

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

Tuesday, January 12, 2010

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, ROLL CALL, AGENDA UPDATE

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

PRESENT: Mayor Kight, Councilor Hartmann, Councilor Wand, Councilor Thomas, Councilor White, Councilor Kyle and Councilor Daoust.

ABSENT: None.

STAFF: Dave Nelson, City Administrator; Scott Anderson, Chief of Police; Debbie Stickney, City Recorder; Erich Mueller, Finance Director and David Ross, City Attorney.

GUESTS: See Attached.

2. ELECTION: Election of the 2010 Council President.

NOMINATION: Councilor Thomas nominated Councilor Daoust for Council President for the year 2010. Seconded by Councilor Kyle.

Mayor Kight asked are there any other nominations?

No further nominations were made.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

Councilor Daoust stated I appreciate the vote of confidence by the Mayor and Council.

3. CERTIFICATES OF APPRECIATION:

- 3.1** Tom Campbell, FedEx
- 3.2** Terry Huston, Executive Director Troutdale Historical Society
- 3.3** Jorgan Shaw, Public Safety Advisory Committee
- 3.4** Candise Touch, Wal-Mart Manager

Mayor Kight presented a certificate to Tom Campbell, Distribution Manager for FedEx. The certificate read, "The Troutdale City Council would like to express our gratitude to you for

providing free shipping for over 27 boxes of Christmas gifts for the US Army's 25th Infantry currently staged in Hawaii. The soldiers were able to receive their Christmas gifts not only on time but within five days of shipping. We want to thank FedEx, and particularly you, for expediting gifts to soldiers that otherwise would not have received any gifts this past Christmas Season." Ron Cazares, Supervisor for FedEx accepted the certificate on behalf of Tom Campbell. Ron supervises the FedEx drivers and is the person that was responsible for coordinating the drivers that picked up the packages from Troutdale that were delivered to the Army's 25th Infantry.

Mayor Kight presented a certificate to Terry Huston, Executive Director of the Troutdale Historical Society. The certificate read, "The Troutdale City Council wishes to acknowledge your outstanding volunteer effort of supplying Christmas gifts to the US Army's 25th Infantry who are currently stationed in Hawaii, and are preparing to deploy overseas. You, along with several volunteers, sorted and packaged the Christmas gifts working into the night in order to meet the shipping deadline. Due to your efforts 64 soldiers received Christmas gifts that otherwise wouldn't have. Thank you for your outstanding work and proving once again that just one person can make a positive difference in so many people's lives."

Terry Huston and Mayor Kight read two thank you letters that were sent from the soldiers that received the packages (copy included in the packet).

Chief Scott Anderson stated Jorgan Shaw has been a member of the Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) for several years. She has a passion for kids and she loves to give. Jorgan has led our Toys for Tots Drive for the last several years. This year the major toy store in the Outlet Mall closed and that left us scrambling to figure out what we could do for a toy drive. Jorgan suggested that we contact Wal-Mart in Wood Village. They were a great partner for us to work with. This year we just about doubled the amount of toys collected. Last year I believe we had 87 barrels of toys and this year we collected over 150 barrels of toys.

Chief Anderson presented a certificate of appreciation to Jorgan Shaw. The certificate read, "The City of Troutdale salutes Jorgan Shaw for her efforts as a volunteer to help others less fortunate. Jorgan has organized the Christmas Toy Drive in Troutdale for over eight years. For the children who would not otherwise receive a Christmas present, Jorgan is one of Santa's most effective helpers. During the rest of the year, Jorgan helps bring hope to the lives of the people she touches. As the manager of Troutdale Terrace, some of Jorgan's tenants have seen more than their share of hardships. Jorgan helps when she can, where she can, day or night. Jorgan Shaw is a shining example of how volunteers are making our community a better place."

Mayor Kight presented a certificate to Candise Touch, Manager of the Wood Village Wal-Mart. The certificate read, "The City of Troutdale wants to extend our appreciation to Candise Touch, Manager at Wal-Mart, for her generous donation and support for our 2009 Toy Drive. Candise offered a \$1,000.00 grant from Wal-Mart to help buy more presents for children who otherwise would have had nothing this Christmas. The City of Troutdale salutes Candise Touch for her personal efforts to help make sure more children had a Merry Christmas."

4. PROCLAMATION: Proclaim the month of January 2010 as Big Brothers Big Sisters Month.

Councilor Daoust read the proclamation.

Patrick Rieder, Big Brothers Big Sisters, stated we are a one on one mentoring program which seeks to pair up children in the community with responsible caring adults.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

5.1 MINUTES: October 13, 2009 Work Session, October 13, 2009 Regular Meeting, October 27, 2009 Regular Meeting, November 10, 2009 Regular Meeting and December 8, 2009 Regular Meeting.

5.2 RESOLUTION: A resolution supporting the Mt. Hood Community College Greenway Trail Project and authorizing submittal of an Oregon Parks and Recreation Department Recreation Trail Program Grant Application.

5.3 RESOLUTION: A resolution recognizing the completion of Well #5 and associated public improvements, and accepting them into the City's Fixed Assed System.

5.4 RESOLUTION: A resolution approving the agreement for the 2010 Edgefield Summer Concert Series.

MOTION: Councilor Kyle moved to accept the Consent Agenda. Seconded by Councilor Daoust. Motion Passed Unanimously.

6. PUBLIC COMMENT: Please restrict comments to non-agenda items at this time.

None.

7. RESOLUTION: A resolution authorizing an interfund Capital Project Loan from the Parks Improvement Fund to the General Fund for the construction of the Troutdale Centennial Monument Arch project.

Mayor Kight read the resolution title.

Erich Mueller, Finance Director, stated this resolution is an administrative follow-through to the discussion and decisions that were reached back in August and September by the City Council in addressing the approval of moving forward with the Arch. This is the financing technique that was addressed in the Supplemental Budget, which was adopted on September 8, 2009. At that time the decision was to bring the loan back after the first of the year because the Legislature had made several favorable changes to the statute that became effective after January 1st. This resolution does not in any way change the expenditure level or the appropriations. Simply stated we have one fund that is going to act as the bank for us. The Parks Improvement Fund will not suffer any ill effects from playing the role of the bank. It will receive the same rate of return on their funds as they would if the loan was not made.

Councilor Daoust asked if we continue to receive contributions are we going to have to continue to do additional interfund capital project loans? Would the money come into the Parks Improvement Fund and get deposited there, or does it get deposited into the General Fund?

Erich Mueller replied the contributions that we have received to date, and that we will continue to receive, will come into the General Fund and are earmarked into a specific revenue account. At the time we passed the Supplemental Budget we recognized \$102,000 that was received to date as part of the Supplemental Budget. Those funds were received through the General Fund; this is the balance of what makes up the total appropriation for the project.

Councilor Wand stated as we are receiving contributions I assume that we will apply those directly to the principal and transfer those immediately to pay the loan down.

Erich Mueller stated once the loan is funded if we receive funds in the future there is no limitation on how rapidly we can pay the loan down. We are just committed to repay it within ten years.

Councilor Wand stated I would like to make sure that we pay the loan off early if we have donations to accomplish that.

Councilor Thomas stated I agree with Councilor Wand.

Mayor Kight stated we just recently received a donation but I can't remember who that was from. Do you have that information?

Erich Mueller replied we received two checks recently. One was a grant from the Oregon Community Foundation, and the second was from Verizon.

No public testimony received.

MOTION: Councilor Thomas moved to adopt the resolution authorizing an Interfund Capital Project Loan from the Parks Improvement Fund to the General Fund for the construction of the Troutdale Centennial Monument Arch project. Seconded by Councilor White. Motion Passed Unanimously.

8. RESOLUTION: A resolution authorizing a change in control of the grantee and of the Cable Franchise held by Verizon Northwest, Inc. to Frontier Communications Corporation.

Mayor Kight read the resolution title.

Councilor Thomas, Troutdale's Representative on the Mt. Hood Cable Regulatory Commission (MHCRC), stated I am here tonight to bring forward the proposal to authorize the sale of Verizon to Frontier. With me tonight is David Olson the Director of MHCRC, Eugene Eng of Verizon and Larry Manion, representative for Frontier. I appear before you

today in connection with the Commission's recommendation that you approve the requested transfer of your existing Verizon cable franchise to Frontier Communications Corporation, subject to a number of important conditions. All of these conditions are reflected in the action documents before you, which are based on the MHCRC's recommendations. The sale of assets from Verizon to Frontier was announced in May of 2009, and various aspects of this sale require Federal, State, and local approval. At the federal level, review and approval is required from the Federal Communications Commission as well as the US Department of Justice. At the state level, the Oregon Public Utility Commission must approve the transfer of Verizon's telephone business to Frontier. At the local level, the City Councils of Fairview, Gresham, Troutdale and Wood Village must approve the transfer of Verizon's cable television franchise to Frontier. These cable television services are marketed as "FiOS" services in our area. Please note that this proposed sale does not include the assets of Verizon Wireless, which Verizon plans to continue providing services for throughout this area and Oregon. This has not been an easy or a simple process. No one on the MHCRC anticipated that when you initially approved a cable franchise with Verizon Northwest that we would be in front of you barely a year later recommending that you approve the transfer of that franchise to another company previously unknown to us. However, I am pleased to report that your MHCRC has been working diligently since that time to gather information regarding the basic issue that must be addressed in connection with the transfer of this or any other cable television franchise. The core question is this: does the proposed buyer, Frontier, have the legal, technical, and financial qualifications to meet the requirements of your existing cable franchise with Verizon? After studying this matter for many months, and engaging in extensive negotiations with both Verizon and Frontier, the MHCRC has answered "yes" to this question, but it is a "qualified" yes. The MHCRC's recommendation is that you approve this transfer, but only subject to a number of specific conditions designed to protect existing Verizon customers and preserve competitive cable services in east Multnomah County. Key conditions that we recommend you include as a condition of transfer, all of which have been agreed to by Verizon and Frontier after extensive negotiations, are: **1) Additional financial guarantees; 2) Responsibility for all noncompliance; 3) Additional notice requirements; 4) Required regulatory approvals; 5) Cable programming agreements; and 6) Limitation on the "walk away" provision.** The MHCRC's recommendation has not been made lightly. Rather, the MHCRC has studied this matter carefully, negotiated at length with the parties, and held a televised public hearing on December 7th in Gresham. We have at all times invited public comment and participation, and listened carefully to what we have heard from your constituents. We believe you can be proud of the result, which we honestly believe is as strong a position as any City can take in attaching conditions that are both consistent with your legal authority and responsive to the public interest. The MHCRC's recommendations are now in front of you for final action. We recommend you accept the MHCRC recommendations, including the conditions, all of which have been agreed to by Verizon and Frontier.

Councilor Daoust stated some residents of Troutdale have signed up for FiOS service that Verizon offered. What can those folks expect as far as changes to service?

Councilor Thomas stated it is our understanding that once the transfer is completed that they won't see any change in service. As a regulatory body we don't have control as to what they put on the programming. What we tried to build into the agreement is that they would

maintain the same level of service as they have today. In talking to Frontier, they seem to be very committed to customer service; I don't think we will have any long-term issues.

David Olson state there will be a change of name. The company has shown in many ways that it is committed to trying to preserve the same commensurate programming so that folks can expect the same approximate level of service after the ownership changes as they received before but there will be some rebranding, and because it is a different company there may be some other kinds of name and billing differences.

Councilor Daoust stated there is a Verizon store in Gresham that handles the equipment exchanges like DVR's and the boxes that you need. Is Frontier going to be operating that store?

Larry Manion replied yes, that store will come across to Frontier as part of the transaction.

Councilor Hartmann asked in regards to programming changes, what is the impact to the current customers?

David Olson replied Frontier is a different company so it has to negotiate their own arrangements for all of the programming Verizon currently airs. Frontier, as part of many aspects of this transaction, needs to go in and make their own arrangements for that programming and is in the process of doing so. One of the issues that the MHCRC tracked on your behalf was to make sure that they were actively doing this. Frontier should have those programming agreements active and in place by the time that ownership transfers later this year. In the resolution before you there are benchmarks and check-in points at which your Commission will check-in to make sure that process is underway, going successfully and that at the end when ownership actually transfers that customers can and should look forward to commensurate service.

Councilor Thomas stated even though Frontier is buying the company or buying their assets for their cable services division, they are also bringing across many of the employees.

Mayor Kight asked will the television box that I currently have need to be changed out?

Councilor Thomas stated the hardware will stay the same.

Mayor Kight called for a 10 minute break at 7:49pm and reconvened the meeting at 8:01pm.

Eugene Eng, Verizon, thanked Councilor Thomas for his efforts and time he spent in reviewing the transfer application, and also thanked the staff members at MHCRC for their willingness to work with us and get this done.

Larry Manion, Frontier, stated we echo those sentiments. While we are not as big as Verizon, we believe that we can provide customer service as good, if not better than Verizon has done. We are excited about this acquisition and providing a service to the community. We have a local management model that places the decision making with the manager into the communities. This is a little different model than what Verizon uses, but is one that we

believe is very responsive to communities. We are excited to be good corporate partners with the City.

Mayor Kight stated we appreciate the donation made by Verizon towards our Centennial Arch and hopefully in the future Frontier will also consider doing something of like or perhaps more.

Councilor Wand asked where are the corporate headquarters for Frontier?

Larry Manion replied Stamford, Connecticut.

Councilor Wand asked how large is the company?

Larry Manion replied before the acquisition we were \$2.2 billion last year; we will be three times that big after the acquisition.

Councilor Wand asked and you are publically trading?

Larry Manion replied yes. This is actually a deleveraging transaction. From our perspective the financial markets have perceived this very positively. With the change in the financial world that we are all experiencing this transaction is a large enough transaction that actually allows us to use more equity and less debt, which made the financial communities very happy.

Councilor Wand stated I have read through the material and I am pretty comfortable with your business and your business model. Have you secured a deal with Comcast Sportsnet?

Larry Manion replied we are working diligently to acquire all of the programming content that our customers want.

Councilor Wand stated your customers want that one.

Mayor Kight asked can you identify all of the assets that Frontier will be acquiring?

Larry Manion replied Frontier is acquiring from Verizon all of its assets that provide its landline services, which includes: voice products, telephone service, data service and cable television service. What is being retained by Verizon is their wireless, cellular service. They are also retaining certain large business customers. We are actually acquiring all of the assets that are used to provide services in the Northwest with the exception of the wireless component.

No public testimony received.

MOTION: Councilor Daoust moved to adopt the resolution authorizing a change in control of the grantee and of the Cable Franchise held by Verizon Northwest, Inc. to Frontier Communications Corporation.

Councilor Thomas asked for clarification that the motion includes all of the attachments.

Councilor Daoust replied yes.

Motion Passed Unanimously.

9. STAFF COMMUNICATIONS

Dave Nelson stated we have confirmed two meeting dates: our Council Goal Setting Work Session will be held on Thursday, February 11th at 6pm and the Budget Committee Work Session will be held on Thursday, February 18th at 6pm.

Dave Nelson stated we have been working on scheduling the joint work session with the Reynolds School District; however they have requested that the meeting be moved back until late spring or early summer.

10. COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS

Councilor Kyle asked do we have an update on the bike race?

Dave Nelson stated they will be making a presentation at the Chamber Business AM meeting on Wednesday, January 20th. ODOT is struggling with the rolling start, and they are not interested in approving the race with a rolling start.

Councilor Daoust stated I think it is important for folks to know that this council recently went through a mediated session on improving working relationships within the council. Each one of us committed to mutual respect and better communication within the council. As we go into 2010, and we work on setting our goals and priorities, and begin work on our budget, what I heard is that each one of us committed to improving how this council works together. I just want folks to know that we are working on that and I am looking forward to a good year working with this mayor and council.

Councilor Hartmann stated in that same spirit I wrote some comments down as an opportunity to close a chapter and move into a new year. Several months ago our city was introduced to a renewable energy technology that was rather interesting that we reviewed and looked at as a council and we have now assigned a committee to look at other renewable energy. I was very interested in that topic. The Mayor brought that forward and the Council wanted to do some due diligence. After talking with other councilors I went forward and did a significant amount of due diligence just to relieve our staff time in that effort. The interest for me was a solution that would bring revenue to the city that wouldn't add a tax burden. It was an interesting adventure and learning opportunity, but at the same time that particular developer has taken interest in another area. I would like to offer some comments about this and what some of the lessons were that have been learned from this experience. Councilor Hartmann read a letter into the record, which is attached as Exhibit A to these minutes.

Councilor Hartmann stated I hope that this Council will voice to the Energy Committee that we jointly agree with our Senator and that we stand behind equality for financing so that our economy can turn around; renewable energy can come into our neighborhoods and lower the cost of energy production which is constantly threatening our homes and businesses. I am asking for you to support this as a recommendation to the Energy Committee.

Councilor Wand stated I have read in the papers and heard on the television that unfortunately our economy has not improved or recovered the way that we hoped that it would. Our unemployment nationally is at about 11%, but the misery index is closer to 20%. Misery index being the number of people unemployed actively seeking work added together with the number of people that have just given up. I say that not to make it worse, but to say that we are in this together and as we move forward this year I am very hopeful that the economy will turn around quickly. One thing that we can do as Troutdalian is shop locally. We know that if we shop locally that we can help our fellow citizens that are running those businesses.

Councilor Wand stated most of us have received ballots in the mail. Without taking any position at all on the very controversial issues, the one thing that I think all of us can agree on is that voting is a sacred right and I hope that every Troutdalian takes a moment to vote.

Mayor Kight stated Troutdale hit the national news. CNN did a report on the wind in Troutdale, as well as Channel 12. Here are some stats that I pulled off of the Internet: Troutdale has had twice as many windy days as last year. We had 14 days last year (Dec. 1st through Jan. 11th), and this year we have had 32 days of 25mph winds or higher. We have had gusts of up to 45mph. Corbett has had gusts of up to 100mph. We had 9 days with continuous 35mph wind.

Mayor Kight stated on Thursday, January 14 (7:30pm) the Joint Policy Advisory Committee on Transportation (JPACT) will be looking at a resolution regarding the I-84/Hwy.26 Corridor Study.

Mayor Kight stated we need a volunteer to serve on the board for the Gresham Performing Arts Center (Center for the Arts Foundation - Board of Directors). Councilor Kyle has indicated an interest, but I wanted to open this up to see if anyone else would like to be considered for that position.

Councilor Wand stated I would nominate Councilor Kyle. Seconded by Councilor Thomas.

Councilor White stated I think Councilor Kyle would be excellent.

Mayor Kight stated it looks like you have been nominated for this position.

Councilor Kyle accepted the nomination.

Councilor White stated I want to make the community aware of a fundraiser that the Reynolds High School Wrestling Team is doing. They are selling cords of firewood for \$200/cord. I want to thank Longview Fire for getting behind these boys. They donated a large amount of

wood in log form and the young men have done an excellent job of cutting and splitting the wood.

Councilor Hartmann stated the Boy Scouts of America are celebrating their 100th Birthday. They are holding Blue and Gold events all around the Portland Metro area. The Cub Scouts and Boy Scouts are actively fundraising. East County is District 16 and if you would like to donate to the Boy Scouts you can go on-line and do that.

Councilor Hartmann asked does the Council support giving some direction to the Energy Committee to look at renewable energy that would be subsidy free?

David Ross, City Attorney, state the Energy Committee is only gathering information. They are not a policy making or policy recommendation committee. At this point their charter is to gather information and then provide that information to the Council presumably at a work session at a later date.

Councilor Hartmann stated I would like the opportunity to speak to the Council to give you as much information as I can about other subsidy free alternatives that we could look at.

Mayor Kight stated we can do that at a work session.

11. ADJOURNMENT:

MOTION: Councilor Daoust moved to adjourn. Seconded by Councilor Hartmann. Motion passed unanimously.

Meeting adjourned at 8:38pm.

Jim Kight, Mayor

Approved January 26, 2010

ATTEST:

Debbie Stickney, City Recorder

This is an open discussion with the people of Troutdale and beyond:

It has been my privilege recently to engage in investigations concerning renewable energy. My studies have put me in contact with renewable energy developers, renewable energy investors, and have sent me to Washington to find answers.

I have come to certain fundamental understandings as it relates to energy development and finance.

First, one of the reasons municipalities like ