



City of Oregon City

625 Center Street
Oregon City, OR 97045
503-657-0891

Meeting Minutes - Final

City Commission

Wednesday, November 20, 2019

6:00 PM

Commission Chambers

Work Session

1. Convene Work Session of the City Commission

Mayor Holladay called the meeting to order at 6:01 PM.

2. Roll Call

Present: 5 - Mayor Dan Holladay, Commissioner Frank O'Donnell, Commissioner Rachel Lyles Smith, Commissioner Rocky Smith Jr. and Commissioner Denyse McGriff

Staffers: 10 - City Manager Tony Konkol, City Attorney William Kabeiseman, Police Chief and Public Safety Director James Band, Community Development Director Laura Terway, Public Works Director John Lewis, Human Resources Director Patrick Foiles, Finance Director Wyatt Parno, Sr. Planner Pete Walter, Public Works Development Projects Manager Josh Wheeler and Interim Community Services Director Don Robertson

3. Discussion Item:

3a. Voter Approval of Annexation, Senate Bill 1573, and Home Rule

Laura Terway, Community Development Director, entered letters into the record that had been submitted by Mr. Nicita and Mr. Buss.

Bill Kabeiseman, City Attorney, gave a background on voter approved annexation and Senate Bill 1573. In 2017 Oregon City had set a policy to follow SB 1573 and would no longer submit annexations to the voters. A number of cities had challenged SB 1573, and a decision from the Court of Appeals had not been rendered yet. He asked for direction on the City's policy.

Tony Konkol, City Manager, discussed the wording of the voter approved annexation measure from 1999 and what the phrase "unless mandated by law" meant.

There was discussion regarding home rule, whether SB 1573 was constitutional, outcomes if they did not process annexations, lawsuits from other jurisdictions, and issues with consolidated applications.

Commissioner O'Donnell thought he might have made different decisions if he had known there were other options available. He would support the City Charter.

Commissioner Smith did not think any annexations should be approved until they got an answer on this issue.

Commissioner Lyles Smith wanted to reduce legal fees and was not in support of joining in with the lawsuits. She thought they should maintain the current policy.

Commissioner McGriff supported home rule and a change to the current policy.

Mayor Holladay explained how he was in support of voter approved annexations in the beginning but due to the conflicts with the Metro Urban Growth Boundary and land use policies he had come to realize that he was wrong. He was now in support of SB 1573 and had helped pass it. He was willing to wait on processing any annexation applications until the Court of Appeals had resolved the situation.

4. Adjournment

Mayor Holladay adjourned the meeting at 6:48 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kattie Riggs, City Recorder