

City of St. Helens City Council

Regular Session Minutes

August 12, 2015

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

Members Absent: Randy Peterson, Mayor

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Jon Ellis, Finance Director
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Terry Moss, Police Chief
Neal Sheppard, Interim Public Works Co-Director
Sue Nelson, Interim Public Works Co-Director

Others:	Brenda Fielding	Cheryl VanDomelen	Mandy Sill
	Cassidy Jones	Larry VanDolah	Jen Plahn
	Jason Brasmer	Oscar Nelson	Baylee Crawford
	Jeanne Crawford		



7:00PM – Call Regular Session to Order – Council President Morten

Pledge of Allegiance – Council President Morten

Invitation to Citizens for Public Comment

♦Oscar Nelson. Last May, the City put forth a moratorium (marijuana). Council was aware they had a year to work on the issue. It looks like nothing was done in that time. We are well past May with an issue that the state of Oregon has spoken on. St. Helens is opening itself up for litigation. The Council had a year to work on the issue. This is unacceptable for your city and citizens. He understands the mayor is gone and they are dragging their feet. This needs to be resolved.

♦Baylee Crawford. She has been involved in the Columbia County Fair and Rodeo Court for the past three years and was honored with the titled as Miss Teen Rodeo Oregon on July 12. She is also a member of the St. Helens Youth Council. Baylee is here today requesting sponsorships. She distributed and reviewed a sponsorship packet.

♦Brenda Fielding. She voiced her objection to the marijuana dispensary on the waterfront. She does not think it's the most appropriate place. It's too close to the park.

♦Mandy Sill. She is requesting the Council consider the waterfront, culture, and accessibly for those who need it when reviewing the placement of the marijuana dispensaries.

♦Cheryl VanDomelen. She's not exactly sure why this was put off, other than the mayor not being here. She encourages the Council to make the changes as quickly as possible to allow

the issuance of a Business License. The conditional use permit was approved. She would like to purchase her medication in the City she lives in. The issue of parking was brought up at last month's meeting. Having gone to other dispensaries, parking is not really an issue. Customers are in and out.

Councilor President Morten explained that they were deadlocked in their discussions during the work session. They are waiting for input from the mayor.

♦Howard Blumenthal. He is representing the Friends of Nob Hill Nature Park. Last year, the City paid \$25 for the InterTwine membership. He has since discovered that it is a yearly membership. The renewal is due now and he is requesting the City pay for the renewal.

Council President Morten requested Howard present this at Monday's Parks Commission meeting.

Howard suggested including a reminder about the leash law rules in city publications. He has seen numerous violations.

♦Cassidy Jones. She read a letter into the record urging the Council to adopt a resolution requesting Oregon Legislature to put a price on carbon and hold polluters accountable. Ashland, Medford, Portland, Corvallis and Albany are just some of the cities that have already adopted a resolution. Oregon Climate is advocating for a dividend to be distributed to all Oregonians. Eventually, the idea is that an energy transition will occur.

Councilor Conn asked who is identified as polluters and how it will be taxed or levied. Cassidy responded that food processors are the number one contributor as fossil fuel vendors. She explained that it will be a set fee and not a tax.

Council President Morten requested that Cassidy or a representative return to a work session with more information. City Recorder Payne will contact Cassidy.

♦Jason Brasmer. He is here to talk about a lateral line that needs to be repaired on his property. The previous owner did what he thought was necessary to fix it. It was never repaired and he was told to bury it. Jason purchased the property three months later and received a 90-day notice to fix the line. He feels it's unfair that the responsibility falls to him since the City never handled it the first time around.

Council President Morten would like to discuss a policy for this at a future work session. Jason would like to be involved and requested to be notified of the meeting date. Staff will be in contact with him.

Deliberations

Petitioner: Brett & Brighton Brooksby

Proposal: Vacation of Public Right-of-Way

Location: Portion of West Street at N. 10th Street

Council members voiced their support of staff recommendations.

Motion: Locke moved to deny the request for a street vacation. Carlson seconded.

Comment: City Administrator Walsh commented that some cities have looked at creating an alley when there is a large right-of-way and section of property proposing a similar request.

Vote: All in favor; none opposed; motion carries.

City Planner Graichen reminded the Council that half of the fee was refunded the last time a street vacation was denied.

Motion: Upon Locke's motion and Conn's second, the Council unanimously granted refunding half of the application fee.

Ordinances – First Readings

- A. **Ordinance No. 3193:** An Ordinance Amending the St. Helens Municipal Code Chapter 5.04 to Allow Business Licenses for Marijuana Related Businesses

During today's work session, the Council was split two-two. They continued the discussion to the September 2 work session to allow input from Mayor Peterson.

Resolutions

- A. **Resolution No. 1708:** A Resolution Authorizing Purchase of Real Property Within the City of St. Helens from the State of Oregon, Acting By and Through Its Oregon Department of Transportation, Including Necessary Steps to Effect Purchase of Real Property in Service of the City's Economic Development, Environmental, and Public Use Goals

Council President Morten read Resolution No. 1708 by title. **Motion:** Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1708. [Ayes: Locke, Carlson, Conn, Morten; Nays: None]

- B. **Resolution No. 1709:** A Resolution Determining that a Nuisance Exists Upon Properties Located within the City of St. Helens and Directing that Notice to Abate the Nuisance be Posted on Said Premises

Council President Morten read Resolution No. 1709 by title. **Motion:** Upon Conn's motion and Locke's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1709. [Ayes: Locke, Carlson, Conn, Morten; Nays: None]

Award Contract for EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant Consultant Services to Maul Foster Alongi

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Locke's second, the Council unanimously awarded the contract for the EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning Grant consultant services to Maul Foster Alongi.

Approve and/or Authorize for Signature

- A. Amendment No. 2 to IGA with City of Carlton for Communications Services
- B. Extension of Contract with Tualatin Valley Workshop for Janitorial Services
- C. Fourth Amendment to Hamer Electric Public Improvement Contract for Courthouse Docks Project
- D. Authorize Pump Equipment Purchase from Correct Equipment, Inc. for Lift Station No. 7 Upgrade
- E. Authorize Bridge Purchase from Bridge Brothers for McCormick Park Pedestrian Bridge Project
- F. Recognize Ameresco as City's Energy Services Company and Authorize Technical Energy Audit Related to Converting City Street Lights to LED Technology
- G. Contract Payments

Motion: Conn moved to approve 'A' through 'G' above. Carlson seconded.

Discussion. Council President Morten asked for clarification on the IGA with Carlton. Walsh explained that it is an agreement to allow our communications officer to perform communications work for Carlton. Councilor Locke expressed concerns he heard that our support staff is overworked, yet we're taking on work for other cities. Walsh explained that it is done outside of regular duties.

Vote: All in favor; none opposed; motion carries.

Appointments to City Boards/Commissions

No appointments were made.

Consent Agenda for Acceptance

- A. Planning Commission Minutes dated June 9, 2015
- B. Arts & Cultural Minutes dated June 30, 2015
- C. Library Board Minutes dated June 16, 2015
- D. EPA Cooperative Agreement for Brownfields Grant
- E. Accounts Payable Bill List

Motion: Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously accepted 'A' through 'E' above.

Consent Agenda for Approval

- A. Council Regular Session Minutes dated July 8, 2015
- B. Exclusive Use Permits:
 - i. FC Columbia County (Youth Soccer), 6th Street Ballfields, August 24 – November 7
 - ii. Columbia County Crusaders (Rugby), McCormick Park Soccer Field, August 24 – November 4
- C. Animal Facility Licenses:
 - i. Brown at 454 N. 10th Street, Multiple Dogs
 - ii. Harrison at 185 N. Vernonia, Multiple Dogs
 - iii. Gray at 930 West Street, Multiple Dogs
- D. Accounts Payable Bill List

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

City Recorder Payne reported that she did not receive an application for the street closure, as presented by Joe Pacitti during today's work session. She requested the Council make a motion pending the insurance.

MOTION: Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously approved the closure of S. 1st Street between Dockside and the City property during the requested hours on August 22, pending insurance.

Council Reports

Council President Morten reported...

- He attended the Cascadia Subduction Zone at the CEPA meeting. They asked for a City staff member to participate in the planning. Public Works Operations Director received an email from CEPA but has not responded yet.
- As we move forward on the Brownsfield area-wide planning, he would like to see involvement from all the Council. He suggested televising it as well. Council concurred.
- It is very costly for our taxpayers to clean up after people who are camping in our City,

particularly in our parks. He would like to suggest at the next Parks Commission to close camping in all of our parks. It's going to help our police, parks and public works crews. We could possibly look at permits for large group camping. The amount of clean-up needed at Sand Island has gotten out of hand.

Councilor Conn reported...

- She also attended the CEPA meeting. The Cascadia Subduction Zone presentation was excellent. Columbia 911 is looking into adding the capability of texting during emergencies.
- She attended the Municipal Court meeting with representatives from Eugene and Salem presenting their operations. Her purpose was to learn more about how a court of record operates. It was interesting and helpful.

Councilor Carlson reported...

- She thanked Council President Morten for addressing the parks concerns. Taking it to the Parks Commission for their input is a great idea. Ultimately our goal is to have a safe park for our citizens.
- She attended a Shop Local/Buy Local organization meeting. They have great participation. They are excited about having a county-wide plan to unite us together.
- She is excited to see groups wanting to help with Spirit of Halloweentown events.
- Youth Council is looking forward to helping out with activities this winter.
- It's been a great summer with perfect weather.
- She thanked Public Works for the paving and striping work on St. Helens Street.

Councilor Locke reported...

- He would like to move forward to develop a trail on the new City property. Locke and Morten will work with staff on the design and details.

Department Reports

Police Chief Moss reported...

- The Police Department is well aware of the camping issues. They have been working with staff to address it under the current Code. He would like to review the Code and discuss new ways to approach it.

Interim Public Works Co-Director Nelson reported...

- She hopes to have the pedestals on the docks operating next week. The contractor is conducting extensive testing.
- Eisenschmidt Lane is tentatively scheduled to be paved on Monday.
- Cross walks and striping for Eisenschmidt Lane and St. Helens Street will be completed soon.

Councilor Carlson has witnessed pedestrians attempting to use the crosswalk between Wild Currant and the movie theater. Cars continue driving because they're unable to see the pedestrians with cars parked along. Nelson is aware of the large vehicles that park there and block visibility. The long-term plan is to put bump-outs at the intersection. She will look at eliminating that end parking space.

Interim Public Works Co-Director Sheppard reported...

- He has instructed parks staff to have community services workers clean the planter area across from Dockside.

Library Director Jeffries reported...

- The Library has a new Library Assistant. Our communications officer did a very good job of

introducing Dan Dieter to the City. There is a short article about him in the e-Newsletter on the City's Facebook page.

Finance Director Ellis reported...

- He recommends taking Chris Iverson on a tour of the proposed trail on the City's new property. His input as our insurance agent would be valuable. There were people running on the railroad trestle during the waterfront open house. Walsh said he has walked the property with Chris.

City Recorder Payne reported...

- Nothing to report.

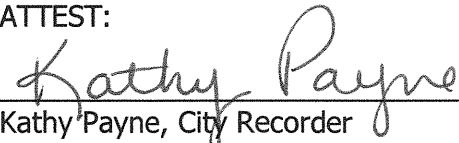
City Administrator Walsh reported...

- He participated in a citizen involvement panel at the Oregon Mayor's Conference, after the success of the "What's Your Waterfront" project. Redevelopment projects are a good way to get citizen involvement. The City of Beaverton talked about their positive experience with a Youth Council. The City of Dallas talked about their Citizen's Academy. Citizens learn about different departments and their duties.
- He met with the new school superintendent earlier this week to discuss ways the City and school can work together. Walsh is going to present the "What's Your Waterfront" at a future school board meeting.

Adjourn - There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:59 p.m.



ATTEST:


Kathy Payne, City Recorder


Doug Morten, Council President