



# CITY COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting Minutes November 14, 2022

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

### **Presentation- Hermiston School District (HSD) Updates**

Assistant Superintendent Jake Bacon gave HSD Updates, to include: total district student enrollment of 5,474 with individual figures for each school, construction updates, calendar information regarding holiday breaks, winter sports and other activities, the possibility of hosting the OSAA Football games and announced Troy Blackburn has received Cross County Coach of the year in the WIAA Mid-Columbia Conference.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked Mr. Bacon for the updates, as well as all the effort HSD staff puts into making HSD a premier school district, stating that the Governor-elect recognized Hermiston High School and Mr. Burger's CET Program in her opening speech and commented on its important asset to the education program and how she would like to see more of these programs throughout the State.

### **Proclamation- Small Business Saturday**

Mayor Drotzmann read aloud the Small Business Saturday Proclamation and encouraged all residents to shop local throughout the year.

### **Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items**

None given.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Councilor Primmer asked to remove Item D. Cancel the December 26, 2022 City Council Meeting. Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-C, and E to include:

- A. Minutes of the September 26 Public Infrastructure Meeting
- B. Confirmation of Appointment to Keith Ellis to Position #3 of the Airport Advisory Committee term ending 10/31/2024
- C. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- E. Minutes of the October 24, 2022 City Council Meeting

Motion carried unanimously.

### **Items Removed from Consent Agenda**

- D. Cancel the December 26, 2022 City Council Meeting

Councilor Primmer stated he removed this item so the public has full transparency of why the City is requesting to cancel this meeting.

City Manager Smith stated the regular meeting falls on the federally recognized Christmas holiday, many people will be absent and it may be difficult to have a quorum for the meeting, and the City Charter only requires that the Council hold one meeting per month.



## CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2022

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Barron seconded to approve Consent Agenda item D. Motion carried unanimously.

**Public Hearing- Annexation- Nobles 4N2804D Tax Lots 1100, 1101, 1102, & 1103 - NW Sjoren Lane (Ordinance No. 2342)**- Councilors Myers and Spicerkuhn declared conflicts of interest. Planning Director Spencer presented the hearing guidelines and Mayor Drotzmann opened the hearing at 7:15pm.

Planning Director Spencer gave information regarding the applicant, Kelly Nobles, who has applied to annex 3.64 acres located on the north side of NW Sjoren Lane, with an R-4 zoning, with the intention to develop accessory dwellings and/or new residential units. The annexation is necessary to enable connections to the municipal water and sewer lines in NW 11th Street, street improvements will also be made all paid for by the applicant.

There were no proponents, opponents or neutral parties who wished to testify and Mayor Drotzmann closed the hearing at 7:20pm.

After some discussion, Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve the findings of fact as presented by Planning Director Spencer. Motion carried unanimously; 5 votes for; none against.

**Ordinance No. 2342- Annexation- Nobles 4N2804D Tax Lots 1100, 1101, 1102, & 1103 - NW Sjoren Lane (Public Hearing)**- Councilors Spicerkuhn and Myers declared conflicts of interest and left the dais. City Manager Smith stated Ordinance No. 2342 was discussed earlier during the Public Hearing.

### Public Comment

Applicant Kelly Nobles stated he has addressed many of the concerns that the neighbors in that area have regarding this annexation and his intentions to develop accessory dwelling units in the area.

Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Richard Tovey read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. After City Attorney Richard Tovey read the ordinance by title only, Councilor Barron moved and Councilor Hardin seconded that Ordinance No. 2342 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption by the City Council. Motion carried unanimously; 5 votes for; none against.

**Resolution No. 2242- Authorizing the City of Hermiston to apply for a Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund (CWSRF) loan from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality for the South Hermiston Urban Renewal Area's Sewer Main Project in the amount of \$2,947,000.**- Assistant City Manager Morgan presented the proposed resolution.

After some discussion, Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Primmer seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2242 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.



## CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2022

### **Resolution No. 2243- Franchise Agreement Renewal for Fatbeam, LLC.**

City Manager Smith presented the proposed resolution and stated there were no changes made to this renewal agreement.

