

City of St. Helens

CITY COUNCIL

Regular Session Minutes

September 20, 2017

Members Present: Rick Scholl, Mayor
Doug Morten, Council President
Keith Locke, Councilor
Susan Conn, Councilor
Ginny Carlson, Councilor

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Matt Brown, Finance Director
Crystal Farnsworth, Communications Officer
Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Neal Sheppard, Public Works Operations Director
Sue Nelson, Public Works Engineering Director
Anthony Miltich, Sergeant

Others: Lesley Everett Peter Frank Bob Johnston
Dave Coombs Jan LeSollen Steve LeSollen



7:00PM – Call Regular Session to Order – Mayor Scholl

Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Scholl

Invitation to Citizens for Public Comment

♦**Steve Topaz.** He has five questions about Urban Renewal.

1. Does the City have a date when the paper mill is going to leave?
2. In order to build, they need to know what's underground. Is the City going to release data on core samples that will be taken?
3. Did the City put out a national RFP for the Veneer and Mill site? City Administrator Walsh responded that it was published in the Daily Journal of Commerce.
4. When the Federal government shuts down marijuana in Oregon, will the City be liable since we're leasing space to a marijuana production facility? Steve went on to talk about the damage marijuana does to young people's brains. Has the City protected itself? Mayor Scholl said the lease agreement was drafted by the City attorney. Copies are available.
5. In the design of the waterfront, did the City Council directly request input or attendance from the school board? Councilor Locke said yes. Superintendent Scott Stockwell sat on the Waterfront Committee.

Protest Hearing

Nuisance Abatement at 375 S. 13th Street (LeSollen)

Janet LeSollen is protesting the number of hours put in as charges on their abatement. She thinks they are far too high. She is protesting the labor fee.

Building Official Johnston reviewed the fees. A copy is included in the archive meeting packet. He reminded the Council that the LeSollen's were not charged any fees from City staff time spent on the project.

Council instructed Finance Director Brown to work with City Administrator Walsh and Mayor Scholl to create a payment plan administratively. Brown will report back to Council with what's decided.

Deliberations

Applicant: Lesley Everett

Owner: Lesley Everett and Peter & Elaine Frank

Request: Zone Map Amendment from Light Industrial (LI) to Apartment Residential (AR) and Comprehensive Plan Amendment from Light Industrial (LI) to General Residential (GR)

Location: 1160 & 1170 Deer Island Road

Consensus of the Council that the proposal makes sense.

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously approved the Zone Map Amendment at 1160 Deer Island Road.

Deliberations

Applicant/Owner: Craig & Ronda Melton and David Coombs

Request: Easement Extinguishment

Location: 2554 Columbia Blvd.

Consensus of the Council that the proposal makes sense.

Motion: Upon Carlson's motion and Morten's second, the Council unanimously approved the easement extinguishment at 2554 Columbia Boulevard.

Ordinances – First Readings

- A. **Ordinance No. 3218:** An Ordinance Amending St. Helens Municipal Code Chapters 15.04 and 15.20 Relating to Oregon State Building Codes and the Code for Abatement of Dangerous Buildings

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3218 by title for the first time. The final reading will be held at the next regular session.

- B. **Ordinance No. 3219:** An Ordinance Relating to the Universal Fee Schedule and Parking Fines, Amending St. Helens Municipal Code Sections 2.32.030, 3.16.020, 5.08.140, 5.08.240(5), 10.04.240, 12.32.030, 12.32.030, 15.08.100, and 10.04.380

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3219 by title for the first time. The final reading will be held at the next regular session.

Resolutions

Public Comments – Proposed Increase in Drop Box Rates

- ♦ There were no comments.

- A. **Resolution No. 1799:** A Resolution Establishing Drop Box Rates and Superseding Resolution No. 1761

Mayor Scholl read Resolution No. 1799 by title. **Motion:** Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1799. [Ayes: Locke, Carlson, Conn, Morten, Scholl; Nays: None]

Approve and/or Authorize for Signature

- A. IGA with ODOT for TGM Grant for St. Helens Riverfront Connector Plan
- B. Final Plat for Land Partition at 2554 Columbia Blvd.

Motion: Upon Carlson's motion and Conn's second, the Council unanimously approved 'A' through 'B' above.

Consent Agenda for Acceptance

- A. Library Board Minutes dated June 20 and July 18, 2017
- B. Planning Commission Minutes dated August 8, 2017

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Morten's second, the Council unanimously accepted 'A' through 'B' above.

Consent Agenda for Approval

- A. Street Closure Requests
- B. Accounts Payable Bill List

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously approved 'A' through 'B' above.

Council Reports

Councilor Locke reported...

- Nothing to report.

Councilor Carlson reported...

- CERT is holding an emergency preparedness training on Saturday. It is open to all CERT teams.
- Are there non-profits that would be able to help clean-up nuisance properties? That way the cost doesn't become a financial burden. Councilor Locke pointed out that the City has been trying to work with the LeSollen's for about ten years now and have done due diligence.
- There were several pedestrian accidents in the area recently. People need to be vigilant and watch out when driving so that pedestrians are kept safe. She has to back out of a driveway on Matzen Street that is blocked by a large pickup and seven foot hedge. Mayor Scholl asked if there are any codes that would prevent large hedges and fences that obstruct line of site for drivers. City Planner Graichen said the vision clearance area is in the Code. Enforcement is complaint driven. People can report it directly through the St. Helens Police Department app.

Councilor Conn reported...

- The Arts & Cultural Commission Salmon Tree Cycle Ribbon Cutting Ceremony is on Thursday.
- The Library is holding the first of four Civics for Adults workshops on Thursday.
- Congresswoman Suzanne Bonamici is hosting a town hall on Thursday.
- The Walk Out of Darkness suicide prevention walk is on Saturday in Scappoose.

Council President Morten reported...

- The League of Oregon Cities (LOC) newsletter just arrived. The LOC is calling for people to sit on their policy boards. He has sat on several of those committees and they are extremely educational. You formulate on the committee what the legislative committee should be focusing on to take to the State legislature and lobby for on behalf of cities in Oregon. He encourages someone on the Council to apply for one of the committees.
- The LOC conference is at the end of this month.

Mayor Scholl reported...

- There is a lot going on. It is exciting to be a part of something bigger than us. He feels

fortunate to be able to participate.

Department Reports

Planner Graichen reported...

- He would like to clarify that the riverfront connector plan goes to 2019.

Public Works Engineering Director Nelson reported...

- An ODOT representative gave a brief update about the Millard Road traffic light at the Columbia County Traffic Safety Commission meeting. They are still working on design. They are also looking at additional safety improvements at the Bennet Road intersection.

Public Works Operations Director Sheppard reported...

- Nothing to report.

Library Director Jeffries reported...

- Nothing to report.

Finance Director Brown reported...

- Nothing to report.

Communications Officer Farnsworth reported...

- Nothing to report.

City Administrator Walsh reported...

- Halloween is a lot of work and is coming soon. Public Works crews have been very supportive of getting everything ready for Spirit of Halloweentown.
- There have been several grants and money secured for waterfront development. He is excited to be a part of it.

Adjourn - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.



Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:


Crystal Farnsworth, Communications Officer


Rick Scholl, Mayor