

MINUTES
CITY OF STEVENSON COUNCIL MEETING
January 21, 2021
6:00 PM, via Zoom and YouTube

Items with an asterisk (*) were added or modified after the initial draft publication of the Agenda.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m. Councilmembers Robert Muth, Paul Hendricks, Amy Weissfeld, Annie McHale were present. City Administrator Leana Kinley, Community Development Director Ben Shumaker, Public Works Director Karl Russell and City Attorney Ken Woodrich were also present. Guest presenters include Ben Johnson, Seth Otto, Consultants with Maul Foster Alongi and known public attendees were Paul Goins, Rick May, Kristy Arnett-McCaskell, Lisa Nguyen Birney, Harry DeVaux, Mary Repar, Ann Leuders, and Rob Farris.

2. **CHANGES TO THE AGENDA:**

- a) * 1/19 changes include: Updated final version of Ordinance 2021-1170 with minor changes (item 8c); Addition of the Fire Department report (item 10d); Addition of Vouchers (item 12a); Addition of Paul Goins, Rick May and Pat Price applications for council (item 15a)
- b) ** 1/20 changes include: Addition of Out of City responses to the Fireworks Survey (item 6a); Updated Committee Appointments list to remove Bradlee Seehafer after he resigned and adding Ed Feeley (item 8b); Addition of the Finance report (item 10e)
- c) *** 1/21 changes include: Public Comments from Monica Masco and Ann Lueders for the Fireworks Public Hearing (item 6a)

3. **CONSENT AGENDA:** The following items were presented for Council approval.

- a) Liquor License Renewals-Backwoods Brewing, Skamania Lodge and Big River Grill.
- b) Water Adjustment-WA Gorge Action Programs (meter no. 707300) requested a water adjustment of \$133.87 for a water leak which they have since repaired.
- c) Minutes of December 10, 2020 Stevenson City Council Meeting.

MOTION to approve consent agenda items a-c made by **Councilmember Muth** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Muth, McHale, Weissfeld, Hendricks**
- Voting nay: None

4. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:** Mayor Anderson requested commenters be respectful and tolerant of different opinions. He noted not all agenda items listed were open for comments. No oral comments were received, and **City Administrator Kinley** advised no further written comments had been submitted.

5. **PRESENTATIONS FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES:**

- a) **Columbia Avenue Realignment Project Update** - Ben Johnson and Seth Otto, Consultants with Maul Foster Alongi, presented conceptual drawings and answered questions from the council on the Columbia Avenue Realignment project identified in the Stevenson Council Goals for 2021-2022. Topics included work timelines, remediation of potential soil contamination, realignment of sewer lines, property acquisition, parking, and prospective grants.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

- a) *****Fireworks - City Administrator Leana Kinley** presented results from a recent online survey and council heard public comments regarding fireworks use inside city limits for further discussion. **Mayor Anderson** opened the hearing at 6:39 p.m.

City Administrator Kinley provided information on additional survey results received regarding the fireworks issue. 280 responses were received. **Councilmember Weissfeld** thanked **Kinley** for her efforts at public outreach.

>Mary Repar spoke against selling or allowing fireworks within the city of Stevenson, citing traumatic responses from veterans affected by PTSD, animals frightened by the noise, and fire hazards.

>Ann Leuders, co-owner of Crazy Ray Fireworks spoke in favor of allowing fireworks within Stevenson city limits. She noted they work hard to educate purchasers regarding safety and legal time frames for lighting off fireworks, and there had been only one written complaint within the past five years.

>Rob Farris, spoke as a resident and as the Fire Chief. He noted he witnessed loud mortars launched at random times and has tried to educate his neighbors. He also pointed out the difficulties in trying to enforce a ban if enacted in part due to the zigzag shape of county and city boundaries.

Mayor Anderson closed the public hearing at 6:59 p.m.

Following a short discussion, the council agreed to look further into working with Skamania County on developing a process to initiate emergency bans on fireworks during dry, hot weather. Ann Leuders urged the Council to include purveyors of fireworks in any discussions on the subject.

7. SITUATION UPDATES:

- a) **COVID-19 Update** - **Mayor Scott Anderson** provided an update on the city's response to the COVID-19 pandemic. He related information on the support shown for (State) Senate Bill 5114 that would provide for the re-opening of restaurants and other businesses. **City Administrator Kinley** advised the restriction on in-person open public meetings is extended until the COVID-19 emergency declaration is lifted. Live streaming and phone-in options will continue.

- b) **Sewer Plant Update** - **Public Works Director Karl Russell** provided an update on the Stevenson Wastewater System and the Compliance Schedule. There were no

Influent/Effluent violations in 2020. He welcomed the future upgrade to the Rock Creek lift station. 1 million gallons of water came through the system in December following extensive rainfall. He was congratulated by the Council for the lack of violations. In turn **PWD Russell** gave kudos to Ian at the WWTP for his efforts. **Councilmember McHale** asked for a tour of the facility and was advised she would be welcome anytime.

8. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) **Planning Commission Request - Community Development Director Ben Shumaker** presented the request from the Planning Commission for involvement in the Rock Creek Access subcommittee related to the recent petitions for the No Name and Iman Cemetery road vacations for council consideration. He noted Planning Commissioner Mike Beck was willing to serve on the subcommittee. Councilmembers agreed to the request.

b) **Approve Committee Appointments - Mayor Scott Anderson** presented the attached 2021 draft committee and board appointments for council discussion and approval.

MOTION to approve the committee appointments as presented made by **Councilmember Weissfeld** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember McHale, Muth, Hendricks, Weissfeld**
- Voting nay: None

Following the vote Mayor Anderson led a short discussion with the Council seeking suggestions on ways to prepare for meetings to make them more effective and efficient.

c) ***First Reading Ordinance Granting Zettler-Powers Road Vacation - City Administrator Leana Kinley** presented ordinance 2021-1170 vacating an unnamed street between lots 14 and 18 in the Meaghers Addition. This was a follow up to the public hearing held at the December 10th, 2020 City Council meeting. Language providing a covenant for access to Lot 19 was included in the proposed ordinance as requested.

MOTION to approve ordinance 2021-1170 vacating an unnamed street in the Meaghers Addition was made by **Councilmember Weissfeld** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Hendricks, Muth, Weissfeld, McHale**
- Voting nay: None

d) **Second Reading Ordinance 2020-1166 Regarding R3 Zoning Text Amendments - Community Development Director Ben Shumaker** presented the memo and ordinance regarding text amendment changes to the R3 zone for council consideration. He answered questions from Councilmembers on housing density and the current comprehensive plan.

MOTION to approve ordinance 2020-1166 amending the Stevenson Zoning Code (SMC Title 17) providing greater flexibility and requiring public sewer service for development in the R3 Multi-family Residential District was made by **Councilmember Weissfeld** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Muth, McHale, Hendricks, Weissfeld.**
- Voting nay: None

9. COUNCIL BUSINESS:

- a) **Approve Extension of SDA Park Plaza Contracts** - **City Administrator Kinley** presented and explained amendments extending the tourism funding contracts with the Stevenson Downtown Association for soft costs and construction costs related to the Park Plaza project to the end of 2022.

MOTION to approve amendment #2 to the Park Plaza soft costs contract with the Stevenson Downtown Association was made by **Councilmember McHale** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Hendricks, Weissfeld, Muth, McHale**
- Voting nay: None

MOTION to approve amendment #1 to the Park Plaza support contract with the Stevenson Downtown Association was made by **Councilmember McHale** with a second provided by **Councilmember Hendricks**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Weissfeld, Muth, McHale, Hendricks**
- Voting nay: None

- b) **Approve Contract with Grayling Engineering** - **Public Works Director Karl Russell** presented and explained the attached contract with Grayling Engineering to create a corrosion control recommendation report for the water system. The intent is to address the recent lead findings within several water samples.

MOTION to approve the contract with Grayling Engineering for a corrosion control recommendation report in the amount not to exceed \$5,550 made by **Councilmember Muth** with a second provided by **Councilmember Weissfeld**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Hendricks, Weissfeld, Muth, McHale.**
- Voting nay: None

- c) **Approve Sole Sourcing of Flygt Pumps** - **Public Works Director Karl Russell** presented and explained resolution 2021-375 waiving the state bidding requirements for the purchase of Flygt sewer pumps. This is related to the upcoming construction of wastewater system improvements and the engineer's justification is included in the resolution as Exhibit A.

MOTION to approve resolution 2021-375 waiving the state competitive bidding requirement for the purchase of Flygt sewer pumps pursuant to RCW 39.04.280(1)(a) made by **Councilmember Weissfeld** with a second provided by **Councilmember McHale**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Weissfeld, McHale, Muth, Hendricks.**
- Voting nay: None

10. INFORMATION ITEMS:

- a) Minutes from the 12/14/20 **Stevenson Planning Commission** meeting were presented.
- b) **Chamber of Commerce** Activities Report for December 2020 was presented.
- c) The **Skamania County Sheriff's** report for activity within Stevenson city limits for December, 2020 and a summary report from 2017-2020 was presented for council review.
- d) ***Stevenson Fire Department's** Report for December, 2020 was presented for council review.
- e) ****The draft Financial Reports** for 2020 year-end were presented for council review.

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS:

- a) **Ben Shumaker, Community Development Director** updated the Council on the city tree management plan. He expects to interview for a consultant and have a contract in place within the next few weeks.
The Shoreline Management Plan (submitted in 2018) is under review by the Washington Department of Ecology.
He asked the Council for their expectations regarding downtown parking requirements and their preferred options in engaging local businesses and developers in the issue. The Planning Commission will be considering amendments to the zoning code regarding parking. One suggestion was to use the same process used in the R3 zoning text amendments. Shumaker related he would bring a plan for the Council to review at the February 2021 meeting.
- b) **Karl Russell, Public Works Director** - No additional report presented as information had been provided earlier.
- c) **Leana Kinley, City Administrator** reported the Rock Creek Access Committee was in place. She is also working on getting participants for a City Art Committee. A traffic study RFQ is being readied.
Kinley highlighted an event (Pacific Crest Sports Endurance) planned for summer 2021 that may bring thousands of people into the area. A letter of support from the Stevenson City Council for the Oregon Department of Transportation was requested and approved by council consensus.
She pointed to her report in the meeting packet for additional information.

12. VOUCHER APPROVAL:

- a) ***December 2020 payroll, 13th month 2020 & January 2020 AP checks** have been audited and were presented for approval. December payroll checks 14787 thru 14810

and 14864 thru 14871 total \$108,770.17 which includes EFT payments. 13th month AP checks 14863 and 14872 thru 14921 total \$158,475.79 and includes EFT payments and checks. January 2020 AP checks 14922 thru 14946 total \$97,865.57 and includes EFT payments and checks. The AP check register with fund transaction summary was attached for review.

MOTION to approve the vouchers as presented was made by **Councilmember Muth** with a second provided by **Councilmember McHale**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember McHale, Muth, Weissfeld, Hendricks.**
- Voting nay: None

13. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS: None provided due to time constraints.

14. ISSUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING: None provided.

15. COUNCIL APPLICANT INTERVIEWS:

- *Interview Council Applicants - City Administrator Kinley** advised the Council that Shelly Kent had withdrawn her application, Pat Price was not available that evening for an interview and Harry DeVaux had left the meeting. Council interviewed applicants for the open position #5.
- Executive Session**-City Council convened in Executive Session at 9:43 for 7 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(h) to evaluate the qualifications of a candidate for appointment to elective office. Due to technology challenges, the meeting had a new Zoom login id, which was communicated to those remaining on the Zoom call prior to council entering the executive session. The new meeting information was also communicated via the city's live YouTube feed as well as the extensions of the executive session. At 9:50 it was extended for an additional 10 minutes. At 10:00 it was extended an additional 5 minutes. At 10:05 it was extended for an additional 5 minutes. Council came out of executive session and the meeting restarted at 10:12 pm.

MOTION to appoint Dave Cox to council position #5 was made by **Councilmember Weissfeld** with a second provided by **Councilmember Muth**.

- Voting aye: **Councilmember Muth, Weissfeld, Hendricks**
- Voting nay: **Councilmember McHale**

16. ADJOURNMENT Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 10:18 pm.



Scott Anderson, Mayor

02.19.21

Date