
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
Jose Garcia Ward 3

**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES****September 10, 2018**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, September 10, 2018 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 Orrin Lyon, Ed Chesnut, Verl Pressnall, Jose Garcia, Steve Irving and Brad Humbert.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman and Public Works Technician Steven Patten.

There were no citizens or guests present.

There were no representatives of the news media present.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council Minutes from August 13, 2018
- Accounts payables from August 8, 2018 through August 21, 2018
- Accounts payables from August 22, 2018 through September 4, 2018
- Approval of Liquor License Request from Antonio and Graciela Gonzalez, Eagle Pass Enterprises, LLC doing business as Base of the Blues Restaurant located at 1004 S. Main

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

BUSINESS ITEMS:**AUTHORIZATION TO APPLY FOR A FACILITY GRANT THROUGH THE UNITED STATES TENNIS ASSOCIATION FOR RESURFACING THE MEL BENNETT MEMORIAL TENNIS COURTS**

Public Works Technician Steven Patten stated he was asking for approval to submit an application for a Facility Grant from the United States Tennis Association (USTA) to help resurface the Mel Bennett Memorial Tennis Court. He stated that the citizens just passed a local option tax for Parks and Recreation and in order to try and make the funds go farther, staff is always looking for grants to help stretch the funds. He credited Park Supervisor Craig Rouse for telling him about this grant opportunity. The United States Tennis Association is currently accepting applications for its 2018 Facility Grants program. The grant would be for up to 50% (fifty percent) of the project cost with a maximum grant award of \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars). In the outreach process for the local option tax, the community input was prioritized and the improvement to the Mel Bennett Memorial Tennis Courts ranked #2 in that process. The Aquatic Center was #1. Mr. Patten then explained in detail the resurfacing project details as well as the plan for updating the access ramp to meet ADA guidelines and improve drainage. The total budgeted amount for the project is estimated to be \$47,493 (forty seven thousand four hundred ninety three dollars). The grant

application would be for \$10,000 (ten thousand dollars) so that would leave \$37,493 (thirty seven thousand four hundred ninety three dollars) to be paid for locally, either through City Funds, local option tax money or other local entities including the School District.

Manager Hall stated the School District will be contacted as they have physical education classes on the courts as well as their tennis team practice.

Mr. Patten stated that the USTA will make a funding decision within 15 (fifteen) days of receiving a completed application, if granted then the funds must be used within 18 (eighteen) months.

Councilor Humbert motioned to authorize submittal of Application for a Facility Grant from the United States Tennis Association for resurfacing the Mel Bennett Tennis Courts. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPOINTMENT TO THE RECREATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Key stated back in February when the call for volunteers went out there were no applications received for the Recreation Committee, which at that time there was one vacancy. Since then there has been another vacancy on the committee due to a members' passing. Kate Winters has submitted an application showing interest in serving on the committee. Mayor Key stated he was recommending appointing her to the remainder of the one year term, at which time she can reapply for a full 4-yr term.

Councilor Chesnut stated he was thrilled that she applied and stated he believed she would be very good on the committee.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to accept Mayor Key's recommendation to appoint Kate Winters to the Recreation Committee for the remainder of the one year term. Councilor Pressnall seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2377, AMENDING THE USER FEE SCHEDULE TO REFLECT CHANGES TO ELECTRIC USER FEES BY ESTABLISHING ESTIMATE FEES, REVISING TRANSFORMER AND LABOR ALLOWANCES ON SERVICE EXTENSIONS

Manager Hall stated the existing extension allowances have not had an increase since 2003. Since then, the cost of doing business has substantially increased. Currently, free estimates are given for all electric customers big or small. Some estimates have become complicated and complex in nature requiring hours and in some instances days to complete by engineering staff. With the influx of estimate requests for cryptocurrency mining, it has brought staff to look at all of the allowances given to customers. Staff proposes to implement estimate fees based on their scheduled requirement that would be credited to the customer once the project is paid for which would reduce the amount of estimate requests without serious commitment to complete a project. The labor allowance was proposed to go from \$2,500 (twenty five hundred dollars) to \$2,000 (two thousand dollars) and the transformer allowance would go from \$650 (six hundred fifty dollars) to \$500 (five hundred dollars). The way the allowances would be calculated would be that the customer pays 50% (fifty percent) of the expenses until the maximum is reached and 100% (one hundred percent) thereafter. The underground service fees of trenching/backfilling was proposed to go from \$.75 (seventy five cents) per foot to \$5.00 (five dollars) per foot; and joint use trenching fee going from \$.25 (twenty five cents) to \$1.00 (one dollar) per foot. The temporary construction service fee would go from \$100 (one hundred dollars) to \$200 (two hundred dollars).

Councilor Humbert asked if a developer was still going to be allowed to do their own trenching.

Manager Hall stated yes, but to the city's standards.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2377, Resolution Amending the User Fee Schedule to Reflect Changes to Electric User Fees by Establishing Estimate Fees, Revising Transformer and Labor Allowances on Service Extensions and Underground Service Line Fees. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Hall announced that Mayor Key, Councilor Irving and Councilor Chesnut have indicated that they are planning to attend this year's League of Oregon Cities (LOC) annual conference at the end of September. The LOC sends out a request for a voting delegate and an alternate be chosen to vote on matters at the conference.

Councilor Irving nominated Mayor Key as the voting delegate and Councilor Chesnut as the alternate. Councilor Humbert seconded the nomination which passed unanimously.

Manager Hall stated the November Council meeting falls on a holiday and asked the council if the following day, Tuesday, November 13, 2018 would work for their schedules. She asked that they let her or Leanne Steadman know. She stated at the last meeting she spoke about the elevator project and she said staff is moving forward with the project. The latest estimate was approximately \$800,000 (eight hundred thousand dollars) but that she feared it could cost more with the unknowns of the construction and how old the City Hall building was. She said she was reading in an old file and found the council goals from 30 (thirty) years ago and an elevator for City Hall was on the list. She and Finance Director Dave Richmond were meeting with a bank representative to discuss the loan for the elevator. She stated that Library Director Erin Wells met with the Valley Foundation and she is writing a grant to restore the auditorium.

Staff was notified that Councilor Steve Irving's term on the Milton-Freewater Area Foundation board was ending January 1, 2019. The board terms are for 5 (five) years. Councilor Irving has indicated that he is willing to serve on the board for another term.

Councilor Humbert motioned to appoint Councilor Irving to serve on the Milton-Freewater Area Foundation Board for another term beginning January 2019. Councilor Pressnall seconded the motion which passed unanimously with Councilor Irving abstaining due to him being the nominee.

The council adjourned to executive session at 7:25 p.m. pursuant to 192.660(2) (e) to conduct deliberations with person designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.

The council returned to open session at 7:40 p.m.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to direct Manager Hall to proceed with exploring the estimate of the real property value of subject property discussed in executive session. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Irving stated he knew of other communities that were considering the same three lane narrowing project as the one that Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) just did on Main Street and suggested a letter be written to ODOT relaying our satisfaction with the project.

Councilor Chesnut stated coming from someone who lives on the hill, the stop light at the “y” now creates a break in traffic and the traffic is not coming at 35-40 (thirty five to forty) miles per hour but instead 20-25 (twenty to twenty five) miles per hour.

Councilor Humbert stated he has had some close calls with people using the turn lane as an access lane.

Councilor Chesnut stated he has had people report to him that they like the new turn lane.

Councilor Irving stated he liked the free swim day at the pool but suggested having it at the beginning of the season to get people interested in going.

Mayor Key asked if the pool water level was going down.

Manager Hall stated that staff was going to leave it filled this year as the original pool design was to leave it filled year around.

Councilor Humbert stated he saw on Facebook discussion about a SW Neighborhood Association.

Councilor Chesnut stated that was a Milton-Freewater Downtown Association project spearheaded by Dave Shannon. The secretary for the SW Neighborhood Association is Kate Winters. He said there has been a meeting held about the program where they spoke to a Bend, Oregon representative and how it worked in their community. He stated the council also took action by adopting a resolution that supported the Neighborhood Associations program.

Councilor Humbert stated he must have been absent at that council meeting.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor