meeting. The topic was the issue of property valuation relating to foreclosures, short sales and the devaluation of properties as it relates to communities. Dan Ross, the county assessor, was in attendance and explained how the process works and how he assesses property. He advised approximately 23% of the properties in the county have real market values that are either at or below their assessed value. Mr. Ross believes this will continue for the next year which means the city's property tax revenue will not increase for the 2012-13 year either. This has a huge impact on Eagle Point. Normally the city receives a 3% increase in value plus new construction. This year the city received a 1.3% increase and that included new construction. It will be less this coming year. Also in attendance at this meeting were Cris Galpin and Brent Moore of W.L. Moore Construction who stated they cannot compete with the foreclosures and short sales as the banks are selling homes for such low prices that they cannot develop their lots (lighting, water, sewer, etc.) and build homes and make any profit at all. As construction is one of the largest employment bases in this valley it has a huge impact.

13. INFORMATION.

At 9:00 p.m. Mayor Russell called for short break.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 912.660(2)(h) LITIGATION.

Mayor Russell opened the Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) Litigation at 9:07 p.m.

Discussion.

Mayor Russell closed the Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h) Litigation at 9:38 p.m.

15. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(2)(d) LABOR NEGOTIATIONS.

Mayor Russell opened the Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) Labor at 9:39 p.m.

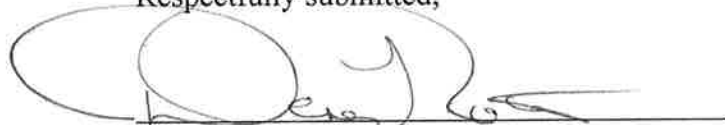
Discussion.

Mayor Russell closed the Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(d) Labor at 9:43 p.m.

16. ADJOURNMENT.


There being no further business to come before the Council, Mayor Russell adjourned the meeting at 9:43 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Dena Roberts, City Recorder

ATTEST:



Robert E. Russell, Mayor