

Regular Council Meeting

February 4, 2015

The regular meeting of the Arlington City Council was held on February 4, 2015 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building. Present were Councilors: Diane Wetherell, Leslie Walborn, Denise Ball, Susan Jones, Doug Hammer, Robert Christensen, Mayor Jeff Bufton, Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell, Attorney Will Carey and Recorder Pam Rosenbalm. Guests include: Dan Meader, Marta Mikkalo, Leslee Hammer, Cris Patnode, Julius Courtney, Rod McGuire, Nancy Christensen, John Hoffnagle, Tim Wood, Tom Peterson, Marta Mikkalo, Kevin Hunking, Jon Terland, Burt McCarthy and Morris Mustafic. Mayor Bufton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE RECITED.

OATH OF OFFICE FOR COUNCILORS: WETHERELL, JONES AND CHRISTENSEN. Attorney Will Carey administered the oath of office for Councilors Wetherell, Jones and Christensen.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Morris Mustafic representing the high school reported they have \$750.00 towards their goal for lighting the "A". County Court donated \$100.00 and suggested the City Council match their offer. Mayor Bufton requested Morris submit in writing the amount requested. The Council was in agreement to match the \$100.00 when written request is received. Morris stated upkeep of the "A" will be a senior project from here on out.

COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE: Leslee Hammer was present and reported 2014 was a good year for the Chamber. June 6, 2015 will be the fishing derby. July 25, 2015 is the date for the car show. The Chamber elected new officers: Marta Mikkalo-President, Susan Jones-Vice President, Leslee Hammer-Administrator. The Chamber may look into the possibility of a new artist for their summer concert in the park. The cost has increased for Susie McIntyre to return.

CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda consisted of the following items: a. Approval of minutes-January 7, 2015. b. Approval of bills as listed. Councilor Walborn motioned to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Wetherell seconded that motion. Roll call; Hammer-yes, Jones-yes, Ball-yes, Walborn-yes, Wetherell-yes. Motion passed unanimously.

DAN MEADER-DLCD TECHNICAL PLAN UPDATE: City Planner Dan Meader was present and reminded the Council June 2014 the city received a Technical Assistance Grant to do minor adjustment to the comp plan and zoning documents. Drafts have been out to the Technical Advisor and the State. Dan requested a workshop with the Council, Planning Commission, and the Port of Arlington. This will be open to public but there will be no public input. It was consensus to meet on February 16, 2015 at 5:30 p.m.

COLUMBIA HILLS MANOR-NON PROFIT HOUSING TAX EXEMPTION REQUEST: No representative was present.

JUSTICE COURT RENTAL AGREEMENT: Cris Patnode was present and stated she feels the court staff and city staff work together well. When the security upgrades were installed the money came out of a court security fund, which is from court fines. Security cameras, bullet proof glass along with panic buttons in the council chambers and the city office were installed. In 2009 Justice Court's rent increased from \$300.00 to \$500.00 a month. Cris proposed \$500.00 a month remain with a five year lease agreement. Councilor Walborn and Ball stated they would like to see the agreement continue. Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated prices have risen and he feels the rent should increase. Tim stated the heat (propane) and electricity are paid by the city and those have increased and will continue to do so in the next five years. Attorney Carey stated if approved he would do a one page renewal sheet. Councilor Ball motioned to renew the lease of rent staying at \$500.00 for five years with a one page extension. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Jones.

LETTER OF ENDORSEMENT FOR COTTONWOOD CANYON EXPERIENCE CENTER: Tom Peterson, John Hoffnagle and Tim Wood were present representing Cottonwood State Park, and the State of Oregon Parks Foundation. They reported Cottonwood Park has been in operation for a little more than a year now, and they are looking for support for a small classroom type facility. Councilor Walborn motion to approve a letter of endorsement for Cottonwood Canyon Experience Center. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Wetherell.

JON TERLAND-GILLIAM COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT UPDATE: Jon Terland stated the Sheriff's Department is in the hiring process right now, so they are a little short handed. Jon also reported: The state has three seat belt enforcement periods; the first one will be February 9, 2015 through February 22, 2015. This enforcement covers cell phones, seat belts and child safety seats. A local woman has been charged with felony crimes, and Jon stated this was investigated thoroughly. The Sheriff's Department is targeting Highway 19 trying to stop the littering. The incidents with the peeping tom are also being addressed; however, there is nothing concrete right now. The arsons that took place in Arlington are still being investigated actively. Jon also reported the Sheriff's Department had moved forward with the ODOT study regarding the speed limit changes. There were recommendations on some limits changing and others staying the same. ODOT will contact the city, who at that time will need to decide what if any changes they would like to see.

HOUSE KEEPING MEASURES: Consensus of the Council was for Councilor Ball to become the fourth signer on the bank account. The other three would remain the same: Mayor Bufton, Councilor Wetherell and Recorder Rosenbalm. Mayor Bufton stated he would like to keep the Councilors in their present areas. Hammer-streets, Ball-sanitation, Jones-airport, Walborn-water, Wetherell-parks & golf course, and adding Christensen-police & fire. Councilor Jones

motioned to approve Councilor Ball as the Council President. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Christensen.

COUNCIL ACTIONS-APPROVE OR DENY:

Oster Professional Group as City Auditors: Councilor Ball motioned to contract with Oster Professional Group as the city auditors. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Wetherell.

Approval of 2013-2014 City Audit: Councilor Walborn motioned to approve 2013-2014 audit. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Wetherell.

Approval of Fire Truck sale: Councilor Ball motioned to approve bid of \$1150.00 for 1979 fire truck. Motion passed unanimously after a second from Councilor Walborn.

Continued Lease Agreement with NorWest Energy 5 LLC.: Councilor Ball speaking on behalf of Peter Mitchell from the Port of Arlington stated due to the power at the industrial park, NorWest Energy is unable to build the size of solar farm that they would like. Oregon Legislative will be voting on Bill 2632 which would extend some incentives to solar farms. This would help the smaller solar farms, such as NorWest. Therefore, NorWest is asking for a six month extension on their lease. In six months NorWest will know if they will continue based on the outcome of Bill 2632. There was discussion on whether or not the city should ask for payment for the six months waiting period. Consensus of the Council was to agree to the six month extension. Attorney Carey stated he will prepare an extension for the six months. Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell requested a copy of NorWest's environmental study. Mayor Bufton stated he would contact Troy Snyder from NorWest and request a copy of the environmental study, which has monetary value.

COUNCILORS REPORT:

- Councilor Christensen had no report to give.
- Councilor Hammer stated he has had complaints on the lower trailer park, regarding the amount of garbage that has accumulated. The Council questioned if the owner was the same. Recorder Rosenbalm stated she had been in contact by a perspective buyer who paid a large water bill for the park. However, the last conversation with him he had not signed the papers, and had postponed the auction of that property. The only address we have is the long standing owner. Consensus of the Council was to send an Enforcement Officer to issue a nuisance citation.
- Councilor Jones had no report to give.

- Councilor Ball questioned when the budget meeting would be and an update on the city website. There was not a date set for the budget meeting, Recorder Rosenbalm will set up a date and notify the Councilors. Recorder Rosenbalm reported she is still working with the League of Oregon Cities and their time frame regarding the cost and specifics of the website.
- Councilor Walborn had no report to give.
- Councilor Wetherell had no report to give.
- Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated when the golf course property was given to the city; there was a second well on the property. A permit for the second well had been applied for by the previous owners. It was approved to pump out 100 gallons a minute. The permit was applied for, but was never followed through. The city can apply for a permit extension which will cost approximately a couple thousand dollars. Consensus of the Council was to move forward with applying for the permit extension. Tim also stated it has been several years since both booster pumps were rebuilt, so recently the motors and pumps were gone through and serviced. Tim stated they plan on servicing the well down at the park next. Also, the two public works employees working at the golf course are making good progress on the equipment.

In other business, Dan Meader stated this will be his **last year working** as the City Planner, as he will be retiring. Mayor Bufton stated the **city has sold gravel to Waste Management** at \$11.00 a cubic yard; this should yield approximately \$14,000. Mayor Bufton also reported there has been a **complaint from Councilor Christensen to the Secretary of State's Office regarding the recent election**. Mayor Bufton informed Councilor Christensen until that complaint has been resolved; he is not to go into the City Recorder's Office. When he needs to pay his utility bill, it can either be mailed or put in the drop box outside city hall. If Councilor Christensen has city business he needs to contact the Mayor to discuss it with him.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Jeffery Bufton, Mayor

Pam Rosenbalm, Recorder

