



City of Aumsville



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AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL Minutes – January 28, 2019

Mayor Clevenger called the meeting to order at 7:02 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 asked Council to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Casarez made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. Councilor Purdy seconded. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

VISITORS: There were 16 visitors in the audience and no person asked to speak during the Public meeting process.

CONSENT AGENDA: Council reviewed the January 9th – 15th, 2019 check registers and the January 14, 2019 council meeting minutes. Councilor Seney 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:

Personal Services Contracts:

Legal Services: CA Harding gave a brief overview of his research of the proposed legal firms. He presented council with three proposals from parties interested in providing services to the City of Aumsville. Each application presents benefits to the city but the application with the most direct city related resources is BEH LLC. The city used them during our current city attorney's recent leave of absence. CA Harding stated that they were very knowledgeable and that having a team of lawyers with different specialties that has made it easier to get answers in a timely manner. CA Harding said the only negative would be that we could not have them attend regular council meetings under our current budget, but they could provide us a much more in-depth representation.

Councilor Ceja asked CA Harding about a statement in the staff report regarding BEH being over budget. CA Harding explained that they would be over budget if we decided to have legal

presence at all our meetings. But, if we only use them for the day to day counsel it would not put us over. He stated that he currently has them reviewing and preapproving agendas and motions. The turnaround has been very timely. Councilor Seney commented that she has been at conferences where BEH representatives have spoken and they seem very knowledgeable. Councilor Bedwell and Councilor Purdy like the idea of having a team approach. Councilor Purdy made a motion to appoint Beery, Elsner, and Hammond LLP as City Attorney of Record, as authorized under the terms of the proposed contract. The motion was seconded by Councilor Casarez. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

Municipal Judge: CA Harding told Council that he has been working with the City of Turner to appoint a judge that we could share in partnership. The City of Aumsville led the effort in finding candidates and ultimately making a recommendation. We narrowed the search down to three. Court Clerk Brenda Campbell attended court session to see how each of them treated folks that came before them. One judge stood out and rose to the top. Staff recommends Stan Butterfield. Councilor Casarez made a motion to appoint Stan Butterfield as City Municipal Judge, providing him with all the authority authorized under the terms of the proposed contract and city charter. The motion was seconded by Councilor Seney. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

Council discussed formally accepting Judge Feitelson's recent verbal resignation. Councilor Purdy made a motion to accept Judge Feitelson's resignation from his position of Aumsville Municipal Judge. Councilor Ceja seconded the motion. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

City Administrator Contract: Council received the proposed updates to the City Administrator's personal services contract. There was no discussion. Councilor Seney made a motion to approve updates to City Administrator's contract as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Casarez. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

Public Works Position: Resolution 02-19 A RESOLUTION CREATING A NEW POSITION OF ASSISTANT PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR AND AUTHORIZING 2018-19 BUDGET APPROPRIATION TRANSFERS. CA Harding explained that it has been a goal of Council to work on succession plans for our city in an effort to be able to attract and retain high quality employees. Councilor Purdy point out how important it is that we maintain current staffing and having a plan that allows them grow into leadership.

Councilor Bedwell made a motion that Council adopt Resolution 02-19 as presented. Councilor Purdy seconded the motion. Secondary motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Case, Casarez Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

CA Harding brought a possible Legislative Bill, LC3299, that is being proposed having to do with who can impose fire ban/burn ban. Currently bans are imposed by the local fire departments. The bill would allow any one mayor or fire chief the authority to impose a county wide burn ban. He just wanted to bring it to Council's attention in case someone asks them about it.

VISIONING SESSION:

CA Harding updated Council with the "State of the City" annual report. He started by talking about managing priorities. He explained that managing risk is always his first priority for the city.

He explained some of the challenges that he has been working through this last year with finances, administration, aging water & sewer systems, streets, and parks.

CA Harding talked about the projects and accomplishments that he and staff have completed. Here is a list of some of them:

- Established a 90-day operating contingency in each fund. We are on track to meet this goal.
- Current budget is sustainable into the next 5 years and beyond.
- Improved communication with public through surveys, updates to newsletter, and posted City Administrator contact information on city website.
- Main Street beautification; flower baskets and new Christmas decorations.
- Launched a series of public meetings to begin work on the Vision Plan update.
- Secured grant funding to update city codes.
- Completed the drilling of a new well head at Tower Well.
- Started a leak detection protocol to track water loss.
- Undertaking an efficiency assessment by a subject matter expert to see if we can improve on our sewer treatment process.
- Formed a regional partnership to study and identify storm water issues in our area and are developing mitigation plans to address them.
- Completed the Safe Routes to School project.
- Conducted a number of sidewalk replacements and repairs around town.
- Received grant funding to repair Michael Way failing street surface.
- Changed our Development Ordinance to require future developments to donate park property.
- Received a 75K grant to install restrooms to Wildwood Park. Completed including new covered shelters and sidewalks.
- Updated our Park Master Plan

In addition to many accomplishments CA Harding discussed many of the city's challenges having to do with aging infrastructure. The city is short on water rights, we need additional storage capacity as well as additional improvements to our delivery system. It's important that we prioritize our potable water system to ensure safe clean drinking water.

CA Harding also discussed specific challenges with our sewer system. It's important to remember that processing the community's waste is a large undertaking and this ability to properly dispose of this waste is required by the state. CA Harding said that we will be looking

at ways to improve our wastewater system and these improvements will be critical as the city moves forward.


CA Harding outlined challenges in operations, policy, infrastructure, and maintenance of all city facilities. He said these issues are not unique to Aumsville, it's just our job to address them in a competent manner. He wanted council to have this overview before we set our work goals for the year. CA Harding said all-in-all the city has had a great year accomplishing a lot in a short period of time, but we have a lot of work ahead of us.

Aumsville resident Mona Hudson asked about the city's plans to expand our urban growth boundary (UGB). CA Harding stated that we are looking at expanding the UGB. We have started a process and it will be discussed at the upcoming council meeting or work session.

GOOD OF THE ORDER: Councilor Bedwell asked about following up on the request from the Sloane family. CA Harding stated that the police department has been placing the new radar data equipment around town in the trouble spots. They will gather the data from it to help determine how to proceed. He added that the requests from the Sloane family and the Aumsville Community Theatre group will be discussed at the upcoming Council Retreat.

Mayor Clevenger announced that he talked to the principal of Cascade about utilizing some of the high school programs and involving students in some of the city events, like the Corn Festival. He will be meeting with them on January 30th to discuss this. Mayor Clevenger and CA Harding met with Senator Merkley office on January 25th and discussed some of the issues the city is facing.

The meeting adjourned without prejudice at 9:22 PM



Ron Harding, City Administrator



Derek Clevenger, Mayor