

CITY OF ROGUE RIVER

City Council Minutes

THURSDAY, JANUARY 28, 2021

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF ROGUE RIVER, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

CALL TO ORDER The Regular Council meeting was called to order by Mayor Wayne Stuart at 6:00 p.m.

INVOCATION City Administrator Mark Reagles delivered the Invocation

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Wayne Stuart led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

QUORUM **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Wayne Stuart
City Councilor Bob Pascalar
City Councilor Pam VanArsdale
City Councilor Rick Kempa
City Councilor Barb Hilty
City Councilor Don Daugherty
City Councilor Barb Gregory

ALSO PRESENT:

Mark Reagles, City Administrator
Carol Weir, City Recorder
Mike Bollweg, Public Works Director
Curtis Whipple, Chief of Police
Paige Chick, Clerk Typist

MEDIA PRESENT:

Brian Mortensen, Rogue River Press

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 24, 2020, OCTOBER 22, 2020 AND DECEMBER 30, 2020.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations; Rogue River Chamber of Commerce: Mayor Wayne Stuart reported they were discussing updating their website membership advertising opportunities, they were happy with the outcome of the Winter Wonderland event held in December.

Community Relations; Rogue River Community Center: City Councilor Barb Hilty reported they held no meetings in November, December or January. The Center was currently closed and the director was working with Jackson County on reopening. The thrift store was opened on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays with extended hours on Monday. Food and Friends had been able to deliver meals during the whole time while being shut down. And, the pantry had been serving about 90-people, roughly 35-families with outdoor pickup on Tuesday mornings.

Emergency Communication of Southern Oregon: Mayor Wayne Stuart reported that they did not hold a meeting but he learned that a contract had been signed with Motorola to install the new radio infrastructure.

Finance Committee: City Councilor Don Daugherty reported that they met twice during the month of October 2020 to review and approve bills and signed 57-checks totaling \$123,312.37, in November 2020 they met twice to review and approve bills and signed 82-checks totaling \$118,198.61 and in December 2020 they met twice to review and approve bills and signed 72-checks totaling \$170,577.16.

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization (MRMPO): City Councilor Pam VanArsdale reported she was not able to attend but the agenda showed that they would be discussing the transit station that the policy committee had approved and were moving forward with design but its location had become controversial even though the land was owned by county the local businesses were concerned of losing parking.

Planning Commission Liaison: City Councilor Pam VanArsdale reported during their workshop they discussed design standards for fences, landscape design for new construction and they ran out of time and tabled discussion regarding mobile vendors and parking and storage on pervious and impervious ground.

Rogue Valley Council of Governments: Mayor Wayne Stuart reported he attended a zoom meeting to discuss senior and disability grants.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM 1 State of City Message: Mayor Wayne Stuart read the following 2020 State of City Message:

"It is my pleasure to deliver the State of City Message! This year has brought many changes and challenges to our community.

We started the new year with promise but by March all that changed. With the COVID-19 pandemic our City government, local businesses and citizens has to make some tough adjustments from the "normal" we are used to. As things got worse, more restrictions were implemented. No social gatherings, no Rooster Crow, the Community Center closed, restrictions and closures of businesses and schools had caused children and parents to learn from home.

On a lighter note, we had "Ride the Rogue" this year and the continuation of the Greenway to Gold Hill was completed. Halloween was celebrated within guidelines and Santa came to the plaza for the "Winter Wonderland" celebration.

The Chamber once again honored our service veterans by hanging banners around downtown. We completed the first phase of our "Safe Routes" sidewalk project and are currently finishing the second phase thanks to funding by the Oregon Small City Allotment Grant program.

The City Council heard the annual audit report from KDP Certified Public Accountants and once again received an unmodified opinion the highest opinion given.

With the cancellation of our Arbor Day Celebrations due to school closures the Tree City Committee in May planted our Hiroshima Peach Tree in John F. Flemming Memorial Park that was donated to the City by the Oregon Department of Forestry.

This past September we had a Black Equity Coalition of Southern Oregon rally that took place in front of City Hall. Both groups there gathered and voiced their opinions without incident.

As we look forward to 2021, we're in the planning stage for starting the development of Rooster Crow after Rooster Crow weekend. And, we are looking forward to building two new reservoirs to help with fire suppression and greater water storage.

As we have done in the past, we will continue to have challenges that need to be addressed. With the dedication of the City Council, staff and myself as Mayor, we will continue to be good stewards for the positions we hold, always being mindful of the citizens we represent now and for the future of our town, Rogue River."

AGENDA ITEM 2 General Election: Canvass the votes of the November 3, 2020 General Election.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO CANVAS AND ADOPT THE VOTES OF THE NOVEMBER 3, 2020 GENERAL ELECTION AS PRESENTED BY THE COUNTY CLERK.

AGENDA ITEM 3 Presentation: Mayor Wayne Stuart presented an inscribed crystal plaque to retiring Police Chief Curtis Whipple.

Mayor Wayne Stuart told Chief Whipple that it had been an honor working with him and in recognition of his service to the City presented him with an inscription that read:

In recognition of your service for the City we present you with this symbol of lifelong brotherhood and friendship and to express our gratitude and appreciation for invaluable contribution and wisdom you have brought to this City from January 2019 to January 2021.

Mayor Stuart also commented that Chief Whipple could not leave yet since the City was not able to present him with his retirement badge so he still needed to report to duty.

Chief Whipple thanked everyone and said that he was happy when he started his

career here in 1989 and he was very proud to have ended it here now. It's an amazing City and a great community and he would like to keep it that way.

AGENDA ITEM 4 **Presentation:** Mayor Wayne Stuart presented wooden plaques to out going City Councilor Fred England for his time served since 2016, City Councilor Mark Poling for his time served since 2013 and Planning Commissioner Rick Kempa for his time served since 2016.

AGENDA ITEM 5 **Oath of Office:** City Recorder Carol Weir administered to the Oath of Office to Mayor Wayne Stuart.

AGENDA ITEM 6 **Oath of Office:** City Recorder Carol Weir administered the Oath of Officer to City Councilor Pam VanArsdale.

AGENDA ITEM 7 **Oath of Office:** City Recorder Carol Weir administered the Oath of Officer to City Councilor Barb Hilty.

AGENDA ITEM 8 **Oath of Office:** City Recorder Carol Weir administered the Oath of Officer to City Councilor Barb Gregory.

AGENDA ITEM 9 **Oath of Office:** City Recorder Carol Weir administered the Oath of Officer to City Councilor Rick Kempa.

AGENDA ITEM 10 **Election:** The City Council to elect a Mayor Pro-tem for calendar years 2021-2022.

MOVED (DAUGHERTY), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO ELECT CITY COUNCILOR PAM VANARSDALE AS MAYOR PRO TEM.

AGENDA ITEM 11 **Committees:** The Mayor's recommendations for Committee Assignments for calendar years 2021-2022.

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (KEMPA) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR COMMITTEE ASSIGNMENTS FOR CALENDAR YEAR 2021-2022 AS PRESENTED.

AGENDA ITEM 12 **Council Bill No. 21-2413:** An Ordinance amending Rogue River Municipal Code Chapter 17, Zoning regulations for the City of Rogue River, Oregon.

Mayor Wayne Stuart opened the Public Hearing at 6:29 p.m. by reading a prepared statement that became a permanent part of the record.

City Administrator Mark Reagles commented that the amendments were a recommendation from the Planning Commission.

No other comments were heard and Mayor Wayne Stuart closed the Public Hearing

at 6:31 p.m.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 21-2413.

AGENDA ITEM 13 **Council Bill No. 21-2414; Resolution No. 21-1377-R:** A Resolution adopting a salary range for the position of Police Chief for the City of Rogue River, Oregon.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 21-2414.

AGENDA ITEM 14 **Council Bill No. 21-2415; Resolution No. 21-1378-R:** A Resolution amending Resolution No. 06-1118-R by adopting a job description for the position of Police Support Specialist for the City of Rogue River, Oregon.

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 21-2415.

AGENDA ITEM 15 **Council Bill No. 21-2416; Resolution No. 21-1379-R:** A Resolution adopting a salary range for the position of Police Support Specialist for the City of Rogue River, Oregon.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (VANARSDALE) AND CARRIED TO ADOPT COUNCIL BILL NO. 21-2416.

AGENDA ITEM 16 **Public Hearing:** A public hearing to hear comments regarding a request to hook up City services in the Urban Growth Boundary.

Mayor Wayne Stuart opened the Public Hearing at 6:36 p.m. and read a prepared statement that became a permanent part of the record.

The Public Hearing was held pursuant to Rogue River Municipal Code to accept public comment regarding a request for water and sewer service for property located outside the city limits and in the urban growth boundary at 1487 East Evans Creek Road, Rogue River. The application was made by the property owner Robert Carter, Trustee of the Carter Living Trust.

City Administrator Mark Reagles commented that the application met all the criteria and recommended that the City Council approve the request.

Mayor Wayne Stuart asked the City Council if they had any questions for the applicant. None were heard.

Hearing no more comments Mayor Wayne Stuart closes the Public Hearing at 6:39 p.m.

AGENDA ITEM 17 **Request:** A request to hook up City services in the Urban Growth Boundary to 1487 East Evans Creek Road, Rogue River, Oregon.

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (KEMPA) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE THE REQUEST AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR SIGN THE ANNEXATION AGREEMENT, MEMORANDUM OF ANNEXATION AGREEMENT AND THE CONDITIONS OF CONTRACT TO HOOK UP CITY WATER AND SEWER SERVICES IN THE URBAN GROWTH BOUNDARY TO 1487 EAST EVANS CREEK ROAD, ROGUE RIVER, OREGON.

Mr. Carter questioned the reason for holding a public hearing. He said that the State mandated that he had to hook up to City services and didn't understand why he had to go through this process and waste everyone's time.

City Administrator Mark Reagles explained to Mr. Carter that the State of Oregon did not have jurisdiction over the City. The City is organized by the City Charter under its own rules. In this case the State may say that you have a failing septic system and if they were available you'd need to connect to City services, but, its still up to the City to offer the services to you.

Mr. Carter said that he understood but he didn't know why the whole application process was required.

City Administrator Mark Reagles commented that it was required by Ordinance.

Mr. Carter commented that maybe that was something that should be changed in the future.

City Administrator Mark Reagles said it would be up to the City Council. They have the option to approve or deny a request, it's not a given and the public hearing process was to give the City Council the opportunity to make the decision.

City Councilor Pam VanArsdale added that the reason was to provide the city tax payers the opportunity to comment about providing utility services outside the city limits that they pay for.

AGENDA ITEM 18 **Audit:** Adopt the 2019-2020 audit as prepared by KDP Public Accountants, LLC.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (VANARSDALE) AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE 2019-2020 AUDIT AS PREPARED BY KDP PUBLIC ACCOUNTANTS, LLC.

AGENDA ITEM 19 **Appointment:** Appoint a budget officer for the preparation of the 2021-2022 annual budget.

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (DAUGHERTY) AND CARRIED TO

APPOINT CITY ADMINISTRATOR MARK REAGLES AS THE BUDGET OFFICER FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 2021-2022 ANNUAL BUDGET.

AGENDA ITEM 20 **Goals and Policies:** Adopt the goals and polices for the preparation of the 2021-2022 annual budget.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (PASCALAR) AND CARRIED AND CARRIED TO ADOPT THE GOALS AND POLICES FOR THE PREPARATION OF THE 2021-2022 ANNUAL BUDGET.

AGENDA ITEM 21 **Resignation:** Accept a resignation from Planning Commissioner Don Collins and declare a vacancy.

MOVED (VANARSDALE), SECONDED (KEMPA) AND CARRIED TO REGRETFULLY ACCEPT A RESIGNATION FROM PLANNING COMMISSIONER DON COLLINS AND DECLARE A VACANCY.

City Councilor Pam VanArsdale commented that for all the years he had served on all the committees he had been a strong supporter and faithful servant.

City Administrator Mark Reagles showed a plaque that would be presented to Don Collins for his time served from January 2011 to September 2020 as Planning Commissioner.

AGENDA ITEM 22 **Resignation:** Accept the resignation from Tree City Committee member Judith Rose.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (KEMPA) AND CARRIED TO ACCEPT THE RESIGNATION FROM TREE CITY COMMITTEE MEMBER JUDITH ROSE.

AGENDA ITEM 23 **Appointment:** Appoint Jay Chick to Position No. 1 and Jack Bird to Position No. 5 of the Planning Commission.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (KEMPA) AND CARRIED TO APPOINT JAY CHICK TO POSITION NO. 1 AND JACK BIRD TO POSITION NO. 5 OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION.

AGENDA ITEM 24 **Appointment:** Appoint Chrystine Johnson to the City Council's Advisory Committee.

MOVED (GREGORY), SECONDED (VANARSDALE) AND CARRIED TO APPOINT CHRYSTINE JOHNSON TO THE CITY COUNCIL'S ADVISORY COMMITTEE.

OTHER BUSINESS:

City Administrator Mark Reagles commented that the presentation to the Oregon Department of Parks and Recreation would be on Friday, February 5, 2021 at 9:00 a.m. where they would be requesting \$250,000 and the City would be putting in \$114,000 for Rooster Park. He said they had reduced the budget by \$75,000 with the commitment of the labor by the National Guard Group.

Mayor Wayne Stuart announced that he had received a Certificate from Census 2020.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the City Council and upon motion duly made (VANARSDALE), seconded (DAUGHERTY) and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

ATTEST:



Carol J. Weir, MMC
City Recorder