

Regular Council Meeting

August 5, 2015

The regular meeting of the Arlington City Council was held on August 5, 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, Attorney Will Carey, Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell and Recorder Pam Rosenbalm. Guests include: Alice & Julius Courtney, Leslee Hammer, Marta Mikkalo, Brad Baird, David Gossett, Jon Terland, Melody Tucker, Joe Claughton, Peter Mitchell and Grant & Tiffany Wilkins. Mayor Bufton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance Recited

Mayor Bufton amended the agenda to include fire danger discussion.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Friends of Gilliam County Treasurer Melody Tucker reported there will be no meeting this Thursday, however, the committee will reconvene next Thursday. Jon Terland from the Gilliam County Sheriff's Office handed out an incident report from the month of July.

COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE: Leslee Hammer was present and reported there were 46 cars entered in the car show. Also, at their last meeting most of the discussion was centered on where they would like to spend the money received from Waste Management.

CONSENT AGENDA: The consent agenda consisted of the following items: **a.** Approval of minutes-July 8, 2015. **b.** Approval of bills as listed. Councilor Walborn motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Wetherell.

COUNCIL ACTIONS-APPROVE OR DENY:

ODOT Report: Officer Jon Terland stated after speaking with ODOT that the decision wasn't much in the way of speed limit changes in town. It was however, recommended to lower the speed limit going out of town south, to 35 and 45 mph. Peter Mitchell suggested trimming the trees at the park when turning right off of Port Road. Councilor Walborn motioned to accept the report recommended changes by ODOT. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Wetherell.

Nazarene Church Request: David Gossett was present and stated the proposed area which shows landscaping and parking on presented map, would be in line with existing retaining wall. Councilor Ball motioned to approve the Planning Commission's Order and Decision for an encroachment agreement between the city and Nazarene Church. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Christensen.

NOR WEST ENERGY: Recorder Rosenbalm stated she had received a termination contract from Nor West for the Mayor to sign. Peter Mitchell reported Nor West was unable to continue with their project mostly due to the fees Pacific Power was going to charge. Consensus was for the Mayor to sign termination contract.

FRIENDS OF GILLIAM COUNTY: Julius Courtney reported the Friends of Gilliam County have received their 501C3 tax exempt status; they will have a booth at the Gilliam County Fair, along with several other surrounding towns' summer activities; waiting to see what the land markers at the proposed property are for. Brad Baird stated he will try to verify what they are for and if they are obsolete. Brad also stated when Anderson Perry & Associates surveyed the airport property they should have put markers there, which will help establish the city's property line.

MOTEL NUISANCE REPORT: Jon Terland from the Gilliam County Sheriff's Department reported there are several Ordinance violations at the vacant motel. Attorney Carey stated he is unable to locate the owner. Records show the listed owner has died and it is alleged that his daughter is now the owner of the property. However, the tax office doesn't have a new current address for her. Attorney Carey explained the city will need to show they are unable to contact the owner, and have made every conceivable effort to do so. When all leads have been exhausted, the city can go to court and ask for a substitute service. The Council was in agreement they would like Attorney Carey to start that process. Councilor Ball questioned if there was a right-of-way with regards to Dewey Street on one of the plat maps. Jon Terland stated the Sheriff's Department will address property violations one at a time.

WATER DIVERSION-PORT OF ARLINGTON: Councilor Jones stated the Port of Arlington is requesting the city to inform the Port where they would like to have the location for point of diversion. Peter Mitchell from the Port questioned if the city is ready to enter into a lease agreement? Mayor Bufton stated the city would be willing to look at a lease if the Port would like to prepare one. The question was raised if the point of diversion would be for filling trucks; Brad Baird stated he thought that was the plan. Brad reported the city received a final order for the Columbia River water permit in June 2013. However that order had limitations on the allowed water use. The city must submit and obtain approval of a Water Management and Conservation Plan (WMCP), which requests such access to more water under the permit, and provides the required analysis and justification to support the request. The WMCP needs to be submitted to the State by April 26, 2016. Brad stated the cost to complete the WMCP is in the range of \$15,000. Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell stated the pump station platform needs to be completed to have the permit approved. The cost of this platform is expensive, therefore Brad will inquire to have the deadline extended so the expense can be budgeted next year.

SANITATION RATES FOR PARKS: Peter Mitchell from the Port of Arlington questioned if the billing rates for sanitation are the same for R.V. Parks and Mobile Home Parks. There was a

discussion if the current Resolution was in fact for all residents including those in an R.V. The Port of Arlington's bill had increased without warning. Recorder Rosenbalm stated the Billing Clerk apologized for not sending a warning letter before sending out the increased bill. The Billing Office understood (right or wrong) that occupants staying full-time in an R.V. were considered full time residents. The Council would like to review the Resolution and decide if they would like to possibly change the wording, and or definition, or just clarify.

FIRE PREVENTION: Fire Chief Joe Claughton was present and stated with the recent fire across the river there has been discussions on how the City of Arlington can be safe if a fire is close to town. What Joe proposed is an irrigation line from the water tower above Proctor's house over to Grant and Tiffany Wilkins, then from the water tower to the golf course. Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell suggested cutting a fire trail with a disc. Alice Courtney stated when they moved to Arlington, Julius installed rain bird sprinklers on the fence all along their property line. It was discussed the city doesn't have the money to install irrigation pipe along this property, and landowners should be responsible for protecting their property, which would in turn protect others. Grant Wilkins stated the community has been lucky and understands the city doesn't have the money, and possibly this is something the county could help with financially. The Council asked Joe to put a proposal together on the fire cost aspect of this plan. Mayor Bufton asked if the NGRFPD would help fund this project. Joe stated this would be a question for the fire board. Mayor Bufton stated he feels that NGRFPD could help by obtaining fire grants. The question was asked, wouldn't the irrigation pipe system be a considered a city infrastructure, and wouldn't that need to be approved by the state? Tim Wetherell replied this would have to be approved by the state, as a plan review. Councilor Christensen stated the weed abatements need to have a fine attached if the landowners don't respond. Councilor Ball stated she will put together a schedule of fines. Brad Baird stated there is a buried pressurized water line in a small part of town. The Council discussed how the water would be turned on at what points and if there would be enough pressure to pump out water if an irrigation system was put into place. Tim Wetherell and Brad Baird will comprise a cost list on pipe. It was consensus in March 2016 the city would like to have a community meeting.

COUNCILORS REPORT:

- Councilor Christensen had no report other than the abatement fines previously discussed.
- Councilor Hammer reported paving in town is near completion.
- Councilor Jones reported the Airport R.V. Park has several tenants.
- Councilor Ball had no report to give.
- Councilor Walborn had no report to give.

- Councilor Wetherell reported there are no major problems with the greens at the golf course this summer. Alice Courtney stated the golf course looks great.
- Public Works Superintendent Tim Wetherell reported the motor went out on the top dresser at the golf course. A new motor has been purchased and should be on the way. Tim will also be researching prices for a new tee box mower, the current one is 12 years old.

In other business, Recorder Rosenbalm stated Attorney Carey reviewed the ORS pertaining to the City Park Ordinance on controlled substances, and it does not include alcohol. Therefore, Friends of Gilliam County can serve alcohol at the October-fest. Mayor Bufton reported a logo for the website has been sent to the designer and he has made an agreement for photographs that will be included on the web-site.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Jeffery Bufton, Mayor

Pam Rosenbalm, Recorder