After some discussion, Councilor Duron moved and Councilor Davis seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2243 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution No. 2244 – Adopting an IGA with the City of Pendleton for IT Services**

City Manager Smith presented the proposed resolution and explained another IT staff member would need to be hired to fulfill this additional IGA; the compensation received from the City of Pendleton would more than fully fund this additional staff member.

After some discussion, Councilor Spicerkuhn moved and Councilor Duron seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2244 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Resolution No. 2245- Franchise Agreement Renewal for CenturyTel of Eastern Oregon, Inc. d/b/a CenturyLink.** - City Manager Smith presented the proposed resolution.

After some discussion, Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Duron seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2245 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

**Discussion and possible support of the Oregon Mayors Association (OMA) Homelessness Funding Recommendation.** - City Manager Smith presented the proposed OMA Homelessness Funding Recommendation stating the recommendation would help all communities statewide, regardless of size or location, to address homelessness with/by all 241 Oregon cities partnering with the State of Oregon to enact two budget proposals during the 2023 Legislative Session as explained in the agendas staff report.

After some discussion, Councilor Duron stated she has been approached by members of the community who have heard and are concerned that other cities are bussing transients to Hermiston and what that could mean for this community.

Mayor Drotzmann stated he has heard similar concerns; however, his hope, along with OMA, is that this recommendation, if approved, will allow each city to better help those in need, regardless of where they come from, to get back on their feet and be contributing members of society.

### **Public Comment**

Josh Roberts, Hermiston- stated Hermiston does not have unlimited resources and the City must be careful to not become a drawing point for those who are looking to bus people into the Community. We must be conscious of putting our community first.

Mayor Drotzmann agreed stating we are trying to figure out how to address this issue while still being humane.

Nazario River, Hermiston- stated it is better to do something than nothing.



## CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2022

After some discussion, Councilor Spicerkuhn moved and Councilor Davis seconded to support the OMA proposal for homelessness funding as proposed. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

**Parks and Recreation**- Councilors Davis gave updates regarding: Aquatic Center cost recovery statistics, HERO Sports Complex at EOTEC, December 1<sup>st</sup> Festival Street Tree Lighting Ceremony with the First Annual Christmas Parade which the public is invited to participate in, and homelessness camps that have been setup in the parks and community.

**Stepping Stones (not a City Committee)**- Councilor Spicerkuhn stated the Ground-Breaking Ceremony will be held November 29<sup>th</sup> at noon. The project is not as far along as Stepping Stones was expecting so the City of Umatilla and Amazon have dedicated some staff working days to build huts to help this project along. Meanwhile, the warming station will open on December 1<sup>st</sup> at the old Sears building on N HWY 395. Volunteers are needed to staff the warming station from 6-10pm and 6-9am. More information and a list of needed donations can be found on the Stepping Stones website.

**EOTEC Committee**- Mayor Drotzmann stated the Committee met but did not have a quorum.

City Manager Smith stated the City is working with EOTEC General Manager Al Davis for its operational transition from VenuWorks to the City of Hermiston, as well as branding. EOTEC will be hosting the Festival of Lights again this winter.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- Vietnam Veterans Celebration and thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for the Veterans Day Breakfast Recognition
- Great turnout for Treats on Main, with over 4,000 participants
- OMA Homelessness Task Force press conference regarding homelessness
- Asked that the Council consider what Committees they would like to be appointed to for the coming year as new assignments will be given shortly
- Reminded the Council that a new Council President will be elected at the first meeting of the new year

### **Council Reports**

Councilor Barron spoke regarding the PGE infrastructure Bill application to build a hydrogen plant in this area.

Councilor Duron thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for their efforts to recognize our Veterans.

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding the Council members who will be attending the NLC Conference.

### **Youth Advisory Report**

Youth Advisors were not present.



# CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 14, 2022

## **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith spoke regarding recent conversations he has had with the Executive Director of the Umatilla County Housing Authority and his willingness to continue these great conversations to help the City.

## **Recess for Executive Session**

At 8:25pm 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 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 8:36pm as there was no other City business.

SIGNED:

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Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder