

CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY

Verl Pressnall At Large, Position 1
Steve Irving At Large, Position 2
Edwin E. Chesnut At Large, Position 3

Lewis S. Key Mayor
Orrin Lyon (CL President) Ward 1
Bradley J. Humbert Ward 2
Jeff Anliker Ward 3

**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

September 11, 2017

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, September 11, 2017 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albee Room of the Library, 8 SW 8th Avenue, Milton-Freewater, Oregon.

The following City Council members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Verl Pressnall, Ed Chesnut, Orrin Lyon, Steve Irving and Jeff Anliker.

Councilor Brad Humbert was absent.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer, Sergeant Joe Shurtz, Police Officer Scott Hays, Lead Emergency Communication Specialist Luz Garcia, Emergency Communication Specialist Megan Hoel and City Planner Laurel Sweeney.

Citizens and Guests present were: Ernie Johnson, Judy Johnson, Kim Garcia, Mike Garcia, Ryan Garcia, Patrick Sheets, Mary Corp, Sterling Allen, Kandy Pressnall, Suni Danforth, Charles Danforth, Tom Beechiner, Clive Kaiser, Terri Silvis and Wes Koklich.

Representing the news media was Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council Minutes from August 14, 2017
- Accounts payables from August 8, 2017 through August 23, 2017
- Accounts payables from August 24, 2017 through September 5, 2017
- Resolution No. 2351, Authorizing Signature to a Federal Transit Administration Grant Agreement for Public Transportation Operations and Preventative Maintenance

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt the consent calendar items. Councilor Pressnall seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

OATH OF OFFICE – DYLAN GARCIA, POLICE OFFICER

Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer gave a prelude to the meaning of an oath of office as a police officer. City Manager Linda Hall then administered the oath of office to Dylan Garcia, Police Office. He is the newest member to the police department.

RECOGNITION – EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH – SANDY NELSON, LIBRARY ASSOCIATE

Manager Hall stated Sandy Nelson, Library Associate was the September employee of the month. Sandy was not able to be present at the meeting so she will receive her certificate at the October Council meeting.

INTRODUCTION AND UPDATE FROM THE NEW HORIZON PROJECT CHIEF EXECUTIVE OFFICER TERRI SILVIS

Terri Silvis, Horizon Project, Incorporated Chief Executive Officer (CEO) stated she has been the CEO of Horizon since May 1, 2017. She is originally from Alabama. She stated Horizon provides vocational and residential services to adults with developmental disabilities. They have also expanded into the areas of low income housing, employment service and youth services. They have held a contract with the City for thirty years (30) to provide drop-off and curbside recycling services. They have three offices; one in Hermiston, Pendleton and their headquarters is located in Milton-Freewater. They employ two hundred fifteen (215) employees, with seventy eight (78) of those being located in Milton-Freewater. She stated they just hired a new recycling manager so there should be some improvements to that service.

Councilor Irving asked what if you don't have a blue recycling box or if it is broken.

Ms. Silvis said to call the Horizon office and they will deliver a new box.

The council and staff thanked Ms. Silvis for coming.

OLD BUSINESS ITEM:

UPDATE FROM OREGON STATE UNIVERSITY, COLUMBIA BASIN AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH CENTER REGARDING THE FORMATION OF A NEW EXTENSION SERVICE DISTRICT IN UMATILLA COUNTY

Mary Corp, Regional Administrator of the Oregon State University Extension office was present due to questions from the council from their last meeting that couldn't be answered. She stated they were proposing to form a new Extension Service District in Umatilla County. It's a two-step process, first they must go to all the incorporated cities and ask them to be included in the district boundaries, and second, once that has happened then they go back to the Umatilla County Commissioners to ask for it to be placed on the May 2018 ballot. If the district is approved and formed it would have a board of directors and a budget. She stated the new district's funding would replace their current funding of four hundred thousand dollars (\$400,000) from Umatilla County and their funding support from the Wheat League of five cents (\$.05) per bushel.

Councilor Chesnut asked if it was a two-step process of one, being the formation of the district and two, the formation of the tax base.

A discussion ensued.

Manager Hall stated it is possible to have both items on the same ballot. The first ballot question would be a question of whether or not to form the new district and the second ballot question would be if the new district formation is passed by the voters then do you want to support the district by \$0.33 per \$1,000 of assessed value (this is the amount they are proposing).

Ms. Corp explained the State of Oregon provides the funding that pays for the salary dollars, which is getting less and less each year.

Mayor Key asked if there were other Oregon counties that have a special district.

Ms. Corp replied there were twenty six (26) out of thirty six (36) counties across the State that have such special districts.

Suni Danforth, 225 Maple Avenue – asked if there were other cities within Umatilla County that were on board.

Ms. Corp stated there were seven, Hermiston, Weston, Athena, Ukiah, Boardman, Stanfield and she couldn't recall the seventh city.

Councilor Chesnut asked what the deadline was for taking action.

Ms. Corp replied, October.

A discussion ensued on the elections timeline.

Ms. Corp stated she contacted the Umatilla County Assessor Paul Chalmers regarding the City of Milton-Freewater and asked him how that would affect the City of Milton-Freewater if the new special district was passed by the voters. According to Ms. Corp she stated the City was in compression last year and lost twenty seven dollars and seventy cents (\$27.70) and with the additional tax compression loss of two dollars and ninety one cents (\$2.91) that would make it thirty dollars and sixty one cents (\$30.61).

Manager Hall stated if the new taxing district was approved then all governmental districts would see a decrease in revenues and that number seemed pretty low to her.

Councilor Pressnall asked Manager Hall to explain what compression meant.

Manager Hall then explained tax compression in great detail. She also stated it was a very complex matter and that it would be a good idea to invite Mr. Chalmers to the next council meeting to explain what a new taxing district would mean to the city and other taxing districts.

Councilor Chesnut requested to have a resolution to consider at the next council meeting.

There was council consensus to have a resolution considered at the next Council meeting and to invite Mr. Chalmers to attend that meeting.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

PUBLIC HEARING AND ORDINANCE NO. 987, STREET VACATION PROCEEDINGS FOR A PORTION OF CASCO STREET

Mayor Key opened and summarized the rules for a public hearing held for the purpose of vacating a portion of Casco Street. He then explained that the testimony given in this hearing should be centered around the criteria for the street vacation. He also explained failure to raise an issue with sufficient directness to afford the decision maker and the parties an opportunity to respond to the issue will prohibit an appeal to LUBA on that issue.

No member of the Council declared ex parte contact and no audience member challenged any Councilor's right to participate in the hearing.

City Recorder Leanne Steadman reported notice of the hearing had been published according to law and no written comments had been received in her office.

The Mayor then asked City Planner Laurel Sweeney to present her staff report.

City Planner Laurel Sweeney reported the council had previously initiated vacation proceedings for a portion of Casco Street at the July 10, 2017 meeting. Notice has been published in the official City newspaper and posted at both ends of the area proposed for vacation in accordance with state law. This is the portion of Casco Street that dead ends into the property that was recently acquired by the Milton-Freewater Unified School District (MFUSD) for the future site of their transportation facility. The MFUSD is the only property owner that abuts the Casco Street right-of-way proposed for vacation, and therefore abutting property owners have consented to the proposed vacation. The only utility that is located within the proposed vacated area is water, and the City has previously secured an easement from the MFUSD for the water line.

Mayor Key then invited the applicant to speak.

The applicant was not in attendance.

No one spoke in favor or against the street vacation.

Mayor Key then opened the floor for council comments.

There being no comments, the Mayor declared the hearing to be closed.

Councilor Chesnut motioned that Ordinance No. 987 be introduced by title only and full reading waived. Councilor Pressnall seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The City Manager then read the ordinance by title. The council then introduced the first reading of Ordinance #987, Ordinance Vacating a portion of Casco Street.

Councilor Irving motioned to waive the councils two meeting rule for ordinance readings since there was no opposition to the street vacation and move forward with the second reading and adoption. Councilor Anliker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Councilor Irving motioned that the second reading of Ordinance #987 be by title only and full reading waived. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

The City Manager then read the ordinance by title.

Councilor Anliker motioned to adopt Ordinance #987, Ordinance Vacating a Portion of Casco Street. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pressnall, yea, Councilor Chesnut, yea, Councilor Lyon, yea, Councilor Irving, yea and Councilor Anliker, yea. Motion passed unanimously.

BID AWARD – NEW DATA LOGGER FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH

Police Sergeant Joe Shurtz and Lead Emergency Communication Specialist Luz Garcia presented their request to purchase a new data logger for the police department dispatch center. The data logger currently in use is approximately eight years old and is very antiquated. The device currently uses CDs as a source of back up for all recorded data, which is outdated technology. Retrieving and copying data from the machine is tedious. It requires dispatchers to replay each short segment of radio traffic while using a handheld recorder to make a recording. The handheld recordings are frequently used in court for prosecution of many types of crimes. The proposed new data logger has the ability to record fifteen (15) data/voice channels simultaneously while being able to retrieve data instantly. The recordings are done through Windows based software that allows for ease and better quality recordings. Staff advertised and accepted seal bids. There were seven bids received. Staff's recommendation was to award the bid to Equature of Southfield, Mississippi. Equature has a local office in Spokane, Washington and their headquarters are

located in Mississippi. Sergeant Shurtz and Ms. Garcia stated they were not recommending going with the lowest bidder but rather the bidder who came in in the middle as they felt they offered more of what the department was looking for and fit the department's needs.

Councilor Pressnall motioned to authorize staff to purchase a NG911 Communication Recording System from Equature of Southfield, Mississippi for an amount not to exceed \$20,750. Councilor Anliker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BID AWARD – NEW RADIO CONSOLE FOR POLICE DEPARTMENT DISPATCH

Police Sergeant Joe Shurtz and Lead Emergency Communication Specialist Luz Garcia presented their request to purchase a two position console for the police department dispatch center. They again stated the equipment they are currently using, a Zetron 4010 radio console, is very antiquated. The device is what dispatch uses to communicate with Police Officers, Fire Department and medical staff. The dispatch console utilizes five different radio channels. The current console also utilizes channel 616 as a DC tone channel to page out the Electric Departments and Medics. Currently dispatch does not have a full size backup console. If there is a problem, they revert to a patrol car type radio. Staff's recommendation was to purchase a two position console from Day Wireless of Pasco, Washington. This would include all the needed hardware and accessories and they would switch over the antiquated DC toning to a tone style system. Also, by purchasing a two position console then dispatchers would have a full back up system and, when application a second dispatcher could alleviate work for the primary dispatcher. Staff advertised and accepted seal bids. There were five bids received.

It was noted that the budget for this item as well as the data logger was being funded through a grant and local donations of \$42,950.00 with the balance coming from the department's budget.

Councilor Anliker motioned to authorize staff to purchase a two position console from Day Wireless of Pasco, Washington for an amount not to exceed \$63,012.84. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO APPROACH THE COUNCIL WITH ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Charles Danforth, 225 Maple Avenue – stated he had mixed feelings on the proposal of the Oregon State University Extension staff asking to form a new taxing district. He said he remembered it as being the farmers paid for it and they benefited from it.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Hall reported that the two Toro mowers council authorized to purchase would be arriving later in the week and just for clarification they are both diesel. She stated there was a question regarding the warranty on the new 2016 Chevy Tahoe for the police department and when that warranty time started. She was informed it starts from the time you purchase the vehicle so we will be getting the full warranty even though it is a 2016 model. Lastly she reported that well #6 should be up and running soon. Staff hired a company from Pendleton to go down the well shaft to retrieve as much debris as possible.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Key asked if the city had been contacted to send line trucks and manpower to Florida to help from the hurricane.

Manager Hall said the city has not been contacted.

Councilor Irving stated he would not be at the October 9th council meeting.

Councilor Chesnut stated he supported the oath of office for a new police officer taking place at the council meeting.

Manager Hall said that idea came completely from Chief Boedigheimer and she agreed it was very nice and we will make that a regular event at future council meetings.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:19 p.m. to an executive session pursuant to 192.660 (2) (d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Pursuant to 192.660 (4) representatives of the news media shall not be allowed to attend.

The council returned to open session at 8:45 p.m.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to ratify the Department Head Bargaining Agreement as orally presented by City Manager Hall. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.



Lewis S. Key, Mayor