



City of Aumsville



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AUMSVILLE CITY COUNCIL Minutes – November 25, 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. Council absent were none. City Administrator Ron Harding (CA Harding), Police Chief Schmitz, and City Clerk Colleen Rogers (CC Rogers) were also present.

Approval of Agenda: Mayor Clevenger asked for a motion to approve the agenda. Councilor Bedwell asked to add an acknowledgement of the Aumsville Exchange Club (AEC) and the work that they have done. Councilor Casarez motioned to approve the agenda with the addition of the recognition. Councilor Bedwell seconded. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Casarez, Case, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

PRESENTATION: Marion County Commissioner Sam Brentano, Tyree Wilde from the National Weather Service, and Krista Carter and Kathleen Silva from Marion County Emergency Services presented Police Chief Schmitz and the City of Aumsville with a StormReady Certificate and road sign. Mr. Wilde stated that they were there to recognize the city for successfully achieving the StormReady status. He gave an overview of the StormReady Program stating that it is a National Weather Service voluntary community preparedness program. The primary goal is to improve public safety during weather related emergencies. The program also provides the framework for communities to set up a preparedness plan. StormReady certification isn't an easy designation to achieve as there are four cornerstones to the recognition: 1. The community must have a 24-hour warning/911 center to get weather warnings and be able to set up an emergency operation center; 2. Develop a system to monitor weather conditions; 3. Have an active community education outreach such as the local CERT program; 4. Develop an emergency hazardous weather plan. The designation is good for three years. The city will go through a review process at the end of the three-year period to ensure that they still meet the criteria for renewal. Mr. Wilde explained there is a monetary incentive for communities that participate. They earn points through a community rating system that could reduce flood insurance for residents living in a floodplain.

Marion County Emergency Services' Krista Carter talked about her experience working with

Chief Schmitz and appreciated the city agreeing to be the first to go through the process. She stated that she and Kathleen Silva enjoyed working with the Aumsville team. Chief Schmitz and CA Harding thanked Marion County for all their hard work and guidance to achieve the certification.

Councilor Bedwell recognized the Aumsville Exchange Club (AEC) and stated the recent Veterans Day event went better than anyone expected. AEC President Katie Wallace introduced other club members that were present; Elizabeth Wolf, Nancy and Sam McPhail, Dayadevi Heart, Chief Schmitz, Ron Harding, and Gus Bedwell. She stated that they have had a productive first year. They have 16 members that worked together to volunteer for various community events including; Super Hero Carnival, lunches for the PARC children's program, Corn Festival corn husking, and the recent Veterans social. Some members will be working at Polk County fairgrounds as a fundraiser for the club. She stated that a membership drive is their next priority and would like to encourage other community members to get involved. They plan to volunteer at the Christmas in the Park event on December 14th and they are doing a bottle drive. Their motto is "Exchange Time for a Better Community". Councilor Bedwell added that the guest speaker at the Veterans event, Paul Evans, will be coming back to Aumsville to work with local veterans on how to advocate for themselves.

VISITORS:

There were 14 visitors in the audience, and one asked to speak during the public comment period. Aumsville resident Dottie Hass addressed Council with her concern about dogs being off leash in city parks. She likes to walk her two dogs on leash and worries that if the dogs that are off leash could come after her and her dogs. She asked if there could be a sign put up at the park to keep dogs on a leash. CA Harding stated that he would review our ordinances regarding off leash rules on public property.

CONSENT AGENDA: Council reviewed the October 28, 2019 council meeting minutes. Councilor Casarez moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Seney seconded. Motion APPROVED 7-0: (Yes: Clevenger, Bedwell, Casarez, Case, Ceja, Purdy, and Seney. No: None.)

OLD BUSINESS: None

NEW BUSINESS: None

CITY ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Council received the recent Portland State University preliminary 2019 population estimate. They have Aumsville's population listed at 4130.

Council also received for review with no discussion:

- Chief Schmitz' Monthly Police Report
- Public Works Director Osie's Public Works Report
- October 18, 2019 through November 15, 2019 Check Registers
- October 16, 2019 and November 13, 2019 Staff Team Meeting Notes

CA Harding announced that the city has launched a new Community Survey that consists of questions regarding the mailing of the newsletter and customer service. Some of the questions are the same as we asked on our last survey. We will use the first survey as a benchmark and the new one to measure our improvement or weak areas. So far about 60 surveys have come in. Overall good feedback. We need more people to do the survey. He asked Council to spread the link. We are hoping for at least 200-300 surveys to be able to give us a better measure of how we are doing.

CA Harding gave a quick update on projects that city staff are working on.

- Employee desk manuals are near completion.
- Archive file project is well underway.
- Events tents have been delivered and a test setup has been done.
- Code update is moving along at an accelerated rate.
- The Vision Plan is nearing draft form. It will go to the Vision Committee for another review.
- Water loss tracking is showing an improvement in the amount of water the city loses to leaks and unaccounted use. The numbers are down to 7% from 17% loss. We contribute this to tightening of the system and locating and fixing a couple of leaks. Also, the Tower Well meter may have been having incorrect reads and has been replaced. We also want to make sure the current rate of loss continues to move down to confirm some of our assumptions.
- DEQ Memorandum of Action: CA Harding met with DEQ today and he feels good about where we are with working with them. The process will outline a plan to get the city to a treatment level that aligns with the permit requirements. This will likely come to Council their first meeting in January.
- Website sample was sent out to Council for review and asked for Council input.
- A work party to assemble the lighted umbrellas for Christmas in the Park is scheduled at 10:00 AM on December 3rd in community center.
- It is time to update the community center chairs. CA Harding stated that there is money in the contingency, but we will need to do a budget amendment for purchase of the new chairs. He stated that the old chairs have little value and asked Council if they would be open to donating the old chairs to a non-profit such as the community theatre. We will replace them with folding chairs. The options of plastic, hard metal, and metal with padding were discussed. Council consensus was to donate the old chairs and purchase new ones.

Councilor Casarez asked about Council work sessions that were discussed at the last meeting. CA Harding stated that he wasn't able to get the presentation consultants on board for a December work session but will be able to have something prepared for Council

in January. The first session will be in January with a focus on water rates and the Public Works office updates.

Councilor Purdy inquired if we had received the requested written report from the Corn Festival Board that Council had requested at a previous meeting. CA Harding answered that he has not received anything, but he has been in contact with the board.

MAYOR/COUNCIL REPORTS AND INITIATIVES: None

GOOD OF THE ORDER: None

CORRESPONDENCE: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: None

The meeting adjourned without prejudice at 7:37 PM



Ron Harding, City Administrator



Derek Clevenger, Mayor