

## City of Aumsville

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## AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL VISION MEETING & EXECUTIVE SESSION Minutes, May 22, 2017

Mayor Baugh called the meeting to order at 7:03 PM in the Chester Bridges Memorial Community Center, 555 Main Street, Aumsville, Oregon.

Council present were Mayor Robert Baugh, Jr., Councilors Brian Czarnik, Della Seney, Lorie Walters, Gabe Clayton, Kevin Crawford, and Trina Lee. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding) and City Clerk Colleen Rogers (CC Rogers) were also present.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Council reviewed the May 8, 2017 through May 15, 2017 Check Registers and the May 8, 2017 Aumsville City Council Meeting Minutes. <u>Councilor Seney made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented.</u> <u>Councilor Czarnik seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.</u>

**VISIONING/GOALS DISCUSSION:** Council reviewed the information gathered through the partnership with University of Oregon students who conducted a Design charrette. CA Harding presented a slide show made up of information from the charrette and the recent council retreat. Goals, vision principles, focus discussion, sense of place, beautification, green space, murals, art, and branding were the discussion points.

Council explored what "sense of place" meant to them and if they visualized a themed Main Street; they talked about creating green space and adding street trees. Councilor Lee asked if existing businesses would have to plant trees. CA Harding explained that our current code requires new businesses to plant street trees as part of their permit process. We would ask existing businesses to participate, but they would not be required unless they apply for a new development or business that would trigger that requirement. There was discussion about branding and having an art theme. CA Harding showed a slide show that had examples from other cities like murals, community art, military memorials and market places. This intent was to show Council how some cities developed a theme, but also that our city didn't necessarily need to develop a theme. Having something that could bring continuity from one end of our community to the other would accomplish that sense of place. Community events that gather citizens in a positive way also help to create a sense of place.

CA Harding suggested that we incorporate the design of our welcome sign and the motto "A Great Place to Live" and it was discussed. Community art focused on families can create emotional connections. Suggestions like murals, benches, or art scattered along Main St. were discussed at length. Council consensus was to move forward with creating a family logo and branding.

CA Harding commented that, by branding and adding art elements consistently throughout the city business district, you create an atmosphere that attracts people to the community and to the

businesses. He suggested that we need to start now because branding of this type will take years to develop. He added that grant dollars could be available for some of our ideas. Mayor Baugh suggested that requiring power companies to install underground power lines should be part of our Comprehensive Plan.

Council was asked to share some ideas of the direction they would like to go. The following items were discussed and general consensus was these were all things that could help creating that sense of community and pleasant community environment.

- Underground power lines.
- Street trees pick a specific tree type to keep consistency. Sign up for Tree City USA Arbor Day events. Cultivate a tree plan.
- Make the city more walkable.
- Cultivate service groups and create an entry sign listing the groups.
- Small art elements throughout the city. The charrette called these elements Easter Eggs.
- More bike lanes.
- Community branding and art.
- Ornamental street light poles with flags/decorations/flower baskets/advertisement/military recognition/community directional signs.
- Drinking fountains downtown.
- Consistency of parking on Main St. Look at safety concerns of diagonal parking in front of businesses.

CA Harding suggested that at the next vision meeting Council do a high level review of codes. There are contradictions and inconsistencies in our code that need to be cleaned up. Mayor Baugh would like to have the Aumsville Planning Commission review the codes first. It was decided that the next meeting will continue to focus more on our branding and Main Street.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:** The council convened at 8:39 PM to meet under the authority of ORS 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. This meeting was recorded.

This was an executive session and the discussion is off the record, matters discussed are not to be disclosed. No decision may be made in Executive Session.

Council reconvened to Open Session at 10:00 PM.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION OUTCOME:** Councilor Walters moved to approve all adjustments to the current salary step plans and benefits as proposed by CA Harding and FO Hoyer, effective July 1, 2017, with the change to the increase of accrued vacation to 200 as a cap effective immediately. Councilor Crawford seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned without objection at 10:02 PM

Robert W. Baugh, Jr., Mayor

Ron Harding, City Administrator