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AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL

Minutes – November 8, 2021

Councilor Casarez called the meeting to order at 7:06 PM. Present in person were, Councilors Nico Casarez, Doug Ecclestone, City Administrator (CA) Ron Harding, and City Clerk Colleen Rogers. Councilors Scott Lee, Della Seney, and Walter Wick joined via Zoom Conference call. Council absent: Mayor Clevenger and Councilor Angelica Ceja. The meeting was video recorded to be released later.

In the absence of Mayor Clevenger and Council President Angelica Ceja, Councilor Casarez asked for a motion to appoint someone to chair the meeting. Councilor Doug Ecclestone moved to appoint Councilor Casarez as Chair for this meeting. Councilor Wick seconded the motion. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

AGENDA APPROVAL: Councilor Ecclestone moved to approve the agenda as presented by staff. Councilor Seney seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

PRESENTATIONS: Water System Improvement Work Overview by Chris Brugato Westech Engineering. CA Harding stated that the purpose for this presentation is to provide some updated information and to bring Council's focus and perspective into the tasks we have ahead of us. Brugato gave some background citing four high priority projects that were outlined in the 2015 Water Master Plan: Water Rights Management; Evaluation of Water Supply Options; New Water Supply Well; and New Water Storage Tank and Booster Pump Station.

Brugato explained the process of obtaining new water rights certificates and making changes to existing water rights. He updated Council on the City's current water rights and where they are in the process of obtaining certificates for the new Tower Well and Boone Park/Church Well. Moving on to new water supply options, he stated that new groundwater rights are not available and suggested that the best option is to make use of the City's existing water rights. Brugato explained that the City has about 400 gpm of water rights that are available but aren't currently being pumped.

In summary, Brugato told Council that the water rights management work is complete, and the city is currently waiting to hear from Oregon Water Resources Department (OWRD). He stated that it could take 18 to 24 months to complete the water rights process before wells can be drilled. CA Harding explained that the city is working on funding for drilling and developing two new wells, and the construction of a new ground storage tank and booster pump station. A brief discussion followed the presentation.

VISITORS AND PUBLIC COMMENT: There were no online attendees and no in-person attendees. Login information was provided for members of the community to make public comment at this time and listen to the discussion.

CONSENT AGENDA: Council reviewed the October 25, 2021 Council meeting minutes. Councilor Seney moved to approve the consent agenda as presented. Councilor Ecclestone seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

PUBLIC HEARING: None

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS:

Council reviewed Resolution No. 20-21 A Resolution Establishing Updated City Service Fees and Public Records/Information Request Policy. CA Harding gave brief overview of the changes to the fee schedule. Councilor Seney moved to approve Resolution 20-21 updating the City Services Fees and Public Records/Information Request Policy as presented by staff. Councilor Ecclestone seconded. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

Council reviewed the Affidavit for the Partial Diminution of a Water Right Certificate. Public Works Assistant Director Matt Etzel explained that Santiam Water Control District (SWCD) contacted the City regarding a well that isn't owned by the City but is located on property that was donated to Mill Creek Park and the City has partial water rights. OWRD only allow one primary source. The well was used for irrigation prior to the donation to the city, the city never used it. The City now uses water from Mill Creek under a certificate from SWCD to irrigate the park. He cited that the Affidavit doesn't cancel or terminate the water right but would move it to a secondary source status. Councilor Seney moved to approve the affidavit for partial diminution of water right certificate 24155 provided by Santiam Water Control District. Councilor Ecclestone seconded the motion. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

Farm Lease Transfer: CA Harding gave a staff report. He explained that the City of Aumsville currently has a lease with Butler Farms LLC. The lease ends in September 2022. Butler Farms has sent a letter to the city asking to be released from the lease. Tim Bielenberg is willing to take over the lease with interest in increasing the lease agreement length. Councilor Ecclestone

moved to approve the Lease transfer from Butler Farms LLC to Tim Bielenberg for the remainder of the current lease ending in 2022. Councilor Seney seconded the motion. Motion APPROVED 5-0: (Yes: Councilors Casarez, Ecclestone, Lee, Seney, and Wick. No: None.)

City Administrator Report: CA Harding updated Council on some of the upcoming city events. Staff are busy getting ready for Santa Visits and Christmas in the Park. The event will be December 11th this year. The Event Planning Committee will meet the first week of December to finalize all the details.

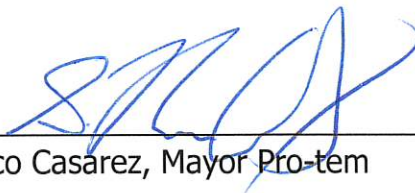
MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS AND INITIATIVES: Councilor Casarez asked if there were any reports or initiatives from Council. There were none.

CORRESPONDENCE: Council received a letter from a citizen regarding a land use and nuisance ordinance enforcement issues. CA Harding stated that the city is working with the homeowner to resolve the issue.

Councilor Casarez adjourned the meeting without prejudice at 7:57 PM



Ron Harding, City Administrator



Nico Casarez, Mayor Pro-tem