

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
MARCH 23, 2015
5:30 P.M.

THE DALLES CITY HALL
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Mayor Steve Lawrence

COUNCIL PRESENT: Dan Spatz, Tim McGlothlin, Linda Miller, Russ Brown

COUNCIL ABSENT: Taner Elliott

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie Krueger, Administrative Fellow Daniel Hunter, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Police Chief Jay Waterbury, Finance Director Kate Mast

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Lawrence called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk Krueger; Councilor Elliott absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Lawrence invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Action Item 12, A, was changed from an Action Item to a Public Hearing. It was moved by Miller and seconded by McGlothlin to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously, Elliott absent.

PRESENTATIONS/PROCLAMATIONS

Main Street Program Update

Main Street Director Matthew Klebes provided a handout and reviewed a list of items that had been accomplished in 2014; projects and programs being developed for 2015 and commented on the success of the Program. He noted strong partnerships with the City, Chamber of Commerce, and Port of The Dalles and noted the matching funding from the City was requested for the upcoming year, the same as the current year.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the program had developed expected outcomes based on their goals. Klebes said each project included an "after action report" where an evaluation would take place to determine whether the event or project met the goals of Main Street. He said one example would be if a business had a parklet to use for additional restaurant seating, and whether that brought in more business and helped make an economic impact.

In response to a question, Klebes said the marketing video's were part of the Main Street marketing program and that they were also working on outreach to cruise ship passengers, in partnership with the Chamber of Commerce. He noted the Cycle Oregon grant to install bike racks in the downtown had not been awarded to The Dalles, so they would continue seeking funding for that project.

Klebes said the task squads who were assigned to work on specific, goal related, projects were very effective in accomplishing goals because they were a group of people focused on just one project at a time.

Councilor Miller asked if Main Street Program had a lot of volunteers. Klebes said there had been an increase in the past year, noting there were some new Committee members and Board members.

Presentation by Chamber of Commerce Regarding Marketing Plan and Budget for 2015-16 Fiscal Year

Lisa Farquharson, Chamber of Commerce President, provided a report and gift bags to the City Council. She showed two videos of regional tourism advertisements and said all of the videos would be available to view on their website. She summarized the 2014-15 accomplishments, including State and regional associations, personnel, lobby updates, operations, marketing, updating their website, social media, and print publications. Farquharson said she had developed a new monthly report which would be provided to Council, detailing accomplishments. She said the Chronicle would be publishing a weekly schedule for cruise ship arrivals and said her staff

had been invited to cruise on the American Empress, which would be very helpful in developing programs for the ship guests.

Mayor Lawrence asked if the work plan included expected outcomes for the goals. Farquharson said the tourism report would provide the Council with updates as to when projects were completed.

Councilor Spatz noted the hotel occupancy rates during the off-season were increasing. Farquharson said there had been an increase in conventions in The Dalles. She said there were only one or two per quarter that she had to turn away, mostly due to the size of the group.

Mayor Lawrence asked if there were projected outcomes for the marketing plan. Farquharson said they were working on more specific areas this year, such as biking and fishing and were placing more focus on reaching out through social media. She said they would also be gathering and reporting on attendance at the local museums.

Councilor Brown asked if the hotel occupancy increases were also due to large construction projects in the area. Farquharson said most of the people working on those projects were not staying in local hotels, or if they were, the numbers weren't reflected because if they stayed longer than 30 days, they weren't subject to pay the room tax. She said there were more sporting events and conferences, which contributed to the increases in occupancy.

City Manager Young said this matter would be on the April 13 agenda for consideration and approval. He urged the Council to let staff know what their questions were in advance of that meeting so they could provide answers.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

None.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Young said the City had received the League of Oregon Cities report on water and sewer rates. He said the Administrative Fellow would be providing an analysis and summary of the report for the Council.

Young said he was making good progress on the proposed budget and noted Budget Issue Papers would start being sent out by the end of the week.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Parker said he had been working on the medical marijuana regulations, the agreement for the sale of the Elks Club building and the Airport hangar project.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Brown reported on his attendance at the Traffic Safety Commission Meeting. He said there was discussion regarding people parking in bike lanes, visibility issue at the intersection of Jefferson Street and Scenic Drive, and parking at Third and Liberty Streets. He said no action was taken.

Councilor Spatz said he would be attending the QLife meeting this week. He said he and Bob McFadden had represented the Sister City Association in a meeting with the Consul General and had invited him to visit The Dalles. Spatz reported that the City delegation would be traveling to Miyoshi City in August. He said the Association would be sponsoring a booth at the Cherry Festival.

Councilor Miller said she would be attending the Historic Landmarks Commission meeting on March 25 and had attended the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee meeting on March 17. She said she had attended the Business After Hours event at the Airport and attended a free concert at the Library.

Mayor Lawrence said he had spoken at the recent Lions Club meeting, met with a housing contractor to get more information on how projects could be assembled to rehabilitate housing stock. He said projects may need to be put together for neighborhoods. Lawrence said he had attended a NORCOR Budget Committee meeting and asked that the issue of the City paying for jail beds be removed from their agenda until the County could conduct meetings with the cities in Wasco County to discuss the issue. Lawrence said he had attended the Mid Columbia Economic Development District meeting.

Councilor Spatz said the One Gorge group had asked for a letter of support for the manufacturing initiative. He said he hoped the City would ~~support it~~^{**}. Mayor Lawrence said they were going to provide a draft letter for consideration.

** provide a letter of support. Amended April 13, 2015.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Miller and seconded by Spatz to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, Elliott absent.

Items approved by Consent Agenda were: 1) approval of March 9, 2015 regular City Council meeting minutes; and 2) approval to declare Public Works Department equipment as surplus property.

CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD ACTIONS

Approval to Purchase Asphalt for Street Maintenance Projects from April 1 Through June 30, 2015

Public Works Director Anderson reviewed the staff report.

Councilor Brown questioned whether the asphalt should be purchased locally instead of going to Washington to purchase it. Anderson explained that sometimes the Dallesport plant was the only one open, or had the lowest cost. He said there was no local preference within the Contract Review Board Rules.

There was a discussion regarding cost to transport the product from the plant to the job site. Anderson said that cost was factored into the project, along with personnel and equipment costs.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Spatz to authorize the purchase of hot mix asphalt as needed for street maintenance from the lowest cost supplier available at the time of the projects, in an amount not to exceed \$238,548. The motion carried unanimously, Elliott absent.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

General Ordinance No. 15-1339 Amending General Ordinance No. 98-1222, Establishing Regulations for the Operation of Medical Marijuana Dispensaries

Mayor Lawrence reviewed the procedures to be followed for the hearing.

City Attorney Parker reviewed the staff report. He noted that a letter had been received from Virginia Czarnecki, requesting her property at 1615 East 12th Street be included in the district because it was a medical building and the only interest in purchasing the property was from a

possible medical marijuana dispensary. Parker said the underlying zone in that area was residential, so it would not be allowed by State regulation.

Councilor Miller asked what the justification was for the Planning Commission to recommend the hours of operation not include weekends. City Attorney Parker said he thought it was a way to further restrict operations. Miller said she viewed it as a facility like a pharmacy and said they should not be restricted to weekdays only.

Testimony

Hearing no testimony, the public hearing was closed.

Council Deliberation

Councilor Spatz said he struggled with the point that this ordinance would cause the City to be in violation of federal law. Mayor Lawrence agreed, but said it would be worse to do nothing.

It was moved by Miller and seconded by Brown to amend subsection “g” in each of the three Sections, to state hours of operation would be no earlier than 10:00 a.m. and no later than 6:00 p.m.; removing the restriction of only Monday through Friday. The motion was carried unanimously, Elliott absent.

City Clerk Krueger read General Ordinance No. 15-1339 by title.

It was moved by Brown and seconded by McGlothlin to adopt General Ordinance No. 15-1339 amending General Ordinance No. 98-1222, establishing regulations for the operation of medical marijuana dispensaries, as amended, by title. The motion carried; Spatz voting no and Elliott absent.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Discussion Regarding Preventative Street Maintenance Program for 2015-16 Budget Preparation

Public Works Director Anderson reviewed the staff report, summarizing the proposed options and various treatments proposed for maintenance. He noted that the cost of a fog seal to a chip seal project was approximately seven to ten cents per yard.

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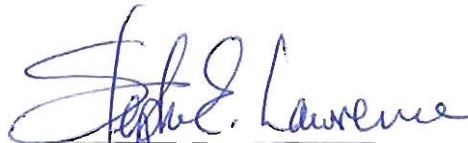
Following discussion, it was the consensus of the Council to use a combination of Options #2 and #3 to address street maintenance for the upcoming fiscal year and to direct staff to prepare the Public Works Department budget using those options.

ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:39 p.m.

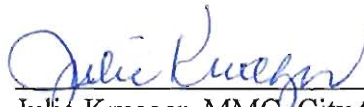
Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk

SIGNED:



Stephen E. Lawrence, Mayor

ATTEST:



Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk