

MINUTES
Troutdale City Council – Regular Meeting
Troutdale City Hall – Council Chambers
104 SE Kibling Avenue
Troutdale, OR 97060-2099

Tuesday, October 25, 2011

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL, AGENDA UPDATE.

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

PRESENT: Mayor Kight, Councilor Ripma, Councilor Anderson, Councilor White, Councilor Allen, and Councilor Daoust.

ABSENT: Councilor Thomas (excused).

STAFF: Craig Ward, City Manager; David Ross, City Attorney; Charlie Warren, Public Works Director; Travis Hultin, Chief Engineer; Amy Pepper, Civil Engineer; and Sarah Skroch, Deputy City Recorder.

GUESTS: See Attached List.

Mayor Kight asked is there an agenda update?

Craig Ward replied there are no amendments from the posted agenda.

2. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 2.1 MINUTES:** September 27, 2011 Work Session and October 11, 2011 Regular Meeting.
- 2.2 MOTION:** A motion to approve the Annual Performance Evaluation of Craig Ward, City Manager.
- 2.3 RESOLUTION:** A resolution authorizing the City Manager to sign an Intergovernmental Agreement with Hood River County for building inspection services.

Councilor Ripma stated there was nothing in my packet for agenda item 2.2. Is this ok without having a motion, resolution, or something else in our packet?

Councilor Daoust stated at the end of the Executive Session we said all that we needed to do was make a motion at the next meeting.

David Ross replied you're approving the action that you took at the Executive Session.

Councilor Ripma stated that's fine with me, I just wanted to be clear.

MOTION: Councilor White moved to adopt the consent agenda. Seconded by Councilor Ripma. Motion passed unanimously.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

4. PRESENTATION: Proposals from Mayor Mike Weatherby regarding: A) Formation of a Multnomah County Coordinating Committee (MC3) B) Consolidation Study

Mike Weatherby, Mayor of Fairview, stated I'm here to explain the Multnomah Coordinating Committee (MC3) is something that came to me when I was on the Metro Policy Advisory Committee (MPAC). Washington County and Clackamas County have similar committees. The prime goal would be to work with Metro. It seems to me that we have more of a oneness to have such a committee than maybe Clackamas or Washington County because we have borders that are contiguous, we have school districts that meander between us, and we have roadways that connect. I have provided you with a copy of the proposed by-laws (a copy is included in the meeting packet). They were mostly taken from Washington County's by-laws but the idea is to make it our own. The first idea is that each Mayor would have a vote and the Chair or designee of the County Commission would have a vote. Also sitting at the same table you'd have ODOT, Tri-Met, and probably the Port of Portland to talk on issues but they would not vote. I observed one of the meetings in Washington County and they have issues and conflicts like any group of people do but they talk it out. It's about communication, collaboration, and what we're looking at as a region. This Committee would meet on a regular basis, maybe once a month or once every two months, whatever works for us. Recently a hitch came when Mayor Bemis objected to not having it weighed because he feels that his citizens are worth a great deal more because there are more of them. At the Economic Summit at Persimmons he said he really liked the idea but how about taking away the voting and I said fine. It wouldn't have a lot of teeth but it could accomplish a great deal. Perhaps after a period of time we will establish some trust and maybe there will be voting.

Councilor Daoust asked can we have an MC3 without the City of Portland?

Mayor Weatherby replied at the present time the Mayor of Portland isn't agreeable to it. I've sent him information outlining the committee without voting but I haven't heard anything. I talked with our County Commissioner to see if they would be willing to join without Portland and she said yes, she definitely supports it. The other thing I would like to do is get together with each of the candidates running for Mayor in Portland to talk to them. I don't have a problem trying it.

Councilor Daoust stated I think one of Mayor Sam Adams points was the voting issue which we can address by reaching a consensus rather than voting. Do other people agree with Sam Adams? We have the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) and MPAC. What would this committee deal with that these two don't?

Mayor Weatherby replied they are advisory committees to Metro and this would not have anyone from Metro on it at all. This would belong to us and be more like a lobbying group instead of a committee. We'd be lobbying for the people out here to Metro whereas JPACT and MPAC belong to the larger region. This would support those of us in the area that don't have a committee.

Councilor White stated I go to quite a few of the inter-council meetings and there is a great benefit to hearing from the other Cities in this area. A lot of times we're facing the same problems. It's a good team building exercise and I think this is a logical step forward.

Mayor Kight stated a lot of people are familiar with East Multnomah County Transportation Committee (EMCTC) which is made up of all 4 Cities along with the Port of Portland, Metro, ODOT, and Tri-Met. It's not uncommon to have 15-20 people sitting around the table talking about land and transportation issues, primarily focusing on transportation. Usually there is a consensus drawn from the group, there's a vote, and they give direction to people on JPACT and MPAC. How is your committee structure different than EMCTC?

Mayor Weatherby replied EMCTC is a vehicle of the County and doesn't have Portland on it even if they wished to be. The Chair in MC3 would be elected by the people there, in EMCTC it belongs to the County Commissioner. It has not at any time gone to Metro to represent the people out here and that's not the function.

Mayor Kight stated appreciably it's the same players but different people in different roles. Instead of the County being the Chair it would be somebody elected within that body?

Mayor Weatherby replied similar except the voting is a little bit different.

Councilor Ripma stated I wonder about the mechanics of not voting on this committee. It sounds like not voting has brought in Mayor Bemis. Does it mean that action would require unanimity?

Mayor Weatherby replied it would be somewhat like a workshop where you can't vote on things but you work on a consensus basis. Since it would be new I think people would have to feel their way around. The issue of building trust is important because I know after Gresham lost their bid to work on Sandy Boulevard, the issue of the small cities versus the big city became very important to Mayor Bemis. I want to find common goals and things to work on that our citizens really care about, areas that we need to work together on, realize that common need, and understand that there will be disagreements and maybe some things that we can't get around. When I was at the League of Oregon Cities Conference, I visited the Wilsonville hospitality room and talked to some of the people there about some of the issues at Washington County. They had real conflicts but they wouldn't give it up. I like to think it will be a success but there's always the possibility that it will fail but at least we'll know because we tried.

Councilor Ripma stated we've watched Washington County for years. While their cities disagree, they seem to be willing to give and take. I've been struggling to think of how it would work in Multnomah County with Portland and the rest of us out here. I wonder if you have an example of how it would work where we're all on the same page or could be?

Mayor Weatherby replied I apologize because I don't have a really solid example.

Councilor Ripma asked has any city formally voted for this?

Mayor Weatherby replied yes, Maywood Park, Fairview and Wood Village support this.

Councilor Anderson asked can you give us an example of something that Washington County has gotten in terms of transportation because they are such a galvanized group out there?

Mayor Weatherby replied I don't have a lot of examples except to say that everyone touts how well they have done in the different studies. I think if you look at any of their successes it's based on the committees. I know on the boundaries where they wanted to expand I think as soon as Metro delineates then the very next day they push. I think pushing as a region gets them some place. I think we can do that too.

Councilor Anderson asked in your opinion is that because of the structure of the group?

Mayor Weatherby replied I think so.

Councilor Anderson asked do you think in the climate today in East County that we can achieve similar results?

Mayor Weatherby replied I'd like to say so. Since I've been Mayor and even before, there's been a real maturation. I think you can see it in terms of physical growth and also the sophistication of the Councils that we have. We have people that have businesses and solid interest and who have a bond with the community. I like to think this is an idea that's time has come. In my mind we're every bit up to the stature of Washington and Clackamas Counties.

Councilor Daoust stated I agree that we need to be regional players. The structure according to the by-laws not only has a policy group which would be the elected officials but I notice the structure includes 2 advisory committees, a transportation and land use committee made up of the Planning Directors and other staff of the cities, and a management advisory committee made up of the City Administrators/Managers. Has there been any discussion with those staff members? I realize a lot of the discussion is at the Mayor and Council level.

Mayor Weatherby replied only with my own City. The extent of time and energy would be up to and dependent upon the group. This is something that will need to work itself out. I don't see the need as a region to spend a great deal of time.

Councilor Daoust asked is this structured similar to how Washington and Clackamas Counties are structured, with the same type of advisory groups?

Mayor Weatherby replied exactly.

Mayor Kight asked MC3 would be layered with 3 different committees?

Mayor Weatherby replied you'd have some advisory committees to help with the technical parts.

Mayor Kight asked would they meet concurrently or would there be 3 different meeting dates?

Mayor Weatherby replied they would meet at different times. If the committee had an issue on transportation coming up then the technical group would get together to gather the facts. They would meet when there was a need to.

Mayor Kight asked would you like to go into the consolidation study?

Mayor Weatherby replied yes. I provided a binder to the Deputy City Recorder (a copy is included in the meeting packet) of an example of a study done in New Jersey of combining 2 different cities. The important thing to look at is the depth at which they went into. My idea and the reason for this is not for consolidation, it is to see what would be involved with consolidation. Right now we may support or oppose a consolidation but we base that on a very limited amount of facts. We know budgets for the cities, we know the tax bases, we know what services are provided but we don't have the depth of information that you'll find in this study. It came to mind that Portland State University (PSU) has an Urban Studies school. I talked to the director about doing a really thorough third party evaluation. The study goes into the laws, the names, the tax bases, the schools, and goes into everything in detail so you know exactly what you have. Maybe it'll show that it's an idea for 20 years from now, or maybe it'll show it's high time. It's incumbent upon the elected officials to really look at what's best for the citizens. My goal is to have this be very transparent so any information that comes out will go to everyone, not just the Mayor and Councils, or the administration, but to the citizens. What's happened so far is that PSU was very interested so the Director took it to her board and came back with an e-mail with a series of questions. We have not found out for sure if they would do it or not. They've never had something of this proportion on their doorstep. We also don't know if there will be a cost for them to do the study. The Director was talking about a possible government grant to fund it. If they cannot do it for some reason, cost or otherwise, we could look at the University of Washington, Oregon State University, or University of Oregon. There are a lot of places that we could look at but I think the first one to look at would be Portland State University Urban Studies. The one thing I would like is that you would support having a study. I really want to stress that this isn't to accomplish consolidation. This is to get a thorough third party in-depth examination at everything that would be involved instead of just conjecture.

Councilor Allen stated I find this intriguing. I caution that we don't come to conclusion but that we find out what the pros and cons are. I would also caution that we don't say that the law doesn't allow this or that. If we find something that makes sense then we can explore changing the law so it doesn't prohibit us from doing something that makes sense for our citizens.

Mayor Weatherby replied if your Council supports this study then I would like to have a group made up of the Administrator, Mayor, and Council President from all 3 Cities to have a press conference to announce this. The idea behind such a large group is to show that it doesn't belong to me or my city but it belongs to us. If the study happens then people are going to need to have a chance to really take a look at it because there will be some complex issues. What'll happen next is always up to the Councils and ultimately to the people. The first thing that I'd suggest before we talk about anything would be to do a study and everything else can follow after that.

Councilor Daoust stated I'd agree that the type of responses you'd get nowadays to this idea would be either emotional or political. The idea of a study is not objectionable. If PSU is

going to take it on, would they write the grant or would we write the grant? These are the types of basic questions that need answering. Who would form up those questions? Would it be the group that you just talked about that would make the press conference? If we're to agree to something like this then what would the next 2 or 3 steps be to make sure that all the questions that we have are answered?

Mayor Weatherby replied your first question about money is that it would have to come from PSU because the director indicated that hopefully a grant would cover everything. I think if there was a cost or any technical questions that it would come from them. If you approve it then your Administrators can help answer these questions and basically represent your community. I think any other needs would come from PSU.

Mayor Kight asked so you don't have a commitment from PSU?

Mayor Weatherby replied no.

Mayor Kight stated we don't know who's going to do the study, we don't know what the study's going to cost, and if there will or won't be a grant. Do you or your staff have an approximation on the amount of staff time that will be involved in providing the data for the study?

Mayor Weatherby replied the letter from PSU didn't indicate a lot of time because they will have their own researchers. They're going to have students do the actual study. I think your Manager has talked to Joe Gall and he could answer some of the questions about what's involved. Initially it's just kind of like a questionnaire with maybe a dozen questions that aren't too complex. Right now I'm talking about a concept. My gut feeling is that they'll do it. Once they say yes then they will have to say if there will or won't be a cost. Then I would go to each City. If there is a cost then we'd have to determine if the cost was outlandish or if it were reasonable and then how to pay for it.

Mayor Kight asked has PSU given you a timeframe for when they'll make a decision about this?

Mayor Weatherby replied I don't think your Manager has sent the questionnaire in yet.

Craig Ward stated no we haven't sent anything to PSU.

Mayor Weatherby replied once you do then they will get back to us.

Mayor Kight stated I'm a little confused. You're saying at this point they haven't committed to doing the study?

Mayor Weatherby replied they want to get some information first. Everything so far was verbal. Their board wants something in writing to look at.

Mayor Kight asked so they are going to be requesting information from all 3 Cities?

Mayor Weatherby replied the questionnaire that they've sent to the Administrators is all the information that they're getting as far as I know.

Craig Ward replied I haven't pursued this project at all knowing that you would be talking about it. We have not invested any time in this except a brief meeting which I would like to inform you about and make a suggestion when you are done with your questions.

Councilor Ripma stated it sounds like the sequence of events that you're outlining makes sense. This could be studied as an academic exercise by any of the urban studies programs in the country. My feelings about this may be colored from having spent at least a year and a half working on a police consolidation study back in the 90's that was conducted by the Citizens Crime Commission. I can't think of a consolidation of jurisdictions that's taken place any time recently. There tends to actually be a trend toward fragmentation. I'm all for the study but the idea of us endorsing it would be a subject for discussion by all of our cities. I would support our City Manager filling out a questionnaire but beyond that we'd need to discuss it.

Councilor Anderson asked is there anybody that you've spoken to that is opposed to this idea?

Mayor Weatherby replied no.

Councilor Anderson stated so everyone from EMEA to the Chamber of Commerce to groups of that nature are behind the study?

Mayor Weatherby replied I've been told informally. I intend on asking for EMEA's support for the study. I've been surprised that business people have come out of the woodwork to approach me to say that this is great. I didn't know that businesses would have that much of an interest.

Councilor Anderson stated I think this is an idea that's time has come and business folks are proactive. They're always looking for a new innovative way. If this study does nothing more than to identify economies of scale that our three cities can utilize to save our citizens money then it's a job well done. I'm all for going forward with it. I couldn't give you an opinion on the consolidation right now because we don't have the facts, we only have opinions. I would be very willing and interested in seeing what this study could elicit.

Mayor Kight stated anytime there are economies of scale and you can look for efficiencies in this economy, tax payers are particularly attentive to that. We have things that we work on cooperatively and one is that the Gresham Fire Department provides fire service for all three cities. That contract is coming up in the next couple of years and we'll have to work together. We have a history of the three smaller cities working together. At one time we were providing inspections for your Building Department and we're always open if you would like us to do your building inspections again. Maybe there are small ways that we can find economies where there's overlap in the communities like the Police Department. There is Wood Village that is only 1 mile square with 3,000 people sandwiched between Troutdale with almost 16,000 and Fairview with 8,000. Maybe there are economies for the people in Wood Village. Maybe they get absorbed into one of the two cities or both. If we work together as leaders in the community to look for those efficiencies, I think we're ultimately going to be able to find them. We need to know the commitment on the part of staff as far as time and resources and we need to know who will be doing it.

Councilor Daoust stated this has come up before. At the time that we discussed it earlier there wasn't much pushing us from behind to pursue a study. We looked into it a little bit but we didn't do a full blown study. One could say that the economy is forcing small cities to take it more seriously. We have dreamers like you that come up with ideas like this. Dreamers have low hanging fruit where they can see the obvious benefits that come up right away and you're probably thinking about that low hanging fruit that would just make a whole lot of sense. What are some of those low hanging fruits that you see that are obvious benefits to consolidation?

Mayor Weatherby replied really looking at the different departments. Is there a need for so much duplication amongst the small cities? Can we work together? Again, building inspections might be something. There may be areas where all 3 cities could contract together with one company. I think police is ideally one. What if there was one entity that would provide all of the police protection so there was just one force or some kind of coordination. Some of you have mentioned that we really work well together and I think there must be a way for our Councils to work closer. I'm being vague because I don't want to speak out until we have the study to back me up. I need to know that what I see as low hanging fruit is really there. To answer Mayor Kight, I would really like to stress that other than just these questions that were posed, I don't anticipate any other staff time. The study would be done by PSU.

Councilor White asked before the study occurred would we have the opportunity to have a list of goals so as they are doing the study they could match our goals? An example of a goal would be so no City would have a reduction in service. I'm thinking that might give the study more weight.

Mayor Weatherby replied your Attorney would know better than I but I understand there's a state law that says if you join two entities together that no one loses their job right away. The study would show different scenarios of all the possibilities so it wouldn't give a recommendation. This would really leave it up to the elected people and the public at large to take a look at what really fits them. I believe PSU would do something like the study I brought this evening.

Mayor Kight stated you are talking about a collection of a lot of data. How do they do that without contacting the City employees to get that information?

Mayor Weatherby replied the students would do it. I suppose they would call and ask for pieces of information to be sent to them or they would stop by City Hall to pick up forms or something. Not having conducted a study I don't know what all is involved. It would not be the staff that does this, it would be the school.

Craig Ward stated hearing Council's enthusiasm towards this I will tread carefully. Let me give you an anecdote. As you know we're having structural problems with City Hall. I was having a conversation with my wife about that. She read the article in the Outlook about this study and said great you won't need a new City Hall because you'll just combine and use Fairview's. That really scared me because I think it speaks to the public's guttural reaction to the idea of consolidation, that we can delay doing things unilaterally because we're going to have the opportunity to do things collectively so why do anything. That's a serious problem

and concerns me deeply. I had a meeting last week with Joe Gall from Fairview and Bill Peterson from Wood Village to discuss this and try to better understand what the burden would be on staff. You've raised a few of those examples today which were very helpful. In the past I've been involved in a study consolidating fire districts. That's something that we all share in common. We have that contract coming up in a couple of years. Yes we can look at each individual department; Building, Public Works, Utilities, Police, Fire, Community Development, and Administration separately. It goes back to the old saying of how do you eat an elephant, this project is an elephant, and the answer is one bite at a time. That's really where our conversation boiled down with the three of us. Rather than trying to eat the whole elephant might it not be better to focus PSU's energy on something that is very specific in front of us. An example would be the preparation for the next fire contract which we have to do in 2 years. That alone is an elephant. It's exactly the sort of thing that this study would include. It's just that it's one element. Each element raises red flags for you. PSU will put some graduate students on this with professor oversight, they'll collect data that's publicly available, and then they will come back to us with a report. Then you're going to ask staff to assess that report and it's going to raise opportunities. Maybe there are great cost savings opportunities but I'm concerned that we don't have the staff time to be able to give you an effective response to each one of those pieces that make up a consolidation effort. We will give our best shot to whatever the Council determines but I would really like to see us focus on that fire study. If we can't agree on how we can consolidate fire and work together on that then we have no chance of taking seriously the opportunity to consolidate other departments. Once we deal with that maybe we could talk about police. Between the 2 of those, we've already dealt with the big ticket items that are affecting our budgets. That's what I would do mainly because of my concern about staff and also the public perception that there are a whole bunch of other things that we no longer need to do because down the road we're all just going to consolidate.

Mayor Kight stated you've shared a lot of wisdom, particularly in light of the fact that you've met with the other City Managers.

Craig Ward replied I'm not speaking for them. This was a product of a conversation that we had about how we can support this effort in order to make it most effective and timely.

Mayor Kight asked did you share the idea of doing a fire study with the other 2 Managers?

Craig Ward replied it was proposed by one of the other Managers who said we have this huge challenge out there and we really need to do our homework to prepare for that negotiation if we're going to be effective in 2 years. If PSU does it, they will give us products, we'll have to review drafts, you'll be very curious, the public will be very curious, and it will be very difficult with our limited staff to support that effort while we support a really intensive effort to prepare for the fire negotiations. Right now there is no other plan to do that. I think PSU would be a great choice. If I had a choice I would configure this proposal to PSU to say let's focus on the most immediate need that we have and see if they can help us with that. Once that's done then we can take the police consolidation question and start dealing with that.

Mayor Kight asked what is the consensus on the part of the Council?

Councilor Ripma replied let's not decide anything right now.

