



City of Aumsville



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AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL Minutes – February 11, 2019

Mayor Clevenger called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM in the Chester Bridges Memorial Community Center, 555 Main Street, Aumsville, Oregon. Council present was: Mayor Derek Clevenger, Councilors Gus Bedwell, Nico Casarez, Jim Case, Angelica Ceja, Larry Purdy, and Della Seney. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding) and City Clerk Colleen Rogers (CC Rogers) were also present.

Mayor Clevenger added Chief Schmitz' "No Shave November" fundraiser to the agenda under Presentations. He asked for a motion to approve the agenda as amended. Councilor Casarez made a motion to approve the agenda as amended, adding Chief Schmitz' No Shave November to Presentations. Councilor Purdy seconded. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

VISITORS: There were 29 visitors in the audience and one person asked to speak during the public comment period.

PRESENTATIONS:

Aumsville Historical Society (AHS) President Ted Shepard gave the AHS annual report. He stated that in 2018 they had 60 members, logged 377 volunteer hours, and were open to the public 128 hours. They welcomed 490 guests, including 122 4th graders on a field trip; up 56 from last year. The AHS website had 3,883 visits. President Shepard reported that they had an income of \$2,882, expenses of \$1,809, and ending bank balance of \$8,605.

President Shepard gave an overview of their activities in 2018: Extended hours during Saturday Market and the Corn Festival, hosted a Pacific Northwest Postal History Society (PNWPHS) meeting, entered a float in the 50th anniversary Corn Festival parade. He stated that they will continue to assist contacts from their website and walk in visitors with research about family history. Council thanked him for the report and their ongoing service to the community.

Police Chief Richard Schmitz presented a check for \$680 to the Santiam Hospital "Can Cancer" fund drive. He explained that the Aumsville Police Department participated in the No Shave November event to raise money. It is a great program that helps local families through rough times. Program representative Melissa Bauer talked about ways the money will be used to help families of cancer patients in our local area. She gave an example of little girl in Stayton for

whom the funds covered costs for transportation to treatments and even some of her treatment costs. This little girl is now cancer free. Ms. Bauer stated that currently the fund is helping an Aumsville family; a single mom of a high school student that is fighting cancer. Funds have provided help with the family's utilities, housing, and travel expenses. She thanked Chief Schmitz and the department for their fundraising efforts.

VISITORS:

Aumsville resident Jason Yarmer addressed the council and furnished them with a copy of his comments. He talked about his participation in getting the language amended in the police fee ordinance. He asked Council to honor the will of the people and allow them to vote on the issue of the police fee.

Mr. Yarmer voiced his concern about a poll that was recently posted on Facebook by Mayor Clevenger regarding the lifting of a ban on marijuana dispensaries. He pointed out that Aumsville residents voted to ban these in 2016. He suggested, if Council does decide to bring this back to the table, that Council invite experts to come share current research and applicable data. Mayor Clevenger stated that he would be open to that idea. Mr. Yarmer also voiced his concerns about the manner that Mayor Clevenger communicates on Facebook and gave examples. He thanked Council for their time.

CA Harding clarified that, as far as he knows, we have no issues related to marijuana on our workplan or our agenda currently. It was brought up as a discussion item at the council retreat, and Council consensus was to not go forward with it on our workplan. He stated that he will not move forward on this subject unless Council directs him to. Mayor Clevenger added, for the record, there is nothing on the council agenda for dispensaries. He stated the purpose of the poll was to gauge whether there was community interest to continue the discussion.

Councilor Ceja stated that as individual councilors they cannot push an issue alone. It would have to be voted on, agreed on, and then moved forward. Mr. Yarmer commented that what Councilor Ceja says makes sense to him, but the perception of the public is that if the mayor brings up an issue, it means it is on the table. Mayor Clevenger stated that with that logic he would have difficulty discussing anything with community members. He thanked Mr. Yarmer for his comments and directed Council to move on.

Councilor Bedwell stated that he encourages conversations with the community and believes in the freedom of speech. He urged everyone to join him in making a commitment to think about how we interact on social media and have mutual respect for each other's views. Saying, as a community, we need to do a better job with how we engage our fellow community members.

CONSENT AGENDA: Council reviewed the November 19th, 2018 through February 5th, 2019 check registers, the January 28, 2019 council meeting minutes, and the February 2, 2019 Council Retreat minutes. Councilor Casarez made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Purdy. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

NEW BUSINESS:

Council received the Aumsville Planning Commission (APC) application from Walter Wick to fill

the recently vacated seat that was held by Vicky Barber. Mr. Wick has been attending APC meetings and trainings over the last few months. Councilor Casarez made a motion to appoint Walter Wick to the Aumsville Planning Commission. The motion was seconded by Councilor Ceja. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

Mayor Clevenger explained that one of the things that Council worked on at their retreat was the Council Procedure Manual. CA Harding gave an overview of the updates and explained that these are rules and basic guidelines that Council will govern by. It is up to the council, once it is adopted, to police the document.

Councilor Purdy made a motion to approve updates to the Council Procedure Manual as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Case. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Meeting with Marion County: CA Harding stated that he had a discussion with Marion County (MC) about crosswalks and believes they will approve crosswalks under certain conditions. We are going to work with the MC staff to develop some criteria. He also discussed the old MC Public Works shop. They discussed the barriers to the city taking ownership of that facility. CA Harding believes we can work through those barriers, but it will take a little time. He stated that it was a very positive meeting. He commented that the new Public Works Director is open to partnerships and ideas. They will be looking at possible road projects that the city can tag along on to save money.

Judge appointment: New judge, Stan Butterfield, is on board and held his first court Tuesday February 5th and did a good job.

City Engineer: CA Harding stated that we have our search finalized. He announced that Westech Engineering was selected as our first choice. We are currently working up a contract to bring back to Council at the next meeting.

City Council Retreat: CA Harding said that Council got a lot of work done at the retreat but there are still some unfinished goals. He suggested that Council set another date for a work-session-type meeting to complete those goals. He asked Council how they would like to schedule the work session. Consensus was to meet on a Saturday. CA Harding asked Council to email him Saturday dates that they are available. Mayor Clevenger commented the sooner the better.

Our second Vision Open House: CA Harding stated that there was a good turnout at the second vision open house. He will begin his work with the sub-committee to start developing a detailed plan. He added that the committee work will be over the next few months.

Exchange Club Update: There will be a meeting Wednesday, February 13th, here in the community center at 6:00 PM. CA Harding invited anyone who would like to learn more about the club. He explained that the Exchange Club is a civic group that we have been working on developing in the community. We need 18 members and so far, we have nine committed members. The volunteers are planning a community event in the community center in March.

Summer is coming: We had a productive event planning committee meeting this week. It looks like we will be able to do everything we did last year. CA Harding was able to meet with our PARC about the kid's summer program. Movies in the park on every Saturday night will continue this year. Super Saturdays will include the Super Hero Carnival, a camping event, and talent show. He explained that the camping event could change this year. The committee would like to have a community camping where people could bring their tents and camp overnight. This would require a Council vote to override our no overnight camping ordinance. We are preparing a budget for costs and will be soliciting donations and grants to cover the summer program.

Agenda Format Changes: CA Harding stated that one of the issues Council talked about at the retreat was to change the format of the agenda and make the visioning meeting agenda the same as the regular business meeting. He explained the changes to the public comment period allowing members of the audience to comment on any item except Public Hearings, which has its own comment period built-in. They also added a public comment period under the Good of the Order where the public could ask questions of the council. This wouldn't be a debate period, just a time that the public could ask questions. He passed an example around to Council and asked for their input to go forward with the changes. Consensus was to accept the changes.

CA Harding updated Council on city projects. Public Works staff have finished two projects: The Safe Routes to School project and Wildwood Park expansion. They did a great job getting these projects completed.

Council received Chief Schmitz' Police Department monthly report, Public Works Director Oslie's monthly report, and Staff Team Meeting notes; there was no discussion on any of them.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Councilor Casarez asked CA Harding if the city is still a member of SEDCOR, a mid-valley economic development association that helps traded sector businesses. CA Harding said he would check into it. Councilor Casarez wants the city to do a better job of working with our small businesses to retain them. CA Harding replied that he has a meeting with the Stayton-Sublimity Chamber of Commerce director and he will check with SEDCOR.

Councilor Casarez stated that he has gotten a lot of positive feedback about the open houses we have held recently. The community wants to see more of these types of meetings.

Mayor Clevenger announced that he and CA Harding are going to the County Commissioner breakfast tomorrow morning at the Covered Bridge Café in Stayton. It is mostly city officials, but public the is welcome.

The meeting adjourned without prejudice at 7:51 PM



Ron Harding, City Administrator


Derek Clevenger, Mayor