
CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY

Verl Pressnall At Large, Position 1
Steve Irving At Large, Position 2
Edwin E. Chesnut (CL President) At Large, Position 3

Lewis S. Key Mayor
John Lyon Ward 1
Bradley J. Humbert Ward 2
Jose Garcia Ward 3

**CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES****July 13, 2020**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, July 13, 2020 at 7:00 p.m. via virtual platform “Zoom” due to COVID-19 and practicing social distancing to stay in compliance with the Executive Orders Issued by Governor Kate Brown.

The following City Council members participated: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Steve Irving, Jose Garcia, Verl Pressnall, Ed Chesnut and John Lyon.

Councilor Brad Humbert was absent.

Staff members participating were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman and Public Works Technician Steven Patten.

Guests and citizens participating were: Steven Duh of Conservation Technix and Tina Kain joining the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Representing the news media was Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald.

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council Minutes from June 8, 2020
- Accounts payables from June 3, 2020 through June 15, 2020
- Accounts payables from June 16, 2020 through July 7, 2020
- Liquor License for Fast Mart, 629 S. Main
- Liquor License for Tony’s Bar and Grill, 1004 S. Main

Councilor Irving motioned to adopt the consent calendar items. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

BUSINESS ITEMS:**RESOLUTION NO. 2426, ADOPTION OF PARKS AND RECREATION MASTER PLAN**

Engineering Technician Steven Patten stated at the last council meeting there was a request from the council to allow the parks staff to review and comment on the parks and recreation master plan. The following comments were received: a request for a designated dog park, additional walking paths with exercise stations, the parking lot by the Golf Course and Shockman field to be paved and painted, add additional parking lots and improve existing lots and equipment replacement.

Councilor Chesnut suggested the minutes from this meeting be included with the master plan to capture the comments.

Manager Hall suggested having the fact sheet that also listed the comments instead of the council minutes since it would capture the specific comments and not the whole council meeting dialogue.

Councilor Chesnut stated that seemed reasonable.

Councilor Chesnut motion to adopt Resolution No. 2426, Resolution adopting the City of Milton-Freewater's Parks and Recreation Master Plan with the inclusion of the parks crew comments. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2427, DECLARING OLD FLAG POLE SURPLUS PROPERTY

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman stated the flag pole formerly located at the traffic island by Rite Aid was discovered to have a large crack in it and was deemed a safety hazard. Staff removed the pole and Manager Hall has been seeking grant funding to help with the expense of replacing it. Staff has received inquiries about the pole that was removed and would like to have it deemed surplus so they can put it out to bid. The pole is made of aluminum and is 50 feet tall. If the pole were to be sold as scrap metal, at today's price, it would realize \$71.25 which will be the minimum bid amount accepted by a bidder.

Councilor Irving asked where thing stood with obtaining the grant funding to replace the flag pole.

Manager stated the city was very fortunate to be awarded a grant from the Milton-Freewater Area Foundation for \$6,500. Mr. Steadman and Mr. Patten have done a great job researching a replacement pole which they have settled on a hurricane rated pole and a flag that will match the size of the pole. Manager Hall has submitted a grant request to Eurus and is expecting to hear something around July 15th if the application was successful.

Mr. Steadman stated the factory that makes the pole that staff is proposing is running at 50% capacity due to COVID-19 so it may be some time before it's received.

Manager Hall stated the pole has been ordered and thanked Councilor Irving for his help.

Councilor Pressnall motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2427, Resolution declaring one (1) 50' long cracked aluminum flag pole to be surplus. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2428, AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FUND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT NO. 34334

Public Works Superintendent Brian Steadman stated each year the city is allotted funding for roadway improvements. This is received from the Federal Government through the State of Oregon with an exchange rate of 94% to the City and 6% to the State for administrative costs. There are no funding match requirements. There is \$303,227.46 in the account and the funds are received in the form of reimbursement for actual reimbursable allowed expenses. Staff has requested funding from the program to rent and purchase crack sealing equipment and materials in the amount of approximately \$20,000 which is an allowed use of the funds. Crack sealing helps eliminate ways for water to penetrate surfaces and erode the base below the asphalt protecting the longevity of the pavement.

Councilor Chesnut motion to adopt Resolution No. 2428, Resolution authorizing signature to the 2020 Fund Exchange Agreement No. 34334 with the State of Oregon to fund the rental of crack sealing equipment and purchase of crack sealing materials. Councilor Garcia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2429, AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT WITH UMATILLA COUNTY ROAD DEPARTMENT FOR CHIP SEALING ON VARIOUS CITY STREETS

Mr. Steadman stated the City was named in House Bill 2017 (HB2017) to receive \$3,000,000 for street and pedestrian improvements. Staff was proposing to use some of these funds to perform chip seal work on various city streets, which is an allowable use. Mr. Steadman worked with Umatilla County Public Works Director, Tom Fellows on a plan for the county road crew to perform the work for the city since they have the equipment. The project would entail chip sealing Main Street from Fry's True Value north to Broadway then continuing on North Main through downtown Freewater, taking a left on NW 8th Avenue then right on Lamb to the end of city limits. The approximate cost is \$40,000 for costs and \$50,000 for materials. The chip rock would be purchased separately through the city bidding process.

Councilor Chesnut stated he was pleased to see collaboration between the city and county on this project.

Manager Hall agreed and commended Mr. Steadman and his crew for working with the county.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the materials being used on the project.

Councilor Pressnall motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2429, Resolution authorizing signature to the 2020 Chip Sealing Intergovernmental Agreement with the Umatilla County Road Department to perform chip seal work on city streets for an approximate amount of \$90,000. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

AUTHORIZATION FOR CITY MANAGER TO OFFER RENEWAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT FOR THE GOLF COURSE RESTAURANT WITH AMENDED TERMS

Manager Hall stated Tina and Robert Riedel have leased the Golf Course Restaurant for the past 5 years doing business as The Upper Nine. They have indicated they are interested in continuing the lease. Manager Hall stated although the basic terms of the agreement would remain the same, there were some recommended amendments to the agreement such as increasing their rent from \$350 a month to \$500 per month and adding a few more maintenance obligations onto the renter like changing light bulbs and unclogging toilets, etc. They will continue to pay the cost of utilities. The Riedel's had a few requests as well, they would like to be able to close down the restaurant two times a year to do deep cleaning and sanitizing and an additional five days a year for emergency circumstances. In both cases they would post notices on the door of the closure. Another request Ms. Riedel asked for was for the city to add under the landlord's obligation the repair and maintenance of the exhaust hood motor and belt. Manager Hall stated staff would agree to that. Ms. Riedel offered to split the cost of repairs to the walk-in and 2-door freezer which staff agreed to and was very appreciative of her offer.

Councilor Irving said Ms. Riedel has been open well beyond the original hours posted. He has noticed if a golf tournament runs late, she has remained open to serve those patrons.

Mayor Key stated the restaurant is off the beaten path which makes it hard for the restaurant. He said when he gets the chance he takes his clients there to eat.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to authorize City Manager to offer the renewal of the golf course restaurant lease on the presented terms. Councilor Garcia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

DICUSSION ITEM:

UPDATE/PROGRESS REPORT ON CITY COUNCIL GOALS ADOPTED JANUARY 9, 2017

Manager Hall said she was asked by Councilor Humbert to move the goal of a new police station up on the priority list. She offered to take any one of the councilors on a tour of the current police department as she compared it to a maze. The City owns the lot across the street from City Hall back parking lot off Columbia Street. There was an old house and garage that was demolished a couple years ago for the purpose of one day possibly building a new police and dispatch building on the lot. The ground has been leveled and there are utilities available to the location. She said she would suggest a General Obligation Bond measure to be placed on the ballot in 2021 to fund the project and it would require a vote of the citizens. She understands that the time is appropriate and favorable for municipal bonds. She spoke to School Superintendent Aaron Duff to find out who they used when they were going through the process of building Gib Olinger Elementary School. Mr. Duff indicated he was very pleased with working with Hawkins Delafield and Wood out of Portland, Oregon. She stated she was looking for a consensus to move forward with a preliminary design and estimate. The project would include the police officers and dispatchers to keep them together.

Mayor Key asked if the new city hall elevator reached the basement.

Manager Hall stated it did go to the basement.

A discussion ensued regarding the holding cells and which ballot the measure would be placed on, the May primary ballot or the November general election ballot in order to allow for adequate time to give the voters as much information as possible about the project.

Councilor Irving stated the City Council supported the effort.

There was a council consensus for Manager Hall to move forward on the project as orally presented.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Hall stated the Aquatic Center opened July 11th under Umatilla County's Phase 2 reopening restrictions. The concession stand is open with packaged items only being sold. The maximum number of patrons is 85 plus the pool staff to keep the number under 100 which is the current outdoor restriction. Since opening, staff has not had to turn anyone away due to being at max capacity. If the situation arises staff will do their best to give the citizens who live in the 97862 preference. She said with the pool just now opening the season has been cut in half. She asked for the councils' authorization to allow for the season passes to be purchased at half price for the 2020 season.

Councilor Irving motioned to allow for the 2020 Aquatic Center season passes to be sold at 50% of the total fee. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Manager Hall reported that Governor Kate Brown held a press conference today and beginning July 15th she has issued an executive order that limits indoor gatherings to 10 and masks are to be worn inside or outside if the 6 feet of social distancing could not be met. She reported on the progress of the Rotary splash pad project which will be placed in Freewater Park was moving forward with construction beginning in August. The City is contributing the land for the project, a portion of the park, sewer, water and electric services. The construction project will be funded by grants that Rotary has obtained and then the City will maintain it. She commended Rotary President Molly Hasenbank on all her work on the project. There is a company working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers who is doing some additional work up the Walla Walla River who asked to use the used sandbags that the City and School District had pickup up from the flooding event in February. Both parties were very happy to get rid of these sandbags as they sit in the weather the bags break down and tear which causes a mess.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Irving stated he noticed the lifeguards were training in the pool and stated he believed the pool was headed in the right direction.

Mayor Key said the new pool coating looked nice.

Councilor Irving stated he officially retired from his job on June 25, 2020.

Mayor Key asked if the City was no longer getting HB2017 revenues.

Manager Hall stated she was happy to say that revenues seemed to be going up and bond sales look viable.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor