
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****August 14, 2023**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session on August 14, 2023 in the Albee Room of the City Library, 8 SW 8th Avenue at 7:00 p.m.

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

Councilors Jose Garcia and Damien Reino were absent.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman and Interim Police Chief Joe Shurtz.

Guests and citizens present were: Patty Key, Kim Munk, Janice Geyer, Tim Sanchez, Robin Sanchez, Lynn Birdwell, Kylee Birdwell, Ed Pearson, Emily Holden, Bryan Martin, Emily Martin, Kay West, Sam Magnuson, Jean Ann Mitchell, Kasia Loiacono, Joe Loiacono, Gail Beeson, Markie McRae, Cliff Carson, Michele Moore, Jason Schaffner, Anthony Martinez and Tracy Martinez

Representing the news media were: Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald and Sheila Hagar of the East Oregonian.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council minutes from July 10, 2023
- Accounts Payable July 1, 2023 – July 19, 2023
- Accounts Payable July 20, 2023 – August 4, 2023
- Liquor License Application for Milton-Freewater Liquor Store for their new location of 178 S. Main.

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

PRESENTATION ITEMS:**UPDATE – COFFEE WITH A COP**

Interim Police Chief Joe Shurtz gave an update on the first “Coffee with a Cop” that was held June 17th at Burger Hut. He has plans to host the next one in the training room of the new police station once it’s completed. No date was set.

INFORMATION – “USAonWATCH, NEIGHBORHOOD WATCH PROGRAM

Interim Police Chief Shurtz presented information on Neighborhood Watch program that is now called USAonWatch. He gathered contact information from interested citizens present at the

meeting and will now schedule a meeting to provide more information and training on how to implement the program.

A discussion ensued with questions from some of those in attendance regarding the program which Chief Shurtz will go into more depth in the next scheduled meeting and training session on the program.

UPDATE – WEEKEND @ THE BLUES

Kim Munk, representing the committee of the Weekend @ the Blues Festival stated this year's festival was successful. She reported they had more volunteers than in years past. The band on Friday night was very well attended and she thanked the city for allowing the festival to be in the park, setting out additional garbage containers, and keeping the restrooms stocked and cleaned. She reported the corn roast will be part of next year's itinerary and they will be moving the festival to the first weekend in August rather than the last weekend in July.

Weekend @ the Blues Rodeo Queen Kylee Birdwell gave an update on the rodeo held the last weekend of July which included her report of there being more attendants this year than in year's past. She stated the wild cow milking will be added to the events next year. She thanked the City Council and City Manager Linda Hall for their support.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO A REGIONAL INFRASTRUCTURE FUND GRANT AGREEMENT WITH BUSINESS OREGON FOR A SHARED WINE PRODUCTION FACILITY

Mayor Key announced this item was being pulled from the agenda and would be considered at a later date.

CONFIRMATION OF AUDIT SERVICES, ANDERSON BOYLAN RAMOS, PC

Manager Hall stated in June Council approved a letter of engagement with Barnett & Moro for auditing services. Staff was notified that two of the principles, Cameron Anderson and Rebecca Ramos, who previously performed the city's audit services were forming their own CPA firm. Manager Hall reported this was a friendly split, and Barnett & Moro have authorized the new firm, Anderson Boylan Ramos, P.C. to take the city business with them. This has been memorialized in a letter from Barnett & Moro authorizing the withdrawal of services from them. Manager Hall stated the new engagement letter with Anderson Boylan Ramos, P.C. would be at the same rate and for a two-year term.

Councilor Humbert motioned to recognize the withdrawal of the engagement with Barnett & Moro as the City's audit firm, and authorize Anderson Boylan Ramos, P.C to be the City's audit firm and direct City Manager to enter into a letter of engagement with the new firm. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:34 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor