
CITY OF MILTON-FREEWATER GOVERNING BODY

Damien Reino At Large, Position 1
Steve Irving - Council President At Large, Position 2
Wes Koklich 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 **March 26, 2024**
CITY COUNCIL EXECUTIVE SESSION AND SPECIAL MEETING MINUTES

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in an Executive Session on March 26, 2024 in the Albee Room of the City Library, 8 SW 8th Avenue at 4:24 p.m.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Brad Humbert, Steve Irving, Jose Garcia, Damien Reino, Wes Koklich and John Lyon.

Staff member present was Assistant City Manager/City Recorder Leanne Steadman.

Guest present was Cliff Moore of Prothman.

Representing the news media were: Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald, Sheila Hagar of the East Oregonian and Kate Smith of the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (2)(a)

Mayor Key announced the City Council was adjourning to an executive session at 4:24 p.m. He stated this was an executive session held pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(a) which allows the Council to hold an executive session to consider the employment of a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent. He stated while members of the press were allowed to attend, they, as well as all council members and staff in attendance were reminded that all discussions held during executive session were to remain confidential and not to be discussed or written outside the room.

The council returned to open session at 4:43 p.m.

SPECIAL SESSION MEETING

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater returned to open session at 4:43 p.m.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Brad Humbert, Steve Irving, Jose Garcia, Damien Reino, Wes Koklich and John Lyon.

Staff member present was Assistant City Manager/City Recorder Leanne Steadman.

Guests present were: Cliff Moore of Prothman, Paul Seaquist and Kenneth Jenkins.

Representing the news media were: Sherrie Widmer of the Valley Herald, Sheila Hagar of the East Oregonian and Kate Smith of the Walla Walla Union Bulletin.

Councilor Humbert motioned to move forward with making a City Manager job offer to Chad Morris within the salary range posted on the City Manager position profile of \$150,000 - \$160,000. Councilor Lyon seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Councilor Humbert asked Cliff Moore of Prothman if Mr. Morris would be willing to come back to the Albee Room in order for the council to make him an official offer.

Mr. Moore excused himself and went out into the hallway to call Mr. Morris. He returned, stating Mr. Morris was on his way.

The council adjourned to a recess at 4:50 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660 (2)(a)

Mayor Key announced the City Council was returning to an executive session at 5:12 p.m. pursuant to ORS 192.660 (2)(a). He stated the rules for the executive session read earlier would remain in effect.

The council returned to open session at 5:30 p.m.

Councilor Humbert made a motion giving authority to Prothman representative Cliff Moore to go through contract negotiations with Chad Moore on behalf of the City, for the City Manager position at the salary of \$160,000 and to negotiate relocation expenses on a not-to-exceed basis and to have Cliff Moore notify the other candidates of their release. Councilor Garcia seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 5:32 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor