
CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY

Damien Reino At Large, Position 1
Steve Irving - Council President At Large, Position 2
Wes Koklich 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****February 13, 2023**

6:00 p.m. – Prior to the council meeting an open reception for all community members to come and join in thanking Chief Doug Boedigheimer and wishing him well in his retirement was held.

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session on February 13, 2023 in the Albee Room of the City Library, 8 SW 8th Avenue immediately following the reception for Chief Doug Boedigheimer at 6:50 p.m.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Damien Reino, Jose Garcia, Steve Irving, Brad Humbert, John Lyon, and Wes Koklich.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman, Electric Superintendent Mike Watkins, Public Works Engineering Technician Steven Patten, Conservation Specialist Ryan Westman, Human Resource Officer Wendi Daugherty and Engineering Technician Tina Kain.

Guests and citizens present were: Patty Key, Debra Kilmer, Larry Estes, Laurel Estes, Tammy Seaquist, Paul Seaquist, Lisa Chamberlin, Vicki Nokleby and Scott Nokleby.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council minutes from January 9, 2023
- Accounts Payable January 5, 2023 – January 18, 2023
- Accounts Payable January 19, 2023 – February 6, 2023
- Liquor License Application for MF Supper Club, 1004 S. Main

Councilor Irving motioned to approve all items on the Consent Calendar. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION ITEMS:

Kimberly Lindsay from Community Counseling Solutions gave an overview of the services they provide. Those services include mental health and addictions services in Umatilla, Morrow, Wheeler, Gilliam and Grant Counties. Their outpatient offices are located in Boardman, Arlington, Fossil, Condon, Heppner, John Day, Pendleton, Milton-Freewater and Hermiston in addition to multiple school-based clinics. They also provide treatment court services in Umatilla County as well as day treatment and a peer center.

A brief discussion ensued.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

RECOMMENDATION – OF PRIORITIES OF PROJECTS FROM COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING FROM THE PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Ryan Westman, Chairman of the Parks and Recreation Committee presented the committee's recommendation project which is the multi-sports court at Freewater Park. This was a project that received a favorable priority during the community input meeting held at the previous council meeting.

RESOLUTION NO. 2505, AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO APPLY FOR A LOCAL GOVERNMENT GRANT FROM OREGON PARKS AND RECREATION DEPARTMENT ALONG WITH STAFF'S RECOMMENDATION OF THE PRIORITY OF PROJECTS FROM THE COMMUNITY INPUT MEETING

Public Works Technician Steven Patten was requesting authorization to apply for a Local Government Grant from Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. The citizens of Milton-Freewater approved another five-year local option tax measure and by applying for a grant, it would allow for the tax money to be matched allowing for additional improvements. The grant application would require the city to provide 40% of the total project cost as match. This can be a combination of cash, labor, equipment, materials/supplies, and other funding such as Federal funds. Mr. Patten then explained that staff was also recommending the multi-sports court at Freewater Park. After reviewing the criteria of the grant, staff believed this project would be the most favorable project to get grant funding during this grant funding cycle. The results of the community input meeting showed some other projects as higher rating but those projects will take more time for staff to research additional grant and funding opportunities such as the golf course cart paths which were estimated to have a project cost of approximately \$1.2 million dollars.

Manager Hall stated staff would continue to seek other funding opportunities for the other top projects.

Councilor Humbert stated he would be interested in seeing the community input results of how the proposed projects rated.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2505, Resolution Authorizing Application for a Local Government Grant from the Oregon Parks and Recreation Department. Councilor Garcia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2506 – DECLARATION OF SURPLUS VEHICLES AND EQUIPMENT

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman presented a list, which included V92 - 1994 Chevrolet 4x4 pickup, V155 – 2007 Cub Cadet mower and V158 – 2009 Ford Crown Victoria Police Interceptor. These items have been replaced and are no longer needed. Staff's recommendation was to declare these vehicles and equipment surplus and sell for as much as the market will allow.

Councilor Humbert motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2506, Resolution Declaring Property to be Surplus as outlined on "Exhibit A". Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2507 – AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO AGREEMENT FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AMENDMENT #1 – JOB NO. 201-52 WITH ANDERSON PERRY & ASSOCIATES

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman gave an update on the Powell Road and bridge improvements funded by House Bill 2017 (HB2017). In September 2021 Council approved a proposal from Anderson Perry & Associates for design engineering and permitting services for this project. The proposed amendment authorized an additional \$40,000, if needed for construction administration, construction observation during box culvert installation, construction staking, materials testing, project documentation, and project close out. The additional expense is within the terms of the agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation for HB2017 projects.

Councilor Humbert asked what the timeline was for the remaining funds to be expended.

Mr. Steadman stated the agreement was granted an extension to August 2024.

Councilor Humbert motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2508, Resolution Authorizing Signature to an Agreement for Professional Services Amendment #1 – Job No. 201-52 for House Bill 2017 Powell Road Improvements with Anderson Perry & Associates, Inc. not to exceed \$40,000. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2508 – AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO AGREEMENT WITH THE WALLA WALLA YMCA FOR AQUATIC CENTER OPERATIONS

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman shared that the city has partnered with the Walla Walla YMCA for the past three summers who staffed and operated the aquatic center through a Service Agreement. Staff has been very pleased with their service and recommend approving an agreement which will allow an annual renewal for up to three consecutive years upon mutual agreement, from year to year at a cost, plus 3% overhead. The YMCA is a world-wide non-profit organization that provides aquatic services under the American Red Cross curriculum and standards.

Manager Hall stated partnering with the YMCA was a very good option as it is very difficult to find life guards and summer help.

Councilor Humbert asked how much money has been saved by contracting through the YMCA.

Mr. Steadman stated from memory, the first year was approximately \$8,000 savings. Last year he believed the total cost for operating was approximately \$127,000 and this year was estimated to cost approximately \$124,000 for the season's operation for the YMCA to fully operate and staff the pool. He said each year the staff for the YMCA is finding more efficient ways to staff and operate the facility which reduces the cost of the service.

Manager Hall stated again, she was very happy to be partnering with the YMCA.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2508, Resolution Authorizing Signature to Service Agreement with the Walla Walla YMCA for certified pool operators, lifeguarding services, general administration, front desk and concession staff for the City's Aquatic Center for summer 2023 with terms allowing for annual renewal and extension of such agreement for up to three consecutive years upon mutual agreement, from year to year at a cost, plus 3% overhead. Councilor Reino seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2509 – AUTHORIZING APPLICATION TO APPLY FOR AN OREGON DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY COMMUNITY RENEWABLE ENERGY PLANNING GRANT

Electric Superintendent Mike Watkins was requesting authorization to apply for an Oregon Department of Energy Community Renewable Energy (CRE) planning grant. Oregon House Bill 2021 (HB2021) created a \$50 million dollar fund to provide grants for planning and developing community renewable energy and energy resilience projects. CRE planning projects are eligible for up to 100% of project planning costs up to \$100,000 and construction projects are eligible for up to 100% of construction up to \$1,000,000. In 2007 the Oregon legislature implemented renewable Portfolio Standards for utilities that sell electricity in Oregon requiring 5% of electricity sales for small utilities. Renewable sources are described as wind, solar, wave, geothermal, biomass, and small hydro. Mr. Watkins stated several neighboring cities and other municipal electric utilities have benefitted from this grant in the past.

Councilor Lyon asked if there was a project in mind.

Mr. Watkins stated the planning grant will hopefully provide some answers on what's going to fit best. He said he doesn't want to do a project just to be doing a project. It must make sense financially for the customers, community and city.

Councilor Koklich asked if there were ties to the grant funding.

Mr. Watkins stated most grants are free or require matching or in-kind funds. He said this was about as free as you could get. One hundred percent funding for hiring a consultant to come in and do a study and planning a project. He stated they were an expert in a lot of things but they were not and expert in solar and wind as an example.

Councilor Lyon asked what other city's projects were.

Manager Hall read through the list of projects from the information that was provided in the council packet. Most of what she read were solar projects.

Councilor Reino wanted clarification on what was being authorized. Was the application only to apply for the planning grant and that there were no stipulations that needed to be followed.

Mr. Watkins stated that if the grant was successful then they could come up with a plan and there is nothing that says they have to use it.

Manager Hall stated the project would have to be something that the council was comfortable with and agree that the community would accept.

Councilor Lyon motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2509, Resolution Authorizing Application to apply for an Oregon Department of Energy Community Renewable Energy Planning Grant. Councilor Reino seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Irving said he was happy to see the information from Manager Hall about grant funding opportunities for levees. He thanked her for the letter of support she sent to the legislature.

Councilor Humbert, who also serves on the Water Control District Board, stated it was very challenging to operate on \$24,000 per year. He thanked city staff for helping the District with bond measure information.

Councilor Lyon asked what the plan was for Marie Dorian Park since it was closed.

Mr. Steadman stated the park was closed due to the continual graffiti activity, fires and vandalism to the park. The city crews could not keep up with the daily attention the park was requiring and all the other acres of parks in the city.

Manager Hall stated the park was closed to hopefully break the cycle of vandalism. Staff won't give up the park but it was being vandalized daily. Staff plans to open it back up soon.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor