



City of Oregon City

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Meeting Minutes - Draft City Commission

Doug Neeley, Mayor
Kathy Roth, Commission President
Betty Mumm, Carol Pauli, Rocky Smith, Jr.

Tuesday, May 7, 2013

5:30 PM

Commission Chambers

Work Session

1. Convene Work Session and Roll Call

Mayor Neeley called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM.

Present: 5 - Mayor Doug Neeley, Commissioner Rocky Smith, Commissioner Betty Mumm, Commissioner Carol Pauli and Commissioner Kathy Roth

Staffers: 14 - City Manager David Frasher, Attorney Carrie Richter, Police Chief and Public Safety Director Mike Conrad, Public Works Director John Lewis, Community Development Director Tony Konkol, Human Resources Director Jim Loeffler, Community Services Director Scott Archer, City Recorder Nancy Ide, Finance Director Wyatt Parno, Library Director Maureen Cole, Economic Development Manager Eric Underwood, Planner Laura Terway, Planner Christina Robertson-Gardiner and Assistant to the City Manager Kattie Riggs

2. Future Agenda Items

Mayor Neeley suggested scheduling a second work session periodically when there were many items to discuss rather than one long work session.

Commissioner Roth asked about the lack of an emergency call system in the Elevator. John Lewis, Public Works Director, would look into it.

Commissioner Mumm asked about meeting with the County regarding parking downtown. David Frasher, City Manager, stated there would be staff level meetings first to identify viable sites.

3. Discussion Items:

3a. 13-313 Oregon City's Municipal Stormwater Permit

This item was postponed.

3b. 13-315 End of the Oregon Trail Site Update

Scott Archer, Community Services Director, discussed the programming efforts and facility issues of the End of the Oregon Trail site. The City and Clackamas Heritage Partners (CHP) entered into a license agreement to expire December 31, 2013. CHP had received multiple grants for programming and site improvements. The plan was to be more open to the public for the summer season than what the facility was

currently. He explained the short term and long term facility issues. The short term fixes could be done within the current budget and would get the facility ready for the summer season. The long term fixes would be done with partnerships for funding. The City and CHP were working towards better partnership with Native American tribes and the OCTA event on July 26.

Dan Fowler and Gail Yazzolino, Clackamas Heritage Partners, explained the site improvements that had been done. The facility was sustainable and could continue to operate with the revenue coming in. They would not ask for money for operations. There was still more to do and Mr. Fowler gave examples of the commitment from partners. Visitor numbers were up and earned revenue was up. A representative from the Confederate Tribe of the Grand Ronde would serve on the CHP Board.

Commissioner Smith was cautious about re-opening the building as he wanted to keep it sustainable.

Mr. Fowler said they needed a commitment from the City and he thought the partners would follow suit.

There was discussion regarding past trolley programs and routes and the possibility of selling the trolleys.

3c. 13-309

Vertical Housing Development Zone

Eric Underwood, Economic Development Manager, and Lloyd Purdy, Main Street Manager, introduced the vertical housing program, an incentive program for mixed use commercial/residential development downtown. Mr. Underwood gave a background on the program and how it worked. He was looking for Commission approval to move forward with the application process.

There was discussion regarding the area that would be included in the zone and details of the program.

There was Commission consensus to move forward with the program.

3d. 13-306

Insurance Coverage for Neighborhood Associations in the City of Oregon City

Nancy Ide, City Recorder, discussed the option for reimbursing the Neighborhood Associations for liability insurance for directors and officers. This would require ongoing training for the association members and would compromise their independence. An additional employee would be needed to meet the requirements.

There was discussion regarding the requirements for the training and event insurance vs. liability insurance, costs, and the pros and cons of making the associations instrumentalities of the City.

Tom O'Brien, resident of Oregon City, discussed the Commission's goal of getting more public involvement. The Rivercrest Neighborhood Association had no place to meet due to lack of insurance. The budget for the Neighborhood Associations was too low.

There was discussion regarding the budget and how the money was never completely used each year. Mr. O'Brien clarified some neighborhoods did not request the money and paid for the printing and delivered the notices themselves.

Bob Mahoney, resident of Oregon City, served on the Planning Commission and Traffic Advisory Committee (TAC). He did not want to see the Neighborhood Associations as an instrument of the City as he thought it would be divisive. The Planning Commission and TAC represented the City and were instruments of the City. Neighborhood Associations should be participating but not in a legal manner. They should be where people could gather and get information. If the Associations became instruments, staff would have to participate and it would be costly.

Dan Fowler, resident of Oregon City, discussed his time as Mayor and how he worked to establish the Neighborhood Associations to foster citizen involvement. He encouraged the neighborhoods to send emails and send postcards to those who don't have email.

Bob La Salle, resident of Oregon City, said there were no insurance agents or lawyers as officers on the Neighborhood Associations. People were not participating due to the lack of insurance. He pointed out things he thought were not true in the City Attorney's memo.

Carrie Richter, Attorney, said the advice from the City Attorney was the more the City extended protections or services the more a court would view them as an instrumentality. She thought a lawsuit against an officer of a Neighborhood Association was very unlikely.

Commissioner Smith was not in favor of insuring the Neighborhood Associations except for events.

Commissioner Mumm wanted to make it clear to the Neighborhood Associations that the City would not provide insurance.

Ms. Ide encouraged the neighborhoods to look into using different forms of social media to communicate and become less dependent on the City.

There was consensus for the City not to provide insurance to the Neighborhood Associations.

3e. 13-310

Review of the Citizen Involvement Council Bylaws Related to Neighborhood Association Representation

Kattie Riggs, Assistant to the City Manager, explained the CIC was reviewing their bylaws and if there were changes the Commission wanted to suggest, now was the time to do so.

There was discussion regarding the County islands within the City.

Bob La Salle, resident of Oregon City, discussed the bylaws where wording would be put in to encourage the Neighborhood Associations to outreach to those who were not within the City limits but within the Urban Growth Boundary. There would be a review on double representation as well.

There was further discussion about election procedures in the bylaws and the Two Rivers Neighborhood Association.

Bob Mahoney, resident of Oregon City, thought those outside the City limits but within the Urban Growth Boundary should not have influence on a ballot measure for those living inside the City limits. He thought the CIC and Neighborhood Associations should all be kept within the City limits.

3f. PC 13-039 Transportation System Plan Update (L 13-01 and 13-02, Ordinance 13-1002 and 13-1003)

Christina Robertson-Gardiner and Laura Terway, Planners, gave a presentation on the Transportation System Plan update and Code amendments including what the Transportation System Plan was, why change the Code, review of Planning Commission concerns, and highlights of the Code amendments.

There was discussion regarding the reduction of parking downtown and the options for four failing intersections.

This item would come back to the next Commission meeting on May 15th.

4. City Manager's Report

Mr. Frasher said in regard to the downtown parking meeting with the County, the County Commissioners were booked until June. He would try to schedule a meeting in June.

Commissioner Roth announced a phone bank on May 8 and 13. She asked about the flashing light on John Adams and 7th, had they considered a crosswalk there?

Mr. Lewis said it had been studied and staff did not recommend a crosswalk without a flashing beacon.

Commissioner Roth asked about turning right from Clackamas River Drive onto Highway 213 as traffic often was backed up at that intersection. Mr. Lewis said ODOT required no right turn on red.

5. Adjournment

Mayor Neeley adjourned the meeting at 8:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy Ide, City Recorder