

CITY OF ROGUE RIVER

City Council Minutes

THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 18, 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 Pastor Rich Wheeler with the Foots Creek Chapel 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 Jack Bird
City Councilor Pam VanArsdale
City Councilor Rick Kempa
City Councilor Barb Hilty
City Councilor Don Daugherty
City Councilor Barb Gregory via phone

ALSO PRESENT:
Carol Weir, City Recorder
Jim Williams, Chief of Police
Paige Chick, Clerk Typist

MEDIA PRESENT:
Brian Mortensen, Rogue River Press

A quorum was present and due notice had been published.

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Community Relations; Rogue River Chamber of Commerce: City Councilor Rick Kempa reported there was no meeting.

Community Relations; Rogue River Community Center: City Councilor Barb Hilty reported that the Community Center would be holding a Craft Fair on Saturday, December 4, 2021 and she expressed how appreciative they were to receive the grant money for their new food pantry.

Emergency Communication of Southern Oregon: Mayor Wayne Stuart reported there was no meeting.

Finance Committee: City Councilor Don Daugherty reported that they met twice

during the month of October 2021 to review and approve bills as submitted and signed 62-checks totaling \$155,504.60.

Middle Rogue Metropolitan Planning Organization (MRMPO): City Councilor Pam VanArsdale reported met by zoom and discussed the money that the COVID Relief Funds that Rogue River, Gold Hill and the Rogue River Greenway were receiving. She said there was still some discussion on how the Greenway would be spending their money and they would be meeting soon to discuss the process of the expansion of the Greenway from Rogue River to Grants Pass so they would be discussing how to use the COVID money they received. She also commented that they were impressed with the list of projects that Rogue River had submitted and the City of Gold Hill was in need for equipment so they weren't able to do any projects until they had equipment. Everybody was very thankful for the \$270,000 funds they each got and would be going to good use.

Personnel Committee: City Councilor Pam VanArsdale reported they discussed that the Union had approved for the City to hire a second seasonal public works employee. Now they just needed to find someone.

Planning Commission Liaison: City Councilor Barb Gregory reported that she was not able to attend the meeting.

Police Commission: Police Chief Jim Williams said it had been a couple of busy weeks. Over the last two weeks he had two officers were involved in life saving situations. Officer Brett Miller responded to a Heroin overdose of Fentanyl and the person was basically dead. Upon his arrival CPR was in process and Officer Miller used Narcan and was able to revive the individual. Based upon recent use their Narcan supply was running low so he would be ordering more for the officers to have on hand. Over Halloween week Officer Gomez responded to some gentlemen who had been carving a pumpkin and slit his arm and he applied a tourniquet so they would need to be replacing those also. Both officers did a great job and was very proud of them. Chief Williams commented that he was planning to recognize some former officers, Officer Foster for his years a Reserve Officer for the accomplishments he had done for the City, Officer Buren even though he would not be available to attend and former Chief Whipple. He anticipated that the last meeting in December would be more for John Foster. He said that Wednesday, December 1, 2021 at 10:00 a.m. Tailholt Coffee would be hosting "Coffee with a Cop." He said that they had received one application and was expecting another one shortly but continuing to put the word out.

City Councilor Pam VanArsdale asked if the officer was from out of state would there be less training requirements like a lateral say from California or was the training basically the same.

Chief Williams said it could be less if they were post certified they would come up

to Oregon and do a two-week laws class but if they hired a lateral no training would be required. It would be better to get a lateral from Oregon and just put them in Rogue River's Field Training Program.

Rogue Valley Area Commission on Transportation (RVACT): City Councilor Pam VanArsdale reported they canceled the meeting.

Rogue Valley Council of Governments: Mayor Wayne Stuart reported they did not hold a meeting because of Thanksgiving.

Council Advisory Committee: Chair Francis Gilbert reported they met to discuss his recent visit with a couple who lived on Fielder Creek Road who was the first person to call in to dispatch for the recent Fielder Creek Fire. He said their story was compelling and it would be coming out in the Rogue River Press. Their concerns were communication, people did not know each other so trying to communicate with people up and down the road was impossible both because of a lack of knowing their neighbors and for the lack of cell phone reception in the area. The other part was transportation or a one lane road and people could not get out first because of a wall of fire and second because the presence of ODF vehicles which prevented any of the home owners getting back up to their homes. One comment was if you have a Togo bag don't store in the house, keep it in your vehicle. They would have liked more law enforcement at the major intersections to help with the spectators and prevent unnecessary travel on the surrounding roads. He had an appointment with Ann Marie at RVCOG to discuss the Wildfire Cameras. They also gave kudos to the City Council and staff for the recent Conditional Use Permit Revocation Appeal hearing. They discussed what the City had planned to do with the ODOT money but they were concerned with the Evans Creek Road Freeway and the volume of traffic being speeders and the four-way intersection here in town. He also commented that Planning Commissioner Dee Copley had attended their meeting to discuss the Strategic Plan visioning process they were working on.

City Councilor Pam VanArsdale commented that about seven-years ago when she was Mayor they held town hall meetings and conducted surveys in the water bills and surprised to get the number they got. She found that people really didn't feel much differently about Rogue River seven years ago that they did in the 1990's.

Mr. Gilbert concurred with Councilor VanArsdale.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGENDA ITEM 1 **Agreement:** A Retainer Agreement between the City and Michael Franell, Attorney at Law to serve as legal counsel and advisor to the City and its officials and authorized agents.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (DAUGHERTY) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE A

RETAINER AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND MICHAEL FRANELL, ATTORNEY AT LAW TO SERVE AS LEGAL COUNSEL AND ADVISOR TO THE CITY AND ITS OFFICIALS AND AUTHORIZED AGENTS.

AGENDA ITEM 2 **Agreement:** An Intergovernmental Agreement between the City and the Rogue Valley Council of Governments to perform loan administration services and to provide cost reimbursements from the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund.

MOVED (HILTY), SECONDED (DAUGHERTY) AND CARRIED TO APPROVE AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND THE ROGUE VALLEY COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS TO PERFORM LOAN ADMINISTRATION SERVICES AND TO PROVIDE COST REIMBURSEMENTS FROM THE SAFE DRINKING WATER REVOLVING LOAN FUND.

OTHER BUSINESS:

City Councilor Rick Kempa asked if anyone knew about the totem pole being removed by the Rogue River Branch Library and wasn't that owned by the City.

The City had heard about it like everyone else. It did not belong to the City. It was the decision of the Library to have it removed since they apparently no longer wanted it located at their building. The gentleman who made the totem pole would be taking it back to his shop to refurbish it and a new home was being sought for it. Also, it was only half a pole so it needed to be placed against a building again.

City Councilor Don Daugherty asked about the progress of Rooster Park.

City Recorder Carol Weir commented that they were work was being done when materials and people were available to do the work. They were working currently working on the Pavilion but the weather had been a deterrent.

ADJOURN

There being no further business to come before the City Council and upon motion duly made (VANARSDALE), seconded (KEMPA) and carried, the meeting adjourned at 6:29 p.m.

ATTEST:

Carol J. Weir for

Carol J. Weir, MMC
City Recorder