

City of Brookings

City Council Meeting MINUTES

Monday, April 23, 2012, 7:00pm

City Hall Council Chambers, 898 Elk Drive, Brookings, OR 97415

Call to Order

Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

Roll Call

Council Present: Mayor Larry Anderson, Councilors Ron Hedenskog, Dave Gordon, Jake Pieper, and Brent Hodges; a quorum present.

Staff Present: City Manager Gary Milliman, Administrative Services Director Janell Howard, Planning Director Dianne Morris, Public Works Director Loree Pryce, Police Lieutenant Donny Dotson, City Attorney Martha Rice and City Recorder Joyce Heffington.

Others Present: Curry Coastal Pilot Editor Scott Graves and approximately 10 others, including four new staff members.

Ceremonies/Appointments/Announcements

New employee introductions.

Director Howard introduced Accounts Receivable Clerk Kim Kennedy, and Accounts Payable/Payroll Specialist Bonnie Anderson and Lieutenant Dotson introduced Communications Officer Lindsey Belleque and Police Officer Jaired Freeman.

Public Hearings/Ordinances/Resolutions/Final Orders

Public Hearing in the matter of File LDC-1-12.

Mayor Anderson opened the legislative public hearing in the matter of File LDC-1-12, revisions to Brookings Municipal Code Chapter 17.170.100 at 7:08pm.

Hearing no exparte, declarations of conflict or personal interest, or objections as to jurisdiction, Mayor Anderson reviewed the guidelines and Director Morris reviewed the staff report and said that Councilor Hedenskog had proposed revisions to the language as stated in a Memo dated April 23, 2012, which were distributed to Council at the beginning of the meeting.

There were no public comments and the hearing was closed at 7:16pm.

Councilor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to accept changes of revisions to Brookings Municipal Code Section 17.170.100.E, Access Management, Reverse Frontage, with [revised wording] to [the second sentence of] paragraph two of that section [to] read, "Access rights to these lots to the arterial shall be dedicated to the city and shown on the recorded plat."

Ordinance 12-O-696 amending Section 17.170.100.E.

Mayor Anderson introduced Ordinance 12-O-696 amending Section 17.170.100.E, Reverse Frontage, of the Brookings Municipal Code.

Councilor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a first reading of Ordinance 12-O-696 by title only.

Councilor Hedenskog read the title with the changes as approved under the public hearing.

Councilor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to do a second reading of Ordinance 12-O-696 by title only.

Mayor Anderson read the title.

Councilor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Ordinance 12-O-696 [amending Brookings Municipal Code Section 17.170.100.E, Reverse frontage, of the Land Development Code].

Resolution 12-R-977 establishing a Health Reimbursement Arrangement/Voluntary Employee's Beneficiary Association ("HRA VEBA") Plan.

Director Howard reviewed the staff report.

Councilor Pieper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adopt Resolution 12-R-977, establishing a Health Reimbursement Arrangement/Voluntary Employee's Beneficiary Association plan.

Staff Reports

Public Art Committee recommendations for City-owned art.

Director Morris reviewed the staff report.

Public Art Committee member Tim Rolek provided an example of a piece of City art that has deteriorated beyond salvaging as one of the aerial photos in Council Chambers and said the matrix would also be used to keep track City-owned art over time.

Councilor Hodges asked if the museum might have a use for some of the pieces that are listed for destruction on the matrix and Rolek said that was a possibility.

Councilor Pieper asked if the curator role mentioned in the staff report would be a part of this action and Director Morris said that it would.

Councilor Piper moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to authorize the Public Art Committee to proceed with recommendations as stated in the City-owned art matrix.

Award construction contract for Cove Road Realignment Project.

Director Pryce provided the staff report.

Mayor Anderson asked if the sewer and storm mains in the project area were in good shape and Pryce responded that was her understanding. Anderson said he thought it was of paramount importance that the City be certain that these lines were in good condition so they would not have to be replaced at a later date. Pryce said that Bi-Mart had made storm drain improvements on Memory Lane and she didn't see any need of any additional drainage improvements at this time.

Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to award the contract for construction of the Cove Road Realignment Project

for Base Bid and Alternatives #1 and #2 to Tidewater Contractors, Inc., the lowest responsible bidder, in an amount not to exceed \$399,434.

Authorization to execute an agreement with ODOT to upgrade to a pedestrian activated flashing beacon at the crosswalk in front of the Redwood Theatre.

Director Pryce gave the staff report.

Councilor Hedenskog moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to accept the ODOT upgrade [of a pedestrian activated flashing beacon] to the crosswalk in front of the Redwood Theatre.

Authorization to execute Amendment #1 to the ODOT 2011 Fund Exchange Agreement.

Director Pryce provided the staff report.

City Manager Milliman added that the fund exchange allows the City to trade federal dollars for state dollars which are less costly to administer.

Councilor Hodges moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to execute Amendment #1 to ODOT, 2011 Fund Exchange Agreement #27580.

Authorization to execute an agreement with Brookings Harbor Chamber of Commerce for either 1) tourism promotion services for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2017, or 2) tourism promotion services for the same period with an overall reduction of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2012-13 to fund a downtown holiday decoration program proposed by the Brookings Merchants Association (BMA).

City Manager Milliman provided the staff report.

Ken Bryan, 215 Cypress Street, Chamber Chair read the Chamber letter which was included in the packet and requested renewal of the existing agreement with noted changes for the next five years.

Candace Michel, 1253 Rowland Lane, BMA Treasurer, generally commented that the BMA had not requested the City to take the \$5,000 they were requesting for holiday decorations from the Chamber's funds. Michel added, "We do not want to make enemies and that's what this had done."

Tim Patterson, 621 Chetco Avenue, generally commented that the City should limit the Chamber contract to one year, review the process being used to allocate tourism funding, and use a neutral third party to evaluate City sponsored events.

Councilor Hodges asked what funds could be used to fulfill the \$5,000 request made by the BMA and City Manager Milliman said that any general fund could be used for a general government purpose. Councilor Hodges added that the Chamber and BMA should work together to decide where the money should go.

Councilor Pieper said that the Chamber is doing a good job and he expected they would continue to do so, but he said he had an issue with contracting this service to one entity over such a long period of time without a competitive process. He said he was ready to look at allocating tourism funds to another organization in addition to the Chamber.

Councilor Hedenskog said he thought it might be time to look at forming a tourism committee and that he was willing to shorten the contract period. He said he wondered what might would happen at the Budget Committee level if Council decided to allocate \$5,000 of the City's tourism dollars. Hedenskog also said that the idea of taking \$5,000 from the tourism budget to pay for holiday decorations had not come from the BMA, but rather from him or someone else during a public meeting.

In response to Hedenskog's question about the allocation at the Budget Committee level, Director Howard said that Council is the ultimate decision making body, and Council could decide at any time in the budget year to allocate this funding in a number of ways.

Councilor Gordon said that transient room tax dollars are used by the Chamber to promote local tourism and once tourists are here they spend their money here and that BMA member businesses benefit from tourists brought here through the Chamber's efforts the same as any other business. Gordon said that he did not think there was another local organization that could provide the same level of service the Chamber provides for the same amount of funding and added that the Chamber spends a lot more on tourism that is expressed in the transient room tax dollars provided by the City.

Mayor Anderson mentioned that some of the motels are transitioning from short-term rentals to long-term rentals, which is a new use in this area, and he wasn't sure how the City was monitoring this situation. Anderson said he thought the City was missing dollars. He also said that the City used to have holiday lighting and felt that it enhanced the tourist experience during the holiday season.

Councilor Hodges said he would support a shorter contract term, and while he thought holiday decorations were a good idea, he also thought a fund raiser might be a better way to obtain funding. He then asked about the appearance of \$5,000 for holiday decorations as a separate line item on the budget.

City Manager Milliman said the \$5,000 line item had been included so that Council could consider funding that project as part of a balanced budget.

Councilor Pieper said that the Chamber is included as a line item on the budget as well, while other contracted items are not and he wanted to make it clear that the Budget Committee does not decide with whom the City contracts. He also said that he was willing to look at other ways to handle tourism funding in the future, but not this year. He said he was agreeable with limiting the contract to one year.

Councilor Gordon said he could agree with the limitation on the contract period but he was not in favor of taking \$5,000 from the Chamber funding for holiday decorations.

In response to the Mayor's comments about room rentals, City Manager Milliman said that in one of his previous cities, an audit was undertaken to determine compliance with the City's tax codes. Milliman suggested that further Council discussion take place on this topic before moving forward.

Councilor Pieper moved, Councilor Hedenskog seconded, and the motion failed, 2 to 3, with Councilor Pieper and Councilor Hedenskog voting "Yes" and Mayor Anderson, Councilor Gordon and Councilor Hodges voting "No," to authorize execution of an agreement with the Brookings Harbor Chamber of

Commerce for tourism promotion services for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013, with an overall reduction of \$5,000 in fiscal year 2012-13 to fund a downtown holiday decoration program proposed by the Brookings Merchants Association.

Councilor Hodges moved, Councilor Gordon seconded, and the motion passed, 3 to 2, with "Yes" votes from Mayor Anderson, Councilor Gordon and Councilor Hodges and "No" votes from Councilor Pieper and Councilor Hedenskog, to authorize execution of an agreement with Brookings Harbor Chamber of Commerce for tourism promotion services for July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013,

Consent Calendar

1. Approve Council minutes for March 26, 2012.
2. Approve Council minutes for March 29, 2012.
3. Approve Council minutes for April 9, 2012.
4. Approve reinstatement of Yard of Month Program in two categories and the purchase of two new signs.
5. Accept March, 2012 Vouchers in the amount of \$419,201.
6. Receive monthly financial report for March, 2012.

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

Adjournment

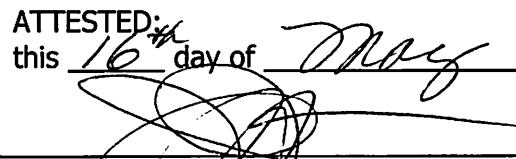
Councilor Gordon moved, a second followed and Council voted unanimously to adjourn by voice vote at 8:52pm.

Respectfully submitted:



Ron Hedenskog, Mayor

ATTESTED:
this 16th day of May 2012:



Joyce Heffington, City Recorder