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**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

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**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES****February 12, 2018**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, February 12, 2018 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albee Room of the Library, 8 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Milton-Freewater, Oregon.

The following City Council members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Verl Pressnall, Ed Chesnut, Orrin Lyon and Brad Humbert.

Councilors Steve Irving and Jeff Anliker were absent.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer, Police Officer Jesse Myers, Police Officer Scott Clayton, Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman, Public Works Assistant/Project Aide Krista Gannon, Electric Lineman Rich Gannon, Electric Lineman Jeremy Badertscher and Library Associate Lili Schmidt.

Citizens and Guests present were: Charlee Gannon, Donna Sheridan, Maximus Gannon, Gary Sheridan, William Jenkins, Kayla Jenkins, Rebekah Sharrard, Lindsay Winsor, Ben Currin, Christine Boedigheimer, Kandy Pressnall and Rick Jackson and Karl Farber from the Blue Mountain Narcotics Team (BENT).

Representing the news media were Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald, Antonio Sierra of the East Oregonian and Andy Monserud of the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council Minutes from January 8, 2018
- Accounts payables from January 3, 2018 through January 12, 2018
- Accounts payables from January 13, 2018 through February 6, 2018
- Approval of Liquor License request received from Jose De Jesus Romero for the El Ojo de Aqua Bar and Grill located at 1004 S. Main.

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

**PRESENTATION ITEM:****RECOGNITION – FEBRUARY EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH – POLICE OFFICER  
SCOTT CLAYTON AND ELECTRIC LINEMAN RICH GANNON AND JEREMY  
BADERTSCHER**

Mayor Key, on behalf of the City Council and staff, recognized Scott Clayton, Rich Gannon and Jeremy Badertscher as the February employees of the month. He relayed the nomination. Mayor Key stated, while I realize this is an unusual number to recognize, as it is normally just one employee at a time, we made a special exception to this norm because these three employees went above and beyond their dangerous normal duties to literally help save a young man in trouble.

These three extraordinary individuals have dangerous jobs as their regular status quo. Jeremy and Rich are electric linemen and Scott is a police officer. But on a recent afternoon, Jeremy and Rich were driving to a job site when they observed a car hit a boy crossing the street in a crosswalk on his bicycle, throwing the young man several feet in the air. Jeremy and Rich did not hesitate but immediately went to the boy's aid, calming him and keeping him still until medical help could arrive. Scott was the officer from MFPD who responded first, and did an excellent job talking with the understandably shaken up boy to calm him and get the necessary information from him. All three showed kindness and heroic grace. We are very happy to report that the young man is recovering well with no permanent injuries. We are very proud to recognize these three gentlemen as our February Employees of the month. They were nominated by the young man's mother, Lili, who has expressed her sincere gratitude for their deeds, but they were also nominated by several members of the community who evidently witnessed the incident as well.

**UPDATE FROM BLUE MOUNTAIN ENFORCEMENT NARCOTICS TEAM (BENT)**

BENT Sergeant Rick Jackson, Sergeant Karl Farber and Detective Jesse Myers were present representing BENT. Sergeant Jackson gave some background on BENT stating it was founded in 1986 by the Pendleton Police Department Detective Jim O'Grady and Oregon State Police Detective Mike Davis. BENT primarily operates in Eastern Oregon with focus on Umatilla and Morrow Counties. Currently, there are representatives from Pendleton Police Department, Oregon State Police, Umatilla County Sheriff's Office, Morrow County Sheriff's Office, Milton-Freewater Police Department, Umatilla Tribal Police Department and Hermiston Police Department. In 2005 BENT was designated as a High Intensity Drug Trafficking (HIDTA) task force by the Office of National Drug Control Policy. As a HIDTA task force, BENT's mission is to disrupt and/or dismantle mid to upper level drug trafficking organizations. They each gave some details of some recent activity in the Umatilla County area including Milton-Freewater.

**INFORMATION ON POTENTIAL PROJECTS THAT COULD BE FUNDED BY THE PROPOSED LOCAL OPTION TAX MEASURE FOR PARKS AND RECREATION**

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman presented potential projects that could be funded by the proposed Local Option Tax measure for Parks and Recreation. Some of the locations included the Joe Humbert Aquatic Center, Marie Dorian Park, Orchard Park, Yantis Park, Little League Field, McRae/Ireland Field, Mel Bennett Memorial Tennis Courts, Park Maintenance Shop, Golf Course, Freewater Park and the Rotary Sports Field. The Parks and Recreation Local Option Tax being proposed is for a five year term at a rate of \$.37 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value and it will be on the ballot May 15, 2018.

Councilor Chesnut stated there was quite a list of needed repairs and asked how that would be prioritized.

Manager Hall stated it would need the council and citizen input to get a prioritized list.

Councilor Chesnut suggested setting up a work session just for that reason and to also gain citizen input.

**OLD BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**ORDINANCE NO. 988, AMENDING CITY CODE TITLE 8 POLICE REGULATIONS, CHAPTER 14 CRIMINAL HISTORY CHECKS**

City Manager Linda Hall reported the council introduced and held the first reading of Ordinance No. 988, An Ordinance Amending City Code Title 8 Police Regulations, Chapter 14 Criminal History Checks. She also reported there were no comments on file.

Councilor Chesnut motioned that the second reading of Ordinance No. 988 by introduced by title only and full reading waived. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously. The City Manager then read the ordinance by title, Ordinance No. 988, An Ordinance Amending City Code Title 8 Police Regulations, Chapter 14 Criminal History Checks. Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Ordinance No. 988. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion and a roll call vote was taken, Councilor Pressnall, yes, Councilor Chesnut, yes, Councilor Lyon, yes, and Councilor Humbert, yes. The motion passed unanimously.

## **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

### **RESOLUTION NO. 2355, AMENDING THE SOLID WASTE RATES ALONG WITH A PRESENTATION OF THE NEW RECYCLING PROGRAM**

Manager Hall commended Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman and Public Works Assistant/Project Aide Krista Gannon for doing an excellent job in such a short amount of time of putting a city sponsored recycling program together. She stated Horizon Project, Inc., who has held the recycling service agreement for as long as she can remember, gave the city notice last November that they were quitting the recycling business and their intent was to terminate their agreement with the city. Manager Hall was able to come to an agreement with Horizon to continue the recycling service through March 2, 2018 in order to allow city staff to explore all options. She stated she was proud of what her staff has come up with for a proposal.

Mr. Steadman then presented the proposed recycling program with a power point presentation that he and Krista had gathered information together for. He explained the curbside pickup will cease March 2, 2018 and instead there will be two recycling drop off depots. One depot will be located at 640 County Road, between the Rotary Fields and Sewer Plant with hours being Tuesday and Thursday noon to 4:00 p.m. and Saturday from 8:00 a.m. to noon. The other depot will be located at 13 SE 9<sup>th</sup> Avenue and S. Mill, behind the South Fire Station with hours being Wednesday and Friday from noon to 4:00 p.m. The locations will be secured by fences and will be manned by a city employee during the open hours to ensure only those items deemed recyclable are left. Each location will have recyclable containers clearly labeled with signs of the appropriate material to be deposited. The recyclable materials accepted at the 640 County Road location will be newspaper, cardboard, glass, tin, aluminum, used motor oil and scrap metal/appliances. The recyclable materials accepted at 13 SE 9<sup>th</sup> and S. Mill will be newspaper, cardboard, glass, tin and aluminum. The depot areas and equipment needed to start the recycling program are projected to be in place by March 5<sup>th</sup>, which will be the first day that the city will be running the program. There is a part-time, 29 hour a week employee needed, which staff advertised the position, accepted applications, the applications were screened and interviews are set for the following week. Staff understands that without the curbside service there may be seniors or disabled citizens unable to participate due to reasons of physical disability and or age who are living alone or with no other member of the household physically able to assist in delivering the recyclables to one of the two depot locations. Therefore, there will be an application process for those who feel they may qualify for additional help. Mr. Steadman stated that the commercial customers will be contacted to discuss their recycling service needs prior to the transition of the new program. The plan is to continue picking up the recyclables from the list of commercial customers with the recycling employee during times when the drop off depots are not open. Some other items that were purchased for the program were a 2007 Chevrolet truck, four hoppers, a trailer and drop boxes. To help get the word out of the change there will be informational flyers placed in curbside recycle totes upon collection for the last two weeks of February. There will also be information included in the new customer packets as well as articles in future city newsletters and posted on the city website.

Manager Hall again, stated what an excellent job was done in preparing for this new program. She stated that the proposed Solid Waste Rate Schedule was amended to incorporate the recycling fee

that was already being assessed by Horizon Project into the city fee schedule. There is no rate increase being proposed.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2355, a Resolution Amending Recycling Rates on the Solid Waste Rate Schedule, Effective March 1, 2018. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion with passed unanimously.

**RESOLUTION NO. 2356, DECLARING THE STRUCTURE, HOUSE ONLY, AT 716 S. COLUMBIA STREET SURPLUS**

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman stated the city purchased the property behind City Hall in 2005 with the intention of future expansion of office and/or parking for City Hall. The property has a house on the lot that has never been occupied since the city has owned it. The vacant house is an eyesore to the neighborhood and staff is asking to declare the house only as surplus so it can be advertised for sale to be moved or torn down. The current real market value of the house according to the latest tax assessment is \$39,130.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2356, Resolution Declaring the Structure at 716 S. Columbia Street to be surplus, and authorize staff to move forward with the legal process for its sale. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**UPDATE/PROGRESS REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL 5 YEAR GOALS ADOPTED JANUARY 9, 2017**

City Manager Linda Hall stated Council has requested that she give a progress report to the Council on their adopted five (5) year goals every other month. She then reviewed all the goals that have had further progress since her last update in December. Some of the goals reported on had additional comments. One of the goals is the succession planning for retiring staff. She reported that the Human Resource Officer position will be an internal recruitment and the position will posted the following week. The Electric Superintendent recruitment has begun which will be a full outside recruitment as well as an internal outreach. The goal of planning for funding of bicycle and walking path lanes within the City is taking a slow start with the impending receipt of \$3 Million from the transportation bill. Along with this, staff has been partnering with the School District working toward the goal of safe trails for pedestrians as well as children crossing the busy highway to the new elementary school being built on Mill Street. Both the City and School representatives have had several meetings with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to lobby for a traffic signal be installed on S. Main. Traffic signals are extremely expensive with the latest estimate being approximately \$3.4 million dollars. ODOT has suggested “traffic calming”, which narrows four lanes of travel down to three lanes. She stated that there will be a presentation at the April council meeting by ODOT to explain their proposal. The goal of exploring the feasibility of construction of a new police station on city property, on the lot west of City Hall, may be getting a little closer. With the council declaring the house on the property surplus that will allow for the lot to be cleared, leveled and graveled. This is one step closer to the goal of building a larger office for the police department. Another potential progress towards this goal, which is in the very early stages of exploration, is the possibility that the electric crew may be moving to the Public Works offices on Lamb Street which would free up some offices on the second floor of city hall. The last goal Manager Hall reported on was the goal of continued commitment to increase drug/crime enforcement. She stated BENT gave their presentation of their current activities and she said she believed that not only was BENT doing a good job but that our own police department was making a difference as well.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Hall stated the Milton-Freewater Chamber of Commerce Annual Awards Banquet was February 23, 2018.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:27 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 9:03 p.m.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to ratify the Police Association Agreement as orally presented by City Manager Hall. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:04 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor