

Mayor & Council - Minutes

Thursday, July 02, 2015

Minutes

July 2, 2015

12:00 p.m.

Medford City Hall, Council Chambers
411 West Eighth Street, Medford, Oregon

The regular meeting of the Medford City Council was called to order at 12:00 noon in the Council Chambers of the Medford City Hall on the above date with the following members and staff present:

Mayor Gary Wheeler; Councilmembers Clay Bearson, Daniel Bunn, Chris Corcoran, Dick Gordon, Tim Jackle, Kevin Stine, Michael Zarosinski

City Manager Pro Tem Bill Hoke; Acting City Attorney Kevin McConnell; Deputy City Recorder Karen Spoons

Councilmember Eli Matthews was absent.

20. Approval or correction of the minutes of the June 18, 2015 regular meeting

There being no additions or corrections, the minutes were approved as presented.

30. Oral requests and communications from the audience

Mayor Wheeler thanked staff for the new gavel.

30.1 Friends of Medford Parks and Recreation Awards

Parks and Recreation Brian Sjothun presented the annual Friends of Medford Parks and Recreation Awards. This year's award winners are: Individual – Gerald Hall; Business – State Farm Insurance; Community Service Group – Special Olympics Oregon, Jackson County; and Youth Individual or Group – S.F. Giants Community Fund. Mayor Wheeler thanked all of the volunteers.

Mr. Sjothun invited Council to the Torch Relay for the Special Olympics World Games Sunday at the Harry & David Field.

30.2 Steve Sartin, 253 E. Main, stated that he was sitting on the fence pertaining to the opening of OMMP dispensaries although he has smoked marijuana since he was 18. The average stereotype that goes with pot smokers is such a mixed bag; after researching how marijuana helps people with various illnesses he is now on a mission to help those who need marijuana for medical reasons.

30.3 Phil Carvallo, owner of Patients Helping Patients, urged Council to approve medical marijuana dispensaries.

Acting City Attorney McConnell stated that there is still litigation with Mr. Carvallo and we are not allowed to speak to him.

40. Consent calendar

50. Items removed from consent calendar

60. Ordinances and resolutions

60.1 COUNCIL BILL 2015-71 Ordinance authorizing execution of a contract in the total amount of \$1,874,223.26 with Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon to provide police and fire dispatch services for fiscal year 2015-16.

Motion: Adopt the ordinance authorizing execution of a contract in the total amount of

\$1,874,223.26 with Emergency Communications of Southern Oregon to provide police and fire dispatch services for fiscal year 2015-16.

Moved by: Daniel Bunn

Seconded by: Chris Corcoran

Roll call: Councilmembers Bearnson, Bunn, Corcoran, Gordon, Jackle, Stine, and Zarosinski voting yes.

Ordinance # 2015-71 was duly adopted.

60.2 COUNCIL BILL 2015-72 Ordinance authorizing execution of an Agreement between the City of Medford and Teamsters Local 223/Medford Municipal Mechanics concerning wages, hours, fringe benefits, and other working conditions retroactive from July 1, 2014, through June 30, 2018.

Staff requested this be pulled from the agenda.

60.3 COUNCIL BILL 2015-73 Ordinance providing for the compensation of the City Manager Pro Tem.

Motion: Adopt the ordinance providing for the compensation of the City Manager Pro Tem.

Councilmember Bunn noted that this is the same compensation package that was awarded previously. Councilmember Corcoran remarked that was four years ago after former City Manager Mike Dyal retired. Councilmember Stine questioned the car allowance of \$750 a month; Human Resource Director Mike Snyder noted that it was the same amount that was given the last time. Councilmember Stine questioned which employees have a car allowance and if there is a formula that states how much to give. Mr. Snyder stated that upper management does have a car allowance. Mr. Hoke stated that his contract was negotiated with the Mayor and there was no formula. Councilmember Corcoran stated that one would think that you are behind a desk and questioned how much time Mr. Hoke is away from the office; Mr. Hoke noted that he is out about one-third of the time, either driving or walking. He also takes care of Economic Development. Councilmember Corcoran noted that with Economic Development you are tasked with driving potential clients around.

Moved by: Daniel Bunn

Seconded by: Clay Bearnson

Roll call: Councilmembers Bearnson, Bunn, Corcoran, Gordon, Jackle, Stine, and Zarosinski voting yes.

Ordinance #2015-73 was duly adopted.

Mayor Wheeler thanked Mr. Hoke for stepping up as City Manager Pro Tem.

70. Council business

a. Councilmember Bunn stated that there is a new process on collecting the transient lodging tax although it is more burdensome on staff.

b. Media opportunities are available should any Councilmember be interested.

c. Councilmember Bunn mentioned that we will again be sending letters to the editor.

d. The State of the City address will be Thursday, July 13 at the Rogue Valley Country Club.

e. The proposed design of a new conference table for the Medford Room was presented. The large tree which was removed from the new parking lot was sent to a mill in Central Point and will be used for various applications, such as this table. If Council approves, the table will be made to fit the room. City Manager Pro Tem Hoke stated that the drawing is from Prison Industries and their work is good; Assistant Parks and Recreation Director McKown is taking the lead on this project. Mr. Hoke further stated that since we are redoing the audio/video in the Medford Room we thought this would be a nice compliment.

f. Councilmember Jackle questioned if we still have the grace period for the transient lodging tax ordinance. Finance Director Chan noted that the ordinance is on her to do list and there will be

clarification on the ordinance.

g. Councilmember Corcoran noted there is a position open for the youth member on the Parks and Recreation Commission; Preston Jernigan was interviewed for the position and Councilmember Corcoran remarked how impressed he was with this young man.

Motion: Appoint Preston Jernigan to serve as youth member on the Parks and Recreation Commission

Moved by: Chris Corcoran

Seconded by: Clay Bearnson

Roll call: Councilmembers Bearnson, Bunn, Corcoran, Gordon, Jackle, Stine, and Zarosinski voting yes.

Motion carried and so ordered.

h. Councilmember Gordon expressed concern with the planning on the transient lodging tax and the draft contract with Travel Medford. Mr. Hoke remarked that the draft was sent to Council to solicit remarks and that the Chamber is working on their part. Mr. Hoke requested comments be sent to him so that they can be presented to the negotiating team. Councilmember Gordon noted that he did that with the first go-around but there are still errors pertaining to the names on the contract. Mr. Hoke requested Councilmember Gordon meet with him after the meeting.

80. City Manager and other staff reports

80.1 Wetlands update

Planning Director Jim Huber presented the wetlands update. A wetlands consultant had presented a wetland inventory as part of the Urban Reserve. This is part of the urban growth amendment process and must comply with Goal 5. There was an open house in March where all property owners were invited and a meeting last night to present the draft report. The total study area is over 6,000 acres. The next step is to compile the data, refine the draft report and receive more public input. Once approved by the State, Planning staff will incorporate it into the Comprehensive Plan. Council will see this again Spring of next year.

Councilmember Corcoran questioned if it was known wetlands or in buildable lands; Mr. Huber remarked that this won't affect the buildable lands too much and is what they have expected.

80.2 Further reports from City Manager

a. Recruitment Process for the City Manager

Mr. Hoke requested Council's input on the City Manager recruitment process by the end of next week. He stated that there is flexibility for Council to get into the process and is designed to keep us within legal requirements. Mr. Hoke remarked that Human Resources Director Mike Snyder and Purchasing Agent Jennifer Huston were both involved in this as well.

Councilmember Jackle questioned if a Citizens' Committee will be appointed and if so, he would like to get them involved now so that we can receive their input as well. Mr. Hoke noted that you can add the citizen input anytime you like but expressed caution with an interview committee too large as it needs to be manageable. The intent all along was that there would be a Citizens' Committee. Councilmember Jackle would like their input even with the headhunter as he has never done this before. Councilmember Corcoran agreed with Councilmember Jackle's comments and many in the community have more experience than councilmembers do. Council discussed public meeting laws. Mayor Wheeler thought we should select three or four executives in our community that have experience with this. Councilmember Bunn noted that we can get this going and the committee shouldn't delay the process. Councilmember Corcoran did not want to issue the Request for Qualifications (RFQ) until a committee looks at this. Councilmember Jackle agreed.

90. Propositions and remarks from the Mayor and Councilmembers

90.1 Proclamations issued: None

90.2 Further Council committee reports

a. Councilmember Zarosinski questioned what the process is for the RFQ; Mr. Hoke noted that we can start with the input needed from Council on who they want on the Citizens Committee.

Councilmember Bearson questioned if we can put a cap on the number of Chamber members. Mayor Wheeler noted that the focus will be on the qualifications of the executive. Councilmember Bunn stated that a formal vote can be taken on July 16. Mayor Wheeler requested all information be brought back to staff by the end of next week.

90.3 Further remarks from Mayor and Councilmembers

a. Mayor Wheeler stated that there is a Council Study Session immediately following this meeting pertaining to Federal Lobbyist and there will be an Executive Session prior to the evening session at 6:45 p.m. tonight. He remarked that the meeting tonight may not start at 7:00 p.m.

100. Adjournment to the Council Study Session located in the Medford Room

Council adjourned to the Council Study Session at 1:02 p.m.