
CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY

Damien Reino At Large, Position 1
Steve Irving - Council President At Large, Position 2
Edwin E. Chesnut At Large, Position 3

Lewis S. Key Mayor
John Lyon Ward 1
Bradley J. Humbert Ward 2
Jose Garcia Ward 3

**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES****June 14, 2021**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, June 14, 2021 at 7:00 p.m. at the Community Building, 109 NE 5th, a larger venue, Milton-Freewater, Oregon due to the Coronavirus (COVID-19) pandemic and practicing social distancing to stay in compliance with the Executive Orders Issued by Governor Kate Brown.

The following City Council members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors John Lyon, Ed Chesnut, Damien Reino, Steve Irving and Brad Humbert.

Councilor Jose Garcia was absent.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Finance Director Dave Richmond, Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman, Public Works Technician Steven Patten and Human Resource Officer Laurie Bubar.

Guests and citizens present were: Mike Pierce, Wes Koklich, Lindsay Winsor and Corey Manos.

Representing the news media was: Sheila Hager of the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council Minutes from May 10, 2021
- Accounts payables from May 5, 2021 through May 17, 2021
- Accounts payables from May 18, 2021 through June 7, 2021
- Liquor license, Dollar General Store located at 45 S. Columbia Street
- Resolution No. 2458, Acceptance of the Umatilla County Election Results from the Primary Election of May 18, 2021

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS:**UPDATE ON WELLS AND CITY WATER SYSTEM**

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman stated Well #1 located by the South Fire Station was being put back together after repairs were made and Well #2 located behind City Hall has been running for the past month with no air bubble issues. An air relief valve was installed on that well which seems to be helping.

Public Works Technician Steven Patten reviewed the City's water system. The City has seven basaltic wells that supply water for the city and its residents. There are two separate systems,

Milton and Freewater due to Milton-Freewater being two separate towns before incorporating in 1950. There are three separate pressure zones; North, Middle and South Reservoirs. Next, he reviewed the background and feasibility study results for Well #9 which is located on the south hill. Well #9 was originally drilled in 1951 by Umatilla Cannery. The City took ownership of the well in the 1990's. Shortly after acquiring the well the City had the well rebuilt in the late 1990's. The well has had issues over the last decade of water level drawdown during pump and a Hydrogen sulfide smell. The assessment of the well showed that there is a broken slotted liner, the slotted line is encrusted and the well has filled in by approximately fifty feet. The Hydrogeologists recommendation is to replace Well #9 with a new municipal water supply well and that rehabilitation of the well would be very high risk with low rewards.

A brief discussion ensued.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2459, TRANSFER FUNDS DUE TO UNFORESEEN REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES

Finance Director Dave Richmond explained that during the current budget year there were events that occurred that were not foreseen at the time of preparing and adopting the budget. He then reviewed the adjustments for those departments that needed to be made in order to stay in compliance with the local budget law.

Councilor Humbert motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2459, Resolution to make appropriations due to unforeseen expenditures and revenues. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION NO. 2460, RECEIPT OF STATE REVENUE SHARING FUNDS

Mayor Key opened and summarized the rules for a public hearing held for the purpose of gaining citizen input towards the receipt and use of State Revenue Sharing funds in the amount of eight-four thousand nine hundred dollars (\$84,900).

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

The City Recorder reported the hearing had been published according to law and there were no written comments on file.

Mayor Key opened the floor to citizen comments. There being no citizen comments, the Mayor declared the hearing to be closed. He then opened the floor to the entire Council. There were no Council comments regarding the State Revenue Sharing funds.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2460, Resolution Electing to Receive State Revenue Sharing Funds for Public Safety Purposes. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**PUBLIC HEARING AND RESOLUTION NO. 2461, ADOPT FISCAL YEAR 2022
BUDGET (July 1, 2021 – June 30, 2022)**

Mayor Key announced the public hearing rules read earlier would remain in effect. He said the public hearing was being held for the purpose of gaining citizen input towards the proposed city budget for fiscal year 2022.

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

The City Recorder reported the hearing had been published according to law and there were no written comments on file.

Mayor Key opened the floor to citizen comments. There being no citizen comments, the Mayor declared the hearing to be closed. He then opened the floor to the entire Council. There were no Council comments regarding the budget.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2461, Resolution Adopting the budget for the 2021-2022 fiscal year in the sum of \$49,697,828 levy taxes at the rate of \$3.7499 per \$1,000 of assessed value for operations, \$60,000 Local Option Tax for Senior Transportation, \$100,000 Local Option Tax for Parks and Recreation, \$260,000 for General Obligation Bond for new police station and make appropriations as listed on the Resolution. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

APPROVAL TO PURCHASE (1) NEW DUMP TRUCK AND SNOW PLOW

Manager Hall stated staff is researching lease options for the proposed new dump truck. This has worked well in the past and has saved the city money by taking advantage of low interest rates. If approved to purchase, this truck may or may not be an outright purchase but rather a lease with the option to buy. She stated she would update the council at a later date once all financing options were explored for the best deal for the city.

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman stated he had previously shared the need for a new dump truck with a snowplow. The existing dump truck that is used for plowing snow and street sanding is a 1982 GMC. A couple of winters ago there was an issue with the brakes and the truck almost came off the hill backwards but was saved by a power pole and guardrail. If the truck is approved for purchase the city would not receive it until approximately a year from now or it could even be as far out as eighteen months for delivery. Staff is being told there is a shortage of Allison transmission causing long delay in delivery. Staff received an updated quote for the truck and plow through Sourcewell State bidding which is good through June 20th in the amount of \$186,147 plus a new additional raw materials fee that went into effect June 1st in the amount of \$750.00 for a total amount of \$186,897. Mr. Steadman stated that the truck has been budgeted for in the next fiscal year budget that will begin July 1st but is asking for approval to place the order for the truck earlier than that as it's been understood that the window for ordering such truck will be closing due to shortage of materials.

A discussion ensued regarding the delivery time.

Councilor Chesnut asked what a reversal plow was.

Mr. Steadman stated the plow could be positioned either to the right or left.

Councilor Lyon asked what brand the plow was.

Mr. Steadman stated it was a Monroe.

A discussion ensued regarding other vehicles in the fleet and when they may get replaced.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to award vehicle #194, one (1) new 2023 Kenworth T400 Series Conventional Dump Truck with snow plow fittings and hydraulics installed as well as a reversible full trip snowplow to Kenworth Sales Company as per Sourcewell State Bid Pricing Contract 060920-DTC as quoted May 6, 2021 in the amount of \$186,147 plus the new additional raw materials fee in the amount of \$750 for a total amount of \$186,897. Councilor Humbert seconded the motioned which passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION ITEM:
UPDATE/PROGRESS REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL GOALS ADOPTED JANUARY 9, 2017

Manager Hall presented the updates on all the goals that had progress since her last report. She stated that staff has had a meeting with the finance team and the design team for the new police station. A resolution will be presented at the next council meeting authorizing the sale of the bonds and the finance team along with staff will be working on a very lengthy report call Preliminary Official Statement (POS). The POS is essentially a financial report on the city and why the City is a good financial risk. There will be a contract from the council approved design team in the near future for council to consider as well since they have put in a lot of work this far and to repeat all that would be very costly to the city. There will be a small team put together of staff for the design team to access quickly then the information can be pushed out to others from that team. The building lot will need to be surveyed with bids being put out in late spring of 2022.

Councilor Humbert recommended trying to speed up the bid process to around February in order to get better bids.

Councilor Chesnut said he noticed a stripe of new pavement along SW 8th by the new sidewalk project and asked if that was the finished product.

Mr. Steadman stated that SW 8th from the top to Pierce Street was getting an asphalt overlay.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Irving spoke about electric car charging stations and stated that he believed there was granting funding being proposed from the current presidential administration. He stated he would pass on the information.

Councilor Chesnut announced he was moving to a new home outside city limits and was submitting his resignation effective midnight. He said it has been a pleasure serving as a city councilor and that it has been a good long run and he was very confident in the city council and staff.

Manager Hall stated he would be missed.

Councilor Lyon congratulated Councilor Chesnut.

Councilor Irving stated he would be missed on the council and as a neighbor two doors down.

Mayor Key stated Councilor Chesnut would be missed and has served on the council for many years.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The council adjourned to executive session at 7:57 p.m. pursuant to 192.660(2)(i) to review and evaluate the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member who does not request an open hearing.

The council returned to open session at 8:06 p.m.

Councilor Irving asked when the council could return to the Councilor Chambers in the Albee Room.

Manager Hall stated unless the COVID -19 status changes for Umatilla County, next month.

Councilor Irving asked if a ribbon cutting ceremony could be scheduled for the elevator.

Mayor Key stated that that would be a gathering and felt we still needed to be careful with COVID protocols.

Councilor Reino asked how the recruitment process would work to replace Councilor Chesnut and if the youth council position could be advertised for at the same time.

Manager Hall stated she would be bringing the council their options for filling Councilor Chesnut's position at the next meeting and that the youth councilor position is easier to fill in the fall when students go back to school. Councilor Irving has interests in filling that position as well and has spoken to the school superintendent.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor