

City of Rogue River City Council Minutes

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 24, 2024

CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS

CITY OF ROGUE RIVER, JACKSON COUNTY, OREGON

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

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE Mayor Pam VanArsdale led the Council and audience in the Pledge of Allegiance

QUORUM **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:**

Mayor Pam VanArsdale
Councilor Barb Hilty
City Councilor Barb Gregory
City Councilor Sherrie Moss
City Councilor Sharie Davis

COUNCIL MEMBERS ABSENT:

City Councilor Grace Howell (Excused)

STAFF PRESENT:

City Administrator, Ryan Nolan
City Recorder, Diane Oliver
Administrative/Finance Assistant Emily Reynolds

MEDIA PRESENT:

Brian Mortenson, Rogue River Press

A quorum was present, and due notice had been published.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

MOVED (Hilty) SECONDED (Gregory) TO APPROVE THE MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 26TH, 2024 AS SUBMITTED. ALL AYES, NONE OPPOSED, MINUTES APPROVED

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations: Chamber of Commerce Liaison Barb Hilty reported that there was a meeting last Thursday and currently there are eighty members. Winter Wonderland Tree Lighting will be December 7th. The next mixer will be

November 7th at Abbys Pizza from 5:30-7PM.

Community Relations: Community Center Representative Barb Gregory reported that there was a board meeting today at 1:30PM. Bingo has officially re-started, only eight were in attendance. There are now four bingos every week now. A staff appreciation event is in the planning stages, possibly for February. A dinner in November will be free to regular attendees if they can find a sponsor. The November 26th meeting is re-scheduled to November 19th.

Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon: Ryan Nolan reported that they are continuing to make progress on finishing the tower sites so that we can switch over to the new radios.

Finance Committee: Councilor Moss reports that the finance committee met for three check signings between 9-26-24 and 10-18-24 for a total of \$268,463.60.

Planning Commission Liaison: Barb Gregory reports that we are still working on the parking mandates, and our letter has been mailed asking for 10% exemptions from specific mandates. The planning commission has been tasked with working on the sign ordinance, so we will look at that language. We are in the beginning stages of understanding what FEMA is requiring from us. We have a full Planning Commission with two new alternate members who have been able to attend the last two meetings.

Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation: Councilor Davis reports that there was no meeting.

Rogue Valley Council of Governments: Mayor Pam VanArsdale reports that the meeting yesterday was a presentation by Greg Stabach, who is the Natural Resource Manager, on a program called R.A.I.N, which stands for rain, aquatic, invasive network which is a program to help remove weeds in the river downstream through grant money.

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization: Mayor Pam VanArsdale reports their meeting accomplished amending the 2024/2027 transportation improvement program. The Josephine County transit operations budget was able to allocate an extra \$200,000 than was expected, which will help quite a bit. They also adopted a Tribal Consultation Plan which is just an open dialog between official representatives of the tribes and the MPO when projects are worked on which may have an impact on tribals lands.

PUBLIC INPUT: Samantha Reynolds from Grants Pass Highschool introduced herself to Council. She is here working on a project for school to earn more credits in her government class.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM 1 Admin Report: Nolan reported that staff did a great job preparing the park for the memorial and mural dedication. Ryan attended the 99th annual League of Small Cities conference in Bend and learned some useful information on motivating staff and techniques on how to maintain a good healthy work environment. He toured the water facility in Bend which was interesting. He also did a downtown re-development tour because Bend is focusing on connecting people to different parts of town because it drives where people will build. Ryan also spoke about a program Bend is moving forward with where they are going to do in-conduit hydro electric power generation. Bend has facilities where they can run the State of Oregon if for some reason a Cascadia event interrupts service in Salem. They have a regional FAA office that operates all traffic in Alaska, Washington, and Oregon. They also have the regional 911 center, along with a regional cash system which is basically the “Costco” of federal government. They have stored food, shelter, backup power equipment, chainsaws, pumps to help with flooding, and Ryan was so impressed with this. We’ve been hit with some federal and state mandates that are troublesome and burdensome but was refreshing to see that there is help if we ever need it. Another thing that came from the conference was that the League announced that they have adopted legislative priorities for the next year. Ryan handed out those priorities for the council to discuss. Ryan updated the council on the parking mandates, he has spoken to the director of the DLCD, and our application was received, and we are hoping to hear a response by the end of this month.

There is an upcoming elected officials training on January 15th, 2025, in Phoenix Oregon. The other training we will need to arrange is due to a new state law requiring all elected officials who serve a jurisdiction that has a budget of more than two million dollars must attend an annual ethics training. Ryan also gave a quick update on the new FEMA rules that are required

for us to adopt. This is a huge subject that will have an impact on a vast number of properties in Rogue River, and soon the council will be asked by our citizens about these rules. Both Ryan and Rowan will be working hard to bring the council up to speed with these new rules. On November 7th at our city council workshop, we will watch a virtual presentation from RVCOG about the issue. Tomorrow Ryan will type up softer language that will help us share with citizens what is being required. Ryan went to Roseburg today to speak with FEMA, and they are willing to have a representative join us during public hearings to answer questions.

QUESTION FROM PUBLIC: Deb and Clint Anders, both Rogue River citizens and volunteers for the parks asked if the public would be allowed to speak at those meetings. The answer was yes.

AGENDA ITEM 2 Schedule Consider moving the Council meeting from November 28th to November 21st due to the Thanksgiving Holiday and moving the December meeting from the 26th to December 19th due to the Christmas Holiday.

MOVED (Hilty) SECONDED (Gregory) TO CONSIDER MOVING THE NOVEMBER COUNCIL MEETING FROM NOVEMBER 28TH TO NOVEMBER 21ST AND THE DECEMBER COUNCIL MEETING FROM DECEMBER 26TH TO DECEMBER 19TH. DISCUSSION ON THE MOTION-

VOTE ALL AYES, NONE OPPOSED, MEETINGS ARE MOVED.

AGENDA ITEM 3 Accept the October 10th, 2024, Tree City Minutes

MOVED (Moss) SECONDED (Gregory) TO ACCEPT THE MINUTES OF OCTOBER 10TH 2024 TREE CITY MINUTES. NO DISCUSSION

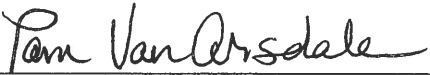
VOTE ALL AYES, NONE OPPOSED, TREE CITY OCTOBER 10TH MINUTES ARE APPROVED.

OTHER BUSINESS: Ballots should be out, the voter drop box is at the Rogue River public library, Ryan suggested dropping your ballots in the ballot box rather than mailing due to the mail going to Portland first. The tree lighting will start at 6:00 pm on December 7th with a gingerbread house contest and a visit from Santa. Trick-or-Treating on October 31 will be from 3-6pm with a parade starting at 3pm. We would appreciate a volunteer to help pass out candy that evening at City Hall. Also, the Community Center will hold an AARP training to teach people how to do taxes for seniors. Help for the Veterans is available twice every month now at the Community Center. Abby's is giving away free pizzas to children on Halloween, and the Grange is giving away free ice cream.

ADJOURN THERE BEING NO FURTHER BUSINESS TO COME BEFORE THE CITY COUNCIL
AND UPON A MOTION DULY MADE (Gregory), SECONDED (Davis) AND CARRIED,
THE MEETING ADJOURNED AT 6:55 P.M.

Next City Council Workshop: Thursday November 7th at 10:AM

ATTEST:

Mayor Pam VanArsdale  Date 11/22/24
Diane Oliver, City Recorder 