Councilor Anderson stated I can appreciate what Craig had to say. I didn't like the answer that we don't want to look into something that could potentially save us millions of dollars because we don't want to answer the questions. If we can apply this to the fire study, perhaps, but I'm not in a position to make a decision on that tonight. I don't want this idea to die.

Mayor Kight stated I think ultimately your proposal has a lot of merit. I think we should take this in pieces and the idea of doing a fire study and see if there is a level of success there and then build on that success. Otherwise it's a huge body of work to do.

Mayor Weatherby asked Mr. Ward, have you had a chance to look at the study?

Craig Ward replied yes I did glance at the study. I think it brings out the possibility that there are true cost savings out there. The cost savings will come from incremental consolidation of cost elements in the budget. I don't know how much work PSU will put in or how their product would compare to this study. I applaud the notion that we look at partnerships between the cities and find ways to do things more cost effectively.

Mayor Weatherby stated I wouldn't approach PSU just to do a fire study. There are all sorts of other avenues. If PSU said that they would do the study but it would cost a lot of time then I would be against it. If it's going to be a scenario like Mr. Ward says then we are just digging a pit and it's not going to accomplish what we want. If they do a study then they would have to do the work. I've read the questions. I guess Mr. Ward sees the staff time for the questions as more onerous.

Craig Ward replied it's not the initial questions it's all the follow up that I think is where the huge workload comes in.

Mayor Weatherby stated if PSU says that they will do a study then we need to know what all would be involved. We would have to ask them how much staff time it is going to take. I think that's a very good question. If they say it's going to take a lot of staff time and the students will be bugging you then I don't think it would be very good because we are small cities. If they do the study then it would come to us all at once, not in segments. I think you have to look at it as a whole and then take a look at what we can do. You do not have consolidation if the consensus of the people is that it won't work. You could look to see if there are aspects that would work. I don't see the advantage to doing this one thing at a time. It doesn't get to the whole issue. Right now there's no action to be taken because PSU hasn't given an answer on this yet. What we're talking about is basically where we are right now. The only thing I would like to have for PSU is the support to just answer the very simple questionnaire and take this one step at a time.

Councilor Allen asked what is the approximate effort involved in the initial questions?

Craig Ward replied I'd guess that we could probably produce it in a day or two.

Councilor White stated I know that other states have had successful models of consolidations. In Alaska they've consolidated cities that are 60-70 miles apart out of economic necessity. It might be prudent for us to start this report. We're looking at 10

square miles and it seems like a natural thing to look at. Hopefully if nothing else maybe some duplication of effort could be eliminated and some money saved.

Mayor Kight stated we need to know if PSU is going to do the study, what's involved as far as staff time, and what's involved as far as cost before the City Council commits to give a blank check.

Councilor Daoust stated I think the fire study is going to happen whether we do this or not. I don't want to hang this up in limbo for that reason. I think that the study is a good idea and I would suggest that the City do its initial part of filling out the questionnaire and get the ball rolling. I'm sure we can describe to PSU, via the contract with them, how big of an elephant we want them to produce.

Mayor Weatherby replied I learned from Mr. Ward some of the issues that we have to address because I don't want some of his fears to take place. That isn't my desire at all. If some of the concerns he had arose then we would look at a different place.

Councilor Daoust stated I respect Mr. Ward and his thought process but I think when it's all over and done with and we get the report, then we can choose how we respond to it. The media will have obvious questions and we'll answer those but as far as staff time to respond to it, I think we have a choice there.

Mayor Weatherby stated if you're used to looking at the paper, you're going to see it sensationalized. The first thing they talked about was a name and what city hall to use. That's a long step down the road. All I want to do is have a study. I think the public is going to jump to conclusions. We need to have the mindset that we're going to look out for what's right for our community.

Mayor Kight recessed the meeting at 8:20pm to take a 10 minute break. He reconvened the meeting at 8:30pm.

5. DISCUSSION and MOTION: A discussion and motion regarding a request for a specific exception to the City of Troutdale Construction standards for Public Works Facilities for 2575 NW Graham Circle (Toyo Tanso USA, Inc., Facility).

Travis Hultin, Chief Engineer, stated on September 27, 2011 we received a letter from Toyo Tanso USA requesting an exception from the City of Troutdale's construction standards for Public Works Facilities to give them relief from the obligation to construct sidewalks as part of half street improvements along their frontage. This is coming before the Council because the elimination of sidewalks along the frontage of a property constitutes a reduction in capacity and according to the adopting resolution for the construction standards, the Public Works Director does not have the authority to grant such exceptions, only the Council does. At the time of the original Toyo Tanso USA construction, in the early '90's, the City allowed them to defer construction of the sidewalks and provided a deed restriction in lieu of those improvements. During subsequent expansions and modifications of the facility over the years, most of the half street improvements were completed but the sidewalks remain to be done. Earlier this year Toyo Tanso formally applied for a Type I Site and Design Review to construct a parking lot in their facility. At that time the Public Works Department proposed a condition to require that those sidewalks be completed and it was adopted as a condition of

the land use decision on July 14th. They issued a notice of decision for that parking lot expansion soon after and there was an option for appeal of that decision which would have had to have gone to the Planning Commission by July 25th. An appeal was not submitted so the condition remains. The City's construction standards essentially implement the goals and policies of various City master plans and the Transportation System Plan (TSP). The TSP, adopted in August 2005, provides specific goals and information regarding policies of the City through the year 2035 related to implementing the multi-modal transportation system. The most applicable goal related to this is Goal 3, Policy a, which states "commercial, community service, and high employment industries uses shall be developed and sited to be supportive and convenient to pedestrians, bicycles and transit riders." There are 4 businesses that have frontage along NW Graham Circle of which Toyo Tanso is 1. There is also MML Diagnostics Packaging, Le Tourneau Sales and Service, and Portwest Commercial Truck Service. The other sites along that road, particularly Le Tourneau and MML, appear to have similar deed restrictions. In 2009 when Portwest Commercial Truck Service was constructed, half street improvements including sidewalks were required and constructed. The City Council hasn't established any specific objective criteria for evaluating these types of requests. The City Council has considered them before and typically when they've been granted it's been based on technical and feasibility. Public Works is not in support of granting this specific exception to the construction standards. It's our opinion that doing so would be in contradiction to the TSP which the Council adopted. It would further delay the installation of pedestrian facilities from a large employer for connection to the future transit routes and the City's trail system including the 40 Mile Loop. We also are concerned that it could be considered inequitable by the developers and property owners that have had to construct half street improvements like this in the past. It could result in future expense to the City if this were continuously deferred and never constructed because it could get to the point where the City had to step in. We're also concerned that the reason presented for wanting to be relieved of this obligation is essentially a cost savings measure, as stated by the applicant, and we're concerned about the precedent that might set. There are many standards in the construction standards, the development code, and other plans of the City and this could open the door for someone to ask for relief from any of those standards based on cost. I would like to point out that construction of this sidewalk will not immediately provide connectivity to Sundial Road which is the transit street however many of the City's infrastructure elements are constructed in an incremental fashion with development. Considering the similar nature and quantity of improvements planned, the anticipated growth in the surrounding industrial area, and the deferments that they've already enjoyed, staff felt this was the right time to propose this condition and enforce it. The City Attorney has advised that the City cannot rescind the deed restriction as it would require the consent of other property owners, Multnomah County, and other parties of the deed restriction. It's the Attorney's opinion that the Council does not have the ability to extinguish that deed restriction. However, if the Council disagrees with staff's recommendation and would like to give the applicant relief then the Council could grant the applicant an exception to the construction standards for the sidewalk requirement that would be applicable to this project. This would defer the requirement to the next time that Toyo Tanso came in with a land use application at which time either through the planning process or before the Council they could request additional deferments. If the Council wishes to pursue that, the action would be to direct staff to bring back an implementing resolution and we would encourage the Council to articulate clear findings in support of that resolution, particularly because of the issues raised about a possible precedent and want to make sure it's very clear the reasons that the Council wanted to do this.

Mayor Kight asked to install these sidewalks we're looking at a cost of \$15,000?

Travis Hultin replied that's the applicants estimate. The applicant is here tonight and I'm sure he could speak to that more specifically.

Mayor Kight stated with the advent of the sidewalk, would the trees disappear in front of the property?

Travis Hultin replied we've worked with the applicant to identify an alternative alignment for the sidewalk that would allow the trees to remain. As the manager of the City's street tree permit program I would be very much in favor of trying to retain them.

Councilor Ripma asked have the other property owners in the deed restriction been approached to rescind the restriction?

Travis Hultin replied no, not by the City but I can't speak for the applicant.

Councilor Ripma asked is the request by Toyo Tanso to defer the requirement that's being imposed until the next time they do some sort of land use application?

Travis Hultin replied I believe it's requesting to waive the requirement altogether.

Councilor Ripma stated but that's not an option.

Travis Hultin replied we couldn't find a way to do that with the deed restriction in place.

Councilor Ripma asked are the other neighbors subject to the same deed restriction?

Travis Hultin replied Portwest has already constructed their half street improvements including sidewalks. One of the other two definitely does have that same deed restriction and the other one was unclear. I did research the microfilm records and it was somewhat spotty.

Councilor Ripma stated the other one that is subject to the deed restriction has not constructed the sidewalk.

Travis Hultin replied that's correct.

Councilor Ripma asked if they come in with a land use application would they also be required?

Travis Hultin replied yes, we would propose such a condition.

Councilor Ripma asked have we ever granted a request like this from an applicant?

Travis Hultin replied we have on a few occasions in my experience here but there was never a case where it was based on cost from my recollection. There have been cases where it was based on a technical issue or a feasibility issue.

Councilor Ripma asked would the sidewalk be built in a place where it will have to be torn up if anything else is done or is it being built along the street? I couldn't really tell.

Travis Hultin replied it would be built parallel to Graham Road only it would be setback behind the row of trees. I don't know the setbacks in that zone off the top of my head. It is an industrial zone so they are probably substantial. The applicant might speak to any other plans that they have but my guess is that there's probably not an ability to build in that area in the future as long as it's zoned industrial without a variance.

Councilor Anderson asked have you been down there lately?

Travis Hultin replied yes I have.

Councilor Anderson stated I knew this was on the agenda so I grabbed lunch and sat down there to watch how many people are walking around. Nobody was using it. My question would be, if this were to happen in your house and there's the potential for future development but there's nothing going on and you're asked to spend \$15,000 with nothing going on, how would you feel?

Travis Hultin replied a residential property is a little different.

Councilor Anderson stated ok, you're a business owner.

Travis Hultin replied it's a bit of an unfair question because I have the background knowledge of how these things typically happen and the average property owner doesn't. Knowing what I know, I would know that these systems are built incrementally and that each developer builds their piece to eventually result in a connective system. I would say this is what I have to do and this is what the guy across the street had to do.

Councilor Anderson stated eventually being the key word. We're not there yet and I don't think we're going to be there anytime soon. I don't get the sense that the Toyo Tanso folks would say we never want to build that sidewalk. They're asking why they have to build it now when there's nothing going on.

Travis Hultin stated I'm not sure what you mean by nothing going on.

Councilor Anderson replied there's no development, no connection to Sundial, there's no pedestrian traffic. It's an industrial area. We're asking them to put a sidewalk in that nobody is going to use. If there were people walking around then I'd get the point. Mr. Ross, is non-remonstrance an option here?

David Ross replied that's essentially what the deed restriction is. Non-remonstrance agreement is in this case in 1992 when we said we are going to let you build but you don't have to do this until later but when we say later has arrived then you won't complain.

Councilor Anderson asked can we extend that term? Can we say you don't have to put the sidewalk in now but the minute "x" happens you've got to do it? I can see their point. It's a little frustrating to me that we're asking them to do something that nobody is going to use.

David Ross replied the conditions in the deed restriction are that it will be constructed when petition is initiated either by this Council or the Board of Commissions in Multnomah County or by abutting property owners.

Councilor Anderson stated so they're going to expand and because of that they are going to have to put in a sidewalk that nobody is going to use. They are going to expand to add jobs to our community.

David Ross replied I don't know if no one is going to use the sidewalk or if they put one in then people will use it. I can only answer the legal questions.

Councilor Anderson stated my point is that I don't see anyone using it now and I don't see anyone using it a year from now.

Councilor Daoust stated there are 4 businesses along this dead end cul-de-sac and only 1 out of 4 has put sidewalks in. At the opening of the cul-de-sac there are no sidewalks coming off of Sundial Road. There are no sidewalks connecting Sundial Road with the sidewalks that Toyo Tanso would have to build?

Travis Hultin replied that's correct.

Councilor Daoust stated you mentioned future transit routes and 40 Mile Loop. I don't get the connection with the 40 Mile Loop trail.

Travis Hultin replied I'm taking that from the TSP that was developed in 2005.

Councilor Daoust stated normally I wouldn't deviate from the transportation plan because I know what that's for, to have a connected system, but how does the transportation plan address dead end cul-de-sacs that aren't connected to anything?

Travis Hultin replied as I stated earlier, it's an incremental approach. We can't dictate the order that people will develop. The requirements are imposed at the time of development and with the intent that eventually as development occurs they will be connected.

Councilor Daoust stated I understand incremental approach and that we can only do so much at any given time. The fact that this dead end cul-de-sac will never be connected to anything is a unique example. Generally the road system is connected to something else, trail, mass transit, or another road. I can't see where this is ever going to be connected to anything. I looked at it too and agree with Councilor Anderson and there is absolutely zero use or even potential use of the sidewalk because of where parking lots are located compared to the buildings where people work.

Travis Hultin replied as far as the statement that they will never be connected, I'm not sure that's the case. There is a deed restriction on at least one of the abutting property owners and they will have to eventually construct sidewalks. We would impose that condition at any time they expand just like Toyo Tanso. Additionally if the deed restriction is structured similarly, which I believe it is, the Council could call in that deed restriction at any time and require that property owner to make that connection. There is a potential for having connectivity to Sundial Road in the future because at least one of the corner properties has a

similar deed restriction. The Council has the option of calling in that deed restriction or if one of those properties comes in for an expansion or land use permit then we would impose a similar condition. Another option is if the City Council desired it then the City could undertake the project to construct the missing segment of sidewalk where we don't have the opportunity to require it of the developer. There are opportunities for that connectivity.

Councilor Daoust stated we're not talking about not doing all the half street improvements because in fact all the rest of the half street improvements have been made, right?

Travis Hultin replied correct.

Councilor Daoust asked so all we're talking about is the sidewalk?

Travis Hultin replied correct.

Councilor Allen stated I believe that once the sidewalk is built and connected that it may be used by employees for walking purposes. Do we know of anyone who is walking to work at this time?

Travis Hultin replied we haven't taken pedestrian counts or anything like that.

Councilor Allen stated it is rather isolated and there isn't residential area nearby. At this time I don't see it as the best use of capital to build a sidewalk. However, I may change my mind in the future when things are better and maybe having a sidewalk with minimal use might be just fine.

Councilor White stated I've talked to Rich Faith about an idea. Metro allows a pathway in lieu of building sidewalks and this might be an appropriate use for that application if it's even allowed in our code. Are you familiar with that?

Travis Hultin replied I'm not. Can you describe the pathway?

Councilor White stated it doesn't have any of the concrete it's just a gravel walking area that meanders. It's not like a traditional sidewalk.

Travis Hultin replied I'm not too familiar with that. My only concern is will that meet the ADA requirements and things like that? There is obviously the concern that if you allow developer A to build a gravel path instead of a sidewalk then developer B is going to say me too and pretty soon there won't be sidewalks anymore.

Councilor White stated you could also look at the other side of the coin where even in our downtown we built the sidewalk by Jackson Park Road through a grant but it only was on one side of the road. It's frustrating if you're the proper owner on the other side that when you develop you have to build a sidewalk when one was provided through a grant for the other side. I'm saying we already have some inconsistencies. I'm willing to look at this from a common sense approach and possibly delaying it or at least looking into the pathway idea.

Travis Hultin showed the Council color photos of the site using PowerPoint (black and white copies of the site are in the meeting packet).

Mayor Kight asked how many linear feet would it be?

Travis Hultin replied I think it was about 430.

Councilor White stated I'm noticing the maturity of the trees. Would the sidewalk go between the curb and those trees?

Travis Hultin replied no we worked with the applicant to identify an alternative line which would be behind the trees. It would not be the typical alignment but we felt it was prudent to protect the trees.

Councilor White asked how far away from those trees are you talking?

Amy Pepper, Civil Engineer, replied there's a fair amount of room behind those trees because the setbacks in that area are 20 feet.

Travis Hultin stated having built similar type projects and working with trees a lot, I think there's ample room.

Mayor Kight asked what is the main objection, the \$15,000 cost?

Travis Hultin replied it's my understanding that it's essentially the cost issue.

Councilor Daoust stated it appears that the only people that would use the sidewalk are Toyo Tanso employees.

Travis Hultin replied I think that's reasonable, other than someone who was walking for exercise or something like that.

Councilor Anderson asked do we have the ability to defer this until we get Sundial connectivity?

Travis Hultin replied we'd probably have to discuss that with the City Attorney to make sure.

Councilor Anderson stated if Sundial is the main conduit through there then a sidewalk being off of Sundial going to Toyo Tanso only stands to reason that it connects to Toyo Tanso and goes around the whole cul-de-sac. Right now off the main thoroughfare there's nothing.

Mayor Kight asked Bob Fowler from Toyo Tanso to come forward.

Bob Fowler, Toyo Tanso, stated thank you for hearing our appeal. This is the first land use planning that I've been through and I blew it as far as the appeal process. When we first looked at this it was almost \$90,000 to do the sidewalk because we were looking at taking out the trees and there were a couple of light poles. I have a hard time believing the 40 Mile Loop ties into this cul-de-sac that goes nowhere and will never go anywhere because you'd have to go across Arata Creek. We're trying to get our people off the street and into a parking lot. We've added over 40 people in the last 18 months to our payroll and we're going to be about 200 people by the end of the year. \$15,000 doesn't seem like much but \$15,000

on a \$150,000 remodel or whatever is still capital money and we're trying to create jobs. If the sidewalk was going someplace then we'd go along with it. You pointed out that it's not being equitable for the other people. If you go back and look at when Le Tourneau added on to their facility several years ago, they did not put a sidewalk in. I think that's a point to look at as far as equity among people. The deed that you're looking at included the property across the street and at Sundial and we've sold both of those pieces of property. Those deed restrictions should be taken away because there's no longer the configuration that was approved by the City Council. We did not find out until late in the game that we've basically delayed this 4 or 5 times.

Mayor Kight asked are you asserting that you don't want to ever put in a sidewalk?

Bob Fowler replied I'm asserting that we would like to delay it or not put one in. If there's an economic reason to do it then we would put a sidewalk in. We're probably going to be coming forward for a land use hearing for an addition that's about \$1 million. Then we have another one on the board that we're looking into the feasibility of. We'll be coming back for land use planning, there's no doubt about that.

Mayor Kight asked how do your folks get from the warehouse to the main building?

Bob Fowler replied on a sidewalk.

Mayor Kight stated the conundrum that we're faced with is if we make an exception to one then we potentially have to make it for all. Would you agree to putting in sidewalks at some future date as opposed to not putting it in at all?

Bob Fowler replied if the sidewalk was connected to Sundial Road then I'd say yes. I think my boss would go along with that. If there is a reason for it being connected to Sundial Road then that's a possibility but I'd have to confirm that with him.

Councilor White stated if you put the sidewalk in would you save the trees?

Bob Fowler replied our intention is to save those trees. Every year we've had the Gresham/Barlow Booster Club in to beautify our trees and property. If you notice, our facility looks more like a park.

Councilor Ripma stated we are advised that we don't have the power to remove the requirement for the sidewalk. There might be some way to remove it from the deed restriction if you could get all the parties including the County to agree. We could defer the requirement until the next land use application. Would that be of interest to you?

Bob Fowler replied we would take a deferral.

Councilor Anderson asked how many jobs have you added this year?

Bob Fowler replied 40 jobs in the last 18 months.

Councilor Anderson asked and you said you are going to do an expansion?

Bob Fowler replied yes.

Councilor Anderson asked how many jobs is that going to create?

Bob Fowler replied we'll probably add at least another 20-30 employees if we can do the next phase.

Councilor Anderson replied so that's 65 new jobs. Where might those jobs go if not here?

Bob Fowler replied we've opened up a facility in Durham, Connecticut. Right now there's about 10-15 employees. We will be expanding that facility too.

Councilor Anderson asked are we in competition with the Durham facility for these expansions?

Bob Fowler replied in some areas, yes. Some of it is driven by customer needs.

Mayor Kight asked would the \$15,000 sidewalk be a deal breaker?

Bob Fowler replied it's not a deal breaker but it's another fee that keeps up from putting in jobs.

Mayor Kight stated I understand you are also applying for the Enterprise Zone.

Bob Fowler replied yes.

Councilor Daoust stated since my projection is that the only people that'll use these sidewalks are Toyo Tanso employees. Are you're employees requesting these sidewalks?

Bob Fowler replied no. A couple of people walk around the airport and that's about it.

Mayor Kight asked can we get some legal advice so we're clear on what direction Council needs to take?

Councilor Daoust stated if we grant the request for the exception then we have to articulate our reasons. If we want to proceed that way I do have a list of articulated reasons.

Mayor Kight asked can I get clarification on a legal point. I think we've heard it before, that we could in fact defer it to either a) when there is connectivity to Sundial Road or b) based on future development. At this point they've deferred it for 19 years.

David Ross replied I don't know about the Sundial Road connectivity but you can defer it to a future development.

Councilor Daoust stated I'm prepared to make a motion granting the request for the specific exception. In other words, grant Toyo Tanso's request to put it off. I have some articulated reason that I can put forth.

Mayor Kight asked for clarification, when you say put it off, until when?

Councilor Daoust replied the attorney said we only have one option and that is until the next future development. If I had my way, the only common sense thing is to build the sidewalk when the rest of the sidewalks will be built. The attorney says we don't have that option because of the deed restriction.

David Ross stated they're not going to be built all at once. They're going to be built as individual properties apply for development permits. There are other properties that are subject to this same restriction and in fact if the applicant has sold some of the property that was originally subject to this restriction, this is a covenant that runs with the land so those properties are subject to the same restriction.

Mayor Kight stated so if we defer this it's still going to be based upon their next development and then they'll have to do it. Is that right?

David Ross replied I would assume that the same condition will be placed on the next development permit. I would also assume that the next land use decision that says the decision must be appealed within 10 days will be treated differently by the applicant. This may occur again and it may occur with other property owners. Or the Council could say as the deed restriction allows, we're going to call it up on all the properties. If the Council were to want sidewalks put in simultaneously then that would be an option because that is exactly what this deed restriction gives you the power to do, to say we want the sidewalks constructed now.

Councilor Daoust stated in 6 months when they do their next development and they appeal it, could they appeal the deed restriction itself?

David Ross replied no.

MOTION: Councilor Daoust moved that we approve the request from Toyo Tanso for a specific exception to the City of Troutdale construction standards for Public Works Facilities for 2575 NW Graham Circle which is Toyo Tanso USA, Inc.'s Facility. Seconded by Councilor Anderson.

Councilor Daoust stated the findings for the motion are as follows:

- **The elimination of sidewalks along the frontage of Graham Circle will not constitute a reduction in capacity because there is no capacity to reduce.**
- **Some of the deed restrictions have been met. The street improvements, storm sewer system improvements, street lighting, and other public improvements have been met. We can't say that Toyo Tanso is not doing the half street improvements, they have done them all except the sidewalks.**
- **The City Council policy to provide pedestrian and bicycle amenities are provided on Sundial Road. So our policy is still being met.**
- **The cul-de-sac does not connect to any other transportation system except Sundial Road. There is no connection to any other planned or future transportation system.**
- **There is currently no pedestrian traffic on Graham Circle and the projected future pedestrian traffic would be Toyo Tanso employees only.**

- There are no sidewalks connecting Sundial Road to the proposed sidewalks that Toyo Tanso would have to put in.
- Councilor Allen added the following finding: There is no nearby residential housing.

David Ross stated after the draft minutes are prepared we will compare some of the draft findings with prior decisions of either the Planning Commission or this Council to make sure that we are on solid legal footing. For example, the first finding that the elimination of sidewalks does not equal a reduction in capacity, I think it's probably outside of the prevue of a finding that this Council could make. If it were not a reduction in capacity then the Engineer could approve this and they wouldn't have had to bring it here. I'm proposing to review the draft findings and massage them slightly. Some may not be recognizable in their current form. I just wanted to make Council aware of that.

Mayor Kight asked are you comfortable with the Council moving forward with the motion?

David Ross replied perhaps it might make more sense for us to craft a staff report, findings, and motion to bring back at a later meeting as opposed to trying to codify them, so to speak, right now.

Travis Hultin stated the approach that we talked about previously was that if the Council were to provide us with findings then we could incorporate those into an implementing resolution that we could bring back for you to act on. That's how these exceptions have been done in the past.

David Ross stated I have a sense of what it is that you want to accomplish, I just need to make sure that we don't step on our toes in the process.

Mayor Kight asked Councilor Daoust would you like to withdraw your motion?

Councilor Daoust replied are we assuming that we have a motion and a second that there's a consensus here?

The Council agreed.

MOTION TO AMEND: Councilor Daoust replied now that I know we have consensus, I will withdraw my motion. Councilor Anderson withdrew his second.

6. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Craig Ward, City Manager, stated first I would like to ask the Council's indulgence for me to not attend the Executive Session regarding the evaluation of the City Attorney and the Municipal Court Judge. It's my understanding that the practice has been that the City Manager has not been expected to attend those and I would like that approval again.

Mayor Kight replied you will be missed.

Craig Ward replied thank you, I'll take that as a consensus approval from the Council. We've had an evolution in the process required for the Arch lighting. IBEW 48 fully stands by their grant but they do need a letter of intent to accept their grant. It's a non-binding letter and I assume I have the authority to submit that and it needs to go out right away. They've also proposed that we need a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) in order to accept the grant. We will have to put that on a Council meeting agenda. We will continue to work on that but please don't expect the lighting to be installed in time for the tree lighting ceremony, Christmas or maybe even New Year's at this rate. We're working on it diligently but I just want to manage expectations that it appears with the requirements that IBEW is putting forward that we won't be able to meet those deadlines. We've had a request from the Port of Portland to endorse the appointment of Wood Village Councilor, Mark Clark, as the regional representative of East County to the PDX Advisory Committee. If you are uncomfortable with that then I'll need contrary direction in some form.

The Council was ok with the appointment.

Craig Ward stated apparently he was on the Noise Committee and they will no doubt have to fill that seat. If you know of anyone who would like to volunteer for that, I'm sure we could influence the Port to go down that path. Another item I mentioned previously in passing is that Councilor Anderson asked me to look into whether the City should start a Facebook page. Many local governments have done this. I've spent some time researching the issue. The City of Sandy has a page and I met with their City Manager last week to talk about the mechanics of what they do and the obligation. They are very proud of the fact that they have a few thousand friends on their Facebook page which is remarkable given it's a City of 9,000. I don't want to be unkind but the level of sophistication of how they manage their process makes me very uncomfortable and I think if we should go down that path that we need to spend more time and energy developing some policy guidance as to how we'll manage the site. They distribute the responsibility for managing and responding to public comments and tracking individual issues among departments so it's not very centralized and it's not particularly controlled. I'm not comfortable with that and I think it would require more time. I feel like I've done my due diligence on this without having Council direction to look into it. I will note that our IT department is very concerned and rightfully so. There's a developing body of knowledge on how Facebook is abused by hackers and people who send out viruses. We've had some experience with that. Our Police Department has access to Facebook and YouTube for investigatory purposes. Other than that, City staff isn't allowed through our security system to look at Facebook, including looking at the City of Sandy's Facebook page to see if it's something that we want to do. In the investigatory process, when our Police looked at these we contracted a virus and it took at least a couple of man days to go in and clean that mess up. Given the fact that our IT department only has 1 employee, it's a significant concern to them. It's obviously a risk that cities all over the Country experience so I'm not saying it can't be managed but I'm saying it's a significant concern. Do you desire that staff continue to investigate the issue in depth and bring back a recommendation or have I done nominal enough work that you are satisfied and prepared to give direction to staff as to whether or not to proceed?

Mayor Kight stated I would feel more comfortable to go on Sandy's site to see what's involved. I'm not that familiar with Facebook but I know there are some people that are on there night and day.

Craig Ward replied that's exactly the reason why it's become a target for viruses and the like because so many people are using it, which is also a great reason to use it because we can reach out to our public. I had a question from Councilor Ripma and that was what does a Facebook page do for us that our website, e-mail, or our RSS feed don't do. I think the real answer is that once people befriend you, we give them entry into our page to view it and they can then make comments on it. It's not just a way of sending out information, a dialog occurs. Sandy only does very specific topics so it doesn't have to be wide open. It doesn't even have to address controversial issues which Sandy does not do. It's really a proactive approach to reach out to those that have befriended us and want to stay in touch with us. More so than our website which tends to be one sided where we post information and people can read it. They can be notified that we've posted it but they can only give us feedback through e-mail. The comments that come back on Facebook are viewable by everybody else who is a friend of Troutdale. So they can see them and interplay with one another's comments. To some extent it has a bit of a different target market of younger, more technologically savvy people than our current website and e-mail system might serve.

Councilor Anderson stated being the guy that brought this elephant into the room, I would personally like to ingest the information that I received today and get a little more time so I can respond.

Councilor White stated I attended a meeting about this at the League of Oregon Cities Conference. The biggest thing that I got out of that was that it is a tool geared towards the younger generation. I think eventually all Cities will have this vehicle at their disposal. I think it's a great tool for building community involvement.

Councilor Allen stated I wonder if we can keep up with it or will it become a gossip page of misinformation.

Councilor Anderson replied I would say go look at Sandy's Facebook page or another municipality's and see how they do it.

Councilor Allen asked do we know how much time they spend managing it?

Councilor Anderson replied I've gotten 2 posts from the City of Sandy in a week.

Craig Ward stated my sense from speaking to them is that it's very decentralized. An individual department will choose to post a question such as how did you like the 2011 Summerfest. Then people will respond. They don't allow comments that are off topic.

Mayor Kight asked does the Department Head monitor it?

Craig Ward replied yes they monitor it and respond to comments. They're not really sure how much time goes into monitoring it because it's so decentralized.

Councilor Ripma stated let's let Councilor Anderson digest the information and Craig wait until further request.

Mayor Kight asked is there a way to show this in a PowerPoint presentation so we can see what we're talking about?

Craig Ward replied I'm sure there is. Since I can't open it here, I'll have to figure something out. Maybe we can make an exception for a Council meeting and turn off the filter and then turn it back on after the meeting. We'll do our best to be able to display it when we bring it back. I have 2 other small comments. The volunteer recruitment for Committee vacancies has gone slowly and therefore we've extended the deadline to November 15th. Finally we have a joint Budget Committee, Urban Renewal Agency, and Budget Oversight Subcommittee Work Session at 7:00pm next Wednesday, November 2nd to discuss a whole range of fiscal related issues.

David Ross asked do we have authority to send the letter to IBEW?

Craig Ward replied I thought I had Council consensus to send in a letter of intent to IBEW.

The Council confirmed their consensus to submit the letter.

7. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Kight stated the first East County Stand in for Vets was held at The Chapel. I talked to Pastor Dave Brown and he was magnanimous in opening up his church for this event. This is the first time that this has happened in East Multnomah County. Clackamas County did it at their Community College and had 3,000 in attendance. At our event 120 Vets attended, there were 70 volunteers, and 40 vendors such as Work Source Oregon and Salvation Army. Approximately 20% of the people that attended were homeless. Adult children brought their older parents to make sure they were getting benefits. They were gratified to see that there were people there to answer their questions. Councilor Allen was there for the entire day as I understand it. We had 2 off duty Police Officers donate their time to provide some level of security. One of them was Sergeant Shrake and I don't have the name of the other officer. It was very successful for our first time and hopefully we'll be able to do it again. We received an \$80,000 grant from the State of Oregon from DLCD for the Periodic Review Grant Award. Out of 65 proposals, the City of Troutdale won. We've very thankful for that.

Councilor White stated I wanted to remind everyone that tomorrow is the open house for Title 13 and it's from 3:00pm to 7:00pm here in the Council Chambers.

Councilor Ripma stated I will be late to the meeting on November 2nd. That's our Board Meeting for the Troutdale Historical Society and I will come to the meeting after that.

Councilor Anderson stated in looking at the upcoming agenda and talking about Council Goals, City Hall, budgets, and things like that, I'd like to request a Work Session of the Council with Craig to go over our 2012 Goals and to discuss the Fiscal Year 2012 Budget as it relates to those goals and also to possibly delve into contingency plans for this building with our desires and direction to staff. I thought I'd put that out there for you and see if that's something that you'd want to consider doing.

Councilor Allen replied I think that would be a good effort.

Mayor Kight replied I'd concur with that given the current state of the building.

Councilor Daoust replied it sounds like a good idea in between the midyear budget check in and the Budget Committee meetings to have some kind of Council action or discussion about priorities, goals, and what we should be doing to prepare for the Budget Committee meetings.

Councilor Daoust asked do you have a meeting date in mind?

Councilor Anderson replied I'm looking at the upcoming agenda and I see on the 22nd there is the Comcast Franchise agreement which is tentative but I also notice that it's on the November 8th agenda which looks to be relatively official.

Craig Ward replied we were provided our first copy of the action taken by the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission who have approved and recommended that we approve the franchise. We're hopeful that we can bring it forward for action on the 8th but it's a little premature to make that commitment.

Councilor Anderson stated I would say let's have it on the 22nd and make it a Work Session as opposed to a Council meeting. That would be my pleasure but as business dictates.

8. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Councilor Anderson moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Allen. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 9:48pm.

Mayor Jim Kight

Approved: December 13, 2011

ATTEST:

Sarah Skroch, Deputy City Recorder