

City of St. Helens

City Council

Regular Session Minutes

January 17, 2018

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

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Matt Brown, Finance Director
Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Sue Nelson, Public Works Engineering Director

Others: St. Helens High School Students

- 1) **Call Regular Session to Order** – 7 p.m.
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**
- 3) **Visitor Comments** - No Comments
- 4) **Approve and/or Authorize for Signature**
 - 4.a Oregon Public Works Emergency Response Cooperative Assistance Agreement
 - 4.b Agreement with Columbia River PUD for Non-Custom Project at Existing Non-Residential Facilities

Motion: Upon Morten's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously approved '4a' and '4b' above.

- 5) **Appointments to Boards/Commissions**

Motion: Upon Scholl's motion and Locke's second, the Council unanimously appointed Rachael Barry to the Budget Committee.

- 6) **Consent Agenda for Acceptance**
 - 6.a Planning Commission Minutes dated December 12, 2017

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously accepted '6a' above.

- 7) **Consent Agenda for Approval**
 - 7.a Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Upon Morten's motion and Conn's second, the Council unanimously approve '7a' above.

8) **Mayor Scholl Reports...**

- Excited about the vision of the Urban Renewal Plan.

9) **Council Member Reports**

Council President Morten Reported...

- When Mayor Scholl was first elected, he was adverse to things happening at the City and the direction it was moving. Since then, Scholl has come aboard and embraced most of it. It shows great support and leadership. The learning curve is not easy. Morten appreciates Scholl's enthusiasm.
- He saw Public Works launching the repaired pontoon boat. It looks great. Now it won't stall on its way over to Sand Island to do maintenance. He suggested adding the City's logo to the boat.
- Looking forward to improved signage in parks.

Councilor Conn reported...

- The Library is losing an employee but the front office at City Hall will be gaining that employee. Becky will be missed at the Library but welcomed at City Hall.

Councilor Carlson reported...

- She appreciates the Urban Renewal process. It makes a difference when people get involved and participate.

Councilor Locke reported...

- There's been recent comments that he may be doing unethical things. He wanted to clarify the rumors. He traveled to Mexico about a month ago with Alex R., who is one of the partners for the grow operation at the Mill. Locke paid for all of his trip, plus some, and helped with repairs on their condo. There were no favors.
- He's also heard rumors that he shouldn't be so involved with the Mill site development because his wife works for Cascade. He worked for and retired from Boise 20 years ago with three types of cancer. He has no love for that place. He scrutinizes everything that is happening there. He would be willing to help any company there.
- The growers at the Mill site will be releasing news soon about their business. One partner is from Portland and the other three from California. They've talked about moving to St. Helens and helping the community grow.

Youth Councilor David reported...

- Officer Coy recently attended the Youth Council meeting. He's helping build a base for a peer DARE program. Councilor Locke added that the Youth Council is going to meet at the Courthouse on Monday with Judge Grove. Grove is going to give them a tour and talk about the former Teen Court program.

10) **Department Reports**

Public Works Engineering Director Nelson reported...

- Happy to hear that the pontoon boat repairs are complete. A small grant from the Oregon State Marine Board paid for the repairs. The City's contribution was the repairs and getting it back in the water.

- The agreement with Columbia River PUD approved tonight is a continuation of the LED light project. After the street lights were completed, there was still capacity in the budget to add lights to City facilities. The upgrade has an extremely fast pay-off time.

Library Director Jeffries reported...

- The Library Book Club held a second meeting. The format of everyone picking their own book based on a subject has been working very well. The next meeting is April 23 at 7 p.m.
- The Museum Association Curator, Les Watters, asked the Library if they would be willing to hang promotional posters from the WWI era in celebration of the 100th year of the end of WWI. Les provided the materials and Public Works helped hang them in the auditorium.

Finance Director Brown reported...

- Budget season is approaching. Last year, he brought a list of opportunities to the Budget Committee meeting to begin discussing. Consensus of Council to do that again.

City Recorder Payne reported...

- Nothing to report.

City Administrator Walsh reported...

- Explained the Urban Renewal process to those who were not at the earlier meeting.

11) **Other Business**

- ♦ Cole Steeprow, St. Helens High School student. He asked how a peer DARE program would work.

Youth Councilor David explained that they don't have that part figured out yet. Right now they're just researching what would be needed. Councilor Carlson added that two of the biggest concerns they hear from Youth Council members about school are: 1) no one is helping their friends who don't make it; and 2) no doors on the bathrooms.

12) **Adjourn** – 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:


Kathy Payne, City Recorder


Rick Scholl, Mayor