

City of Brookings

City Council Meeting Minutes

City Hall Council Chambers, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415
Monday, December 8, 2014, 7:00 PM

The City Council met in Executive Session at 6:00 PM in the City Manager's office under authority of ORS 192.660(2)(f), "to consider information or records that are exempt by law," and under ORS 192.660(2)(h), "to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed."

Call to Order

Mayor Hedenskog called the meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

Roll Call

Council present: Mayor Ron Hedenskog, Councilors Jake Pieper, Kelly McClain, Brent Hodges and Bill Hamilton; a quorum present.

Staff present: City Manager Gary Milliman, Finance & Human Resources Director Janell Howard, Parks & Technical Services Supervisor Tony Baron, City Attorney Martha Rice and City Recorder Joyce Heffington.

Others Present: Approximately eight members of the public were present.

Ceremonies/Appointments/Announcements

Sergeant Kelby McCrae introduced Police Officer Jason Barrigar who was recognized for his five years of service to the City.

Public Hearings

Public Hearing and authorization to submit a loan application to finance a portion of the local match for the Railroad Street Reconstruction Project.

City Manager Milliman provided the staff report regarding the City's application for funding under the Oregon Transportation Infrastructure Bank program.

Mayor Hedenskog opened the public hearing in the matter of the City's application to the Oregon Transportation Infrastructure Bank program at 7:12 PM, the purpose of which was to receive public comments regarding the City's application for loan funding in the amount of \$650,000 to finance a portion of the local match for the Railroad Street Reconstruction Project.

There were no public comments and Mayor Hedenskog closed the public hearing at 7:13 PM.

Councilor McClain asked if the interest rate was fixed and Milliman said it was.

Councilor Pieper said he was glad to see this project moving along.

Councilor Hamilton said he was all for getting the ball rolling on this project.

Councilor McClain moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to authorize City Manager to submit an application for loan funding in the amount of \$650,000 under the Oregon Transportation Infrastructure Bank

(OTIB) program to finance a portion of the local match for the Railroad Street Reconstruction Project.

Ceremonies/Appointments/Announcements *(Continued from above)*

Councilor McClain moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to reappoint Michelle Hanna to the Public Art Committee.

Public Comments on non-agenda items

Carolyn Milliman, Brookings, provided a status report on the Centennial Celebration of the Central Building which will take place in March, 2015.

County Commission Chair, Susan Brown, commented on the survey and said this was the first conversation and the next conversation regarding County services would be conducted in town halls.

Mayor Hedenskog congratulated Brown on getting the survey up and running and Brown said the Commission needed to hear from the citizens.

Councilor McClain, referring to comments made in the local paper, asked Brown if the County was able to put a budget together without federal funding, adding, "Don't they have to?" Brown said they did.

Lauren Paulson, Harbor, continuing his complaint against Charter Communications from the last Council meeting, said seniors are vulnerable to Charter's "illegal ways," and the \$65 he paid, of which Charter has no record, "is in Brookings."

Staff Reports

Approval to allocate \$1,500 in Transient Occupancy Tax funds for the Community Coastal Christmas in Brookings Harbor program.

City Manager Milliman provided the staff report.

Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee member, Bob Pieper, pointed out the funds would be used to reimburse Kathy Broshears, who provided advanced funding for the program.

Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to allocate \$1,500 in Transient Occupancy Tax revenues for the Community Coastal Christmas in Brookings Harbor program as recommended by the Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee.

Approval to allocate \$4,000 in Transient Occupancy funds for the August 2015 Wild Rivers Music Festival to be held at Azalea Park.

City Manager Milliman gave the staff report.

Stagelights Board member, Scott Graves, said he was available to answer questions.

Councilor Hamilton asked if would be an annual event and Graves said it would.

Councilor Hodges asked how it lined up with the Cape Blanco event and Graves said it would occur two weeks later.

Councilor McClain asked what Graves thought it would take to get a "name" band for the event and Graves said they were starting off with quality entertainers with the idea to move up to more well-known performers in the two or three years with the revenue

the events generate. He added that they were looking for a more casual event with a certain quality and personality, and weren't aiming for anything as large as the Cape Blanco event.

Mayor Hedenskog said it seemed to him like the right thing to do.

Councilor Pieper said it was a lot of money, but a good event. He said it had the potential to be something "very cool" for the area.

Councilor Hamilton said he agreed it was very cool, and thought it would occur at the right time of year to draw people from the Medford area.

Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to provide \$4,000 in Transient Occupancy Tax funding to the Stagelights Musical Arts Community for the Wild Rivers Music Festival to be held August 15-16, 2015, as recommended by the Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee.

Approval to develop a fenced unleashed pet area at Stout Park.

Supervisor Baron gave the staff report.

Councilor McClain asked what the area's dimensions would be and Baron said it would be around 150 feet deep and 200 feet wide.

Councilor Hamilton asked if the fruit trees in the area might suffer damage and Baron said the trees have been there for a long time and had seen a lot of canine activity.

Councilor McClain said staff had done a good job being resourceful with the budget.

Mayor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to approve the development a fenced unleashed pet area at Stout Park.

Authorize the Mayor to execute a letter requesting that the Crissey Field Welcome Center remain operational year-round.

City Manager Milliman presented the staff report.

Mayor Hedenskog said he originally figured the state had a good reason for closing down the center in the winter, but now feels the City should also do a letter as off-season tourism is important to our economy.

Councilor Pieper said that a majority of people felt the visitor center was built with a big chunk of money and wouldn't amount to much, so he wasn't surprised to hear that this was happening, but he would like it to stay open.

Councilor McClain said he thought the City should join with the County in trying to help keep it open.

Councilor McClain moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to authorize the Mayor to execute a letter to the Oregon Tourism Commission requesting that the Welcome Center at Crissey Field remain in operation year-round.

Acceptance of City's audit report for fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

Director Howard provided the staff report, which, she said, was a clean audit with no comments or recommendations.

Councilor McClain moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to accept the City's Audit for the fiscal year ended June 30, 2014.

Consent Calendar

1. Approve City Council minutes for November 10, 2014.
2. Accept Tourism Promotion Advisory Committee minutes for October 16, 2014.
3. Authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement with Richard Harper for Municipal Judge services with a stipend of \$400 per Court session, effective January 1, 2015.
4. Authorize the Mayor to execute an Agreement with James Fallman for Municipal Judge Pro Tem services with a stipend of \$200 per Court session.
5. Receive October 2014 monthly financial report.
6. Accept November 2014 Vouchers in the amount of \$312,958.29.

Mayor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to approve the Consent Calendar as written.

Remarks

Mayor Hedenskog remarked that the City had paid off an obligation bond and Brookings resident's property taxes would go down about 23 cents per \$1,000.

Councilor Hamilton remarked on downtown holiday decorations, saying they looked nice and that it did the town a lot of good. He also gave kudos to the Natures Coastal Holiday group, and said they'd done an outstanding job this year.

Adjournment

Mayor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously by voice vote to adjourn at 7:58 PM.

A meeting of the Urban Renewal Agency immediately followed.

Respectfully submitted:



Ron Hedenskog, Mayor

ATTESTED:
this 12th day of January 2015:



Joyce Heffington, City Recorder