



CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes February 13, 2023

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Primmer, Myers, Barron, Linton, and McCarthy. Councilor Duron was excused. Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron D. Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Chief Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The pledge of allegiance was given.

City Manager Smith announced there would be a change in the agenda as Ordinance No. 2345 would not be presented at tonight's meeting.

Presentation- Hermiston Historical and Cultural Society- Museum Information

Hermiston Historical and Cultural Society Members Dennis Doherty and Steve Meyers, and Library Director Mark Rose presented information (attached) regarding possibly using the Historic Carnegie Building as the future home of the Hermiston Museum of Culture & History.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked those present from the Historical and Cultural Society and stated that the City is in talks about the future of the Carnegie Building and will use this information when discussing the buildings possibilities moving forward.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Carol Boggs, 81445 Ott Road; Robin Barker, 645 E Sunset Dr; Sadie Schneider, 125 NW 4th St; and Lydia Tefft (via email)- spoke regarding the need for an Animal Control Officer, the increase of cats and dogs running at large and the safety issues that arise from dogs at large, the lack of accountability from pet owners, and the need for the City to help with this issue.

Virginia Rome, Hermiston- thanked all those who participated in the MLK event at City Hall and asked why the City is implementing another utility rate increase since we just recently had one.

City Manager Smith and Mayor Drotzmann explained that rates will be adjusted annually so the City does not fall behind in costs associated with infrastructure maintenance in order to provide safe utility services. The City does not make a profit off of these increases and discounts are provided to low income individuals and families who qualify. The public is encouraged to attend Public Infrastructure Meetings to learn more about these issues.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-C, to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Minutes of the January 23, 2023 Regular City Council Meeting
- C. Minutes of the February 2 & 3, 2023 Goal Setting Session Meetings

Motion carried unanimously.



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Resolution No. 2255- Amending AWS LTREZ Agreement and Superseding Resolution 2239

Assistant City Manager Morgan gave information regarding the two proposed amendments from AWS.

After some discussion, Councilor Barron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2255 and lay upon the record. Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Primmer, Barron, Myers, and McCarthy voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.

Resolution No. 2256- Amending AWS LTREZ Agreement and Superseding Resolution 2240

Assistant City Manager Morgan stated this resolution would mimic Resolution No. 2255 as presented earlier in the meeting.

After some discussion, Councilor Myers moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2256 and lay upon the record. Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Primmer, Barron, Myers, and McCarthy voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.

Resolution No. 2257- IGA with Oregon Trail Library District (OTLD) for IT Services

City Manager Smith stated if approved, the agreement would allow the City to provide IT Services to OTLD.

After some discussion, Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Myers seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2257 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

2nd Quarter TY2023 Investment Report

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Primmer seconded to accept the 2nd Quarter Investment Report as presented by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center (EOTEC) Branding Research

City Manager Smith presented information regarding the branding research conducted by Focal Point Marketing Group and asked that the Council consider a decision that would help EOTEC be more successful based on the information obtained from stakeholder interviews and public surveys as displayed in the staff report.

Public Comment

Josh Roberts, Hermiston- Stated he believes the current names captures that the event center is a regional facility as funds from the County were also used to build Eastern Oregon Trade and Event Center. It's a good representation of the region and not just of the City.

After some discussion, Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Barron seconded to direct staff to move forward with rebranding and renaming EOTEC. Councilors Barron and McCarthy voted in favor; Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Myers, Linton, and Primmer voted against. Motion failed 5-2.

Councilor Barron moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to direct staff to move forward with rebranding EOTEC. Councilors Hardin, Barron, Myers, and McCarthy voted in favor; Councilors Peterson, Primmer, and Linton voted against. Motion carried 4-3.



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Committee Reports

Solid Waste Advisory Committee- Councilor McCarthy spoke regarding the recent meeting the Committee had to discuss a rate adjustment. This adjustment is not related to the recycling requirements that will be implemented.

Parks and Recreation Committee- Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz spoke regarding the Legacy Park Community meeting to help design the park. The final results and recommendation will come before the City Council for their decision on what should be implemented in the new park.

Stepping Stones Alliance (not a city committee)- Mayor Drotzmann stated Stepping Stones has hired a new Executive Director and Navigation Director. There have been development and facility delays, as well as a need to find a new temporary sleep center location. The community is encouraged to volunteer their time and/or help provide food if they are able.

Mayors Report

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- Thanked all those who participated in the Goal Setting Sessions
- Mayors' participation in the State Senate Finance and Revenue Committee
- Union Pacific Railroad is hiring with great sign-on bonuses and wages

Council Reports

Councilor Primmer encourage the public to see Newsies, a HHS play, stating the youth did a fantastic job!

Councilor Linton stated she participated in City Day at the Capitol and was impressed of how well Mayor Drotzmann represents the City. And participated in a ride-a-long with Patrol Corporal Erica Sandoval stating Corporal Sandoval does a great job of deescalating situations, however she is still concerned as the department is short staffed and needs additional officers.

Councilor Barron agreed with Councilor Linton's sentiments about how well Mayor Drotzmann does representing the City.

Youth Advisory Report

Elizabeth Doherty stated many successful students participated in Districts, Regionals, and State level meets for sporting and other activities. The High School will also be holding its first Sadie Hawkins dance in about four years.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- His new role as Rotary President

The Council congratulated him on this new role.

Recess for Executive Session

At 9:00pm Mayor Drotzmann announced the City Council of the City of Hermiston will now meet in Executive Session in the Executive Session Room for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to negotiating real property transaction. The Executive Session is held pursuant ORS 192.660 (2) (e) which allows the Council to



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meet in Executive Session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the Council to negotiate real property transactions.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are excluded. 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 final decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, the council will return to open session which the audience may attend. The executive session will last approximately 10 mins.

Reconvene and Adjournment

Mayor Drotzmann reconvened and adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:23pm as there was no other City business.

SIGNED:

Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder

Lilly Alarcon-Strong

From: City of Hermiston Meetings
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 7:06 PM
To: Byron Smith; David Drotzmann; Doug Primmer; Jackie Myers; Lilly Alarcon-Strong; Maria Duron; Mark Morgan; Nancy Peterson; Rich Tovey; Rodney Hardin; Roy Barron; David McCarthy; Jackie Linton; Rich Tovey
Subject: Fw: Plea for Animal Control.- Public Comment

Public Comment

From: Lydia Tefft <lydia.tefft@gmail.com>
Sent: Monday, February 13, 2023 6:17 PM
To: City of Hermiston Meetings
Subject: Plea for Animal Control.

STOP and VERIFY This message came from outside of the City of Hermiston

Although I am unable to come to the meeting tonight due to lack of child care, I wanted to send an email so at least I could let someone know how hard it's been.

I have no idea who will read this email or if anyone will. But here it goes.

My family and I moved here a little under 2 years ago. Although I was born and raised in Athena, Oregon, I have traveled a lot and lived many places around the US. Traveled to many countries.

Hermiston is the first town that I fear walking down the street in my neighborhood. I am a homeowner and for the most part my neighbors are lovely people. However, just on my street there are four dogs that are allowed to run at large all too often. Being new here, I wasn't sure who to talk to about the situation, I was informed by a member of the community that I should reach out to the police.

I have made three separate calls for dogs chasing, attempting to bite me and my child, as well as coming into my own garage and trying to attack my husband..... I have yet to see any consequence for these pet owners.

This is a quote from one of my neighbors " The cops are always bringing my dogs back but at least I never get fined." Why is that?

Irresponsible pet owners & lack of consequences for dogs at large have made it so that I no longer can walk in my neighborhood. The fear is so great that I have to load up my son and my own dog and travel to a safer area just to be able to walk.

There was another incident that I experienced where a dog actually jumped its own fence to attack us, who did I call for help?? Nobody.

This was after i had already called three times and at that point I'm just a nuisance because I know there will be nothing done. There will be no help for me.

When will something be done? When my dog is killed? When my child is attacked? When my child is killed? Is that what it's going to take for somebody to PAY ATTENTION?

I'm not pointing the fingers at anyone but the irresponsible pet owners that allow this to happen. But I do believe that their actions should have a consequence! Last time I checked "dogs at large" was fineable. So why don't they proceed with that.? Why are the dogs safely taken back to their owners with no repercussions? Why are leash laws not enforced?

Although this email will probably fall on deaf ears and nothing will come of it, I feel as it is my only option at this point. The police force has many other jobs and taking care of all animal calls, shouldn't be part of it. They have a hard job, pesky animal calls only make it harder for them.

My PLEA is that there would be harsher consequences for repeat offenders for dogs at large. Possibly an animal control officer as well. I want to be safe in my own neighborhood!

If you've read this email in it's entirety, I thank you.

Best regards,
Lydia Tefft- A very defeated mother & pet owner

Hermiston Historical and Cultural Society

Formed in Summer 2022 as a 501 (c) (3) organization, one of Oregon's arts, heritage and humanities nonprofits. Contact us at info@hermistonmuseum.org

Objective

To establish a center for Hermiston culture and history at the Carnegie Building, including the preservation and restoration of this historic landmark.

Vision

To collect, preserve and present history and culture specific to the Hermiston area; connecting people to the past and the future by creating inspirational learning opportunities for all ages.

Steering Committee (All have Hermiston connections; not inclusive of all who have assisted)

- PRESIDENT – Anne Doherty
- SECRETARY – Lavon Starr Meyers
- TREASURER – Jacob Zumwalt
- Mark Rose, city liaison
- Steve Meyers, outreach
- Karen Bounds
- Hillary Bounds
- Roger Bounds
- Ben Doherty
- Dennis Doherty
- Carlisle Harrison
- Margaret Saylor
- Adelaide Zumwalt

Initial Phases of Museum Formation

Project Coordinations

- Organizations in Umatilla and Morrow counties (e.g., museums at Umatilla, Echo, Boardman, Pendleton and Mission).
- Oregon Cultural Trust and Oregon Museum Association; other museum-specific resources.
- Interested community individuals, families and organizations
- City of Hermiston
- Others, as progress is made

Initial Committees

- **Acquisition/Curation** – Develops plans and policies for acquisitions. Develops and maintains exhibits and collections, conducts research and interpretation to provide an educational experience for visitors reflecting the museum's vision.
- **Membership** – Develops initial “Founding Membership” plan. Coordinates with Finance Committee on financial considerations.

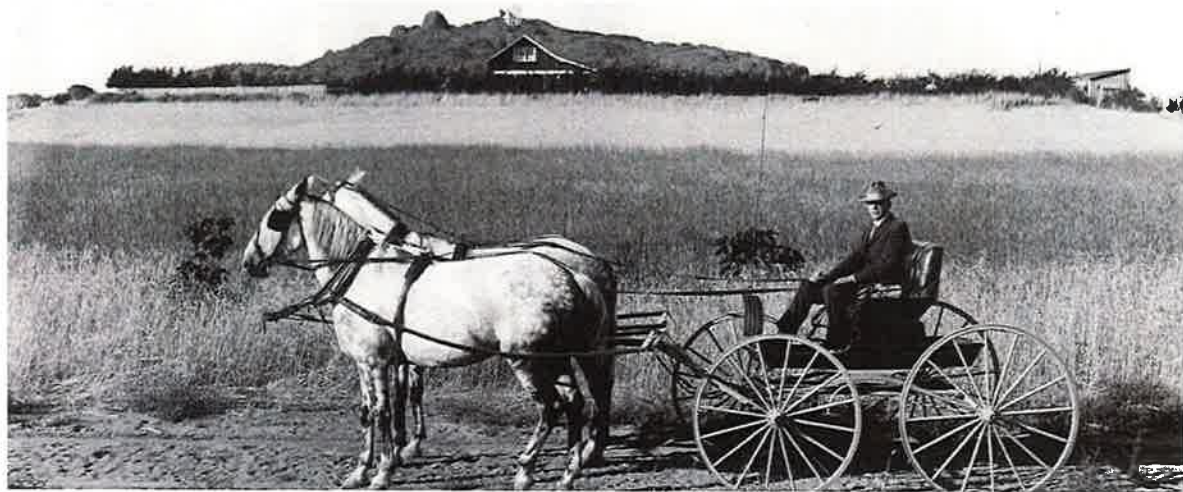
- **Finance** – Sets standards and policies for general business operations. Oversees contributions, grants and fundraising activities. Includes administration, accounting, information systems, records and reporting.
- **Partnership/Liaison** – Initiates coordination protocols with other like-minded organizations (private, public local, regional, etc.). Identifies legal, policy, practical and experience matters to our mission.
- **Publicity** – Provides information and outreach to the community at large.

Initial Museum Content



The focus of this museum will be developed by the Board when other matters are resolved (e.g., siting, financing, public input, etc.) Conceptually, an initial phase of the museum's content could include information panels, displays and oral histories focused on the following topics:

1. **Prehistory** – Missoula floods and regional geology
2. **Tribal Traditions** – The history and culture of the peoples who have lived on the land for more than 10,000 years.
3. **Pioneer and Early Trails** – The Lewis and Clark Trail and Oregon Trail each cut a path through the Hermiston area.
4. **Early Hermiston** – Settling Hermiston; with the establishment of Bureau of Reclamation's Hermiston irrigation project as one of the first in the West.
5. **The Carnegie Building** – Granted in 1915, a building paid for by steel magnate Andrew Carnegie served as Hermiston's city library until 1989.
6. **Coming of Ordnance** – In the months preceding World War II, 7,000 workers descended on a town of 800 to build an Army ammunition depot.
7. **McNary Dam** – With construction beginning in 1947, the dam today provides for navigation, hydroelectric power, recreation, wildlife habitat and irrigation.
8. **The Irrigated Agriculture Revolution** – The establishment of center pivot irrigation and coming of Lamb Weston triggered a multi-billion industry in Hermiston-Boardman area.
9. **Multi-Cultural Influences** – From early settlers to the multi-cultural community of today, the populations that have influenced our history and contemporary life.
10. **Hermiston Today** – The expansion of data centers, transportation, irrigated agriculture and other investments influence and enrich a growing community.



Exploring the Rich History of Hermiston

A traveler pauses near Hermiston in 1910.

The Hermiston area began to see irrigated agriculture in 1908, with the completion of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation's Umatilla Basin Project in the form of Cold Springs Reservoir. The region would see modest growth until World War II, when the Umatilla Army Depot was constructed. [more](#)

Photo provided by Hermiston Irrigation District



NEWS AND EVENTS



HHS to Present 'Newsies the Musical'

Hermiston High School's Drama Club will give four performances of Newsies the Musical in on Feb. 10, 11 and 17 at 7 p.m., and on Feb. 18 at 2 p.m....

January 30, 2023



Umatilla Library to Celebrate Author

The Umatilla Public Library is hosting a drop-in children's event Feb. 10 to celebrate the birthday of Mo Willems, author of the children's book series, Elephant and Piggie.. The event...

January 28, 2023

Learn about
Museum Project

[Read More >](#)

HOW TO REACH US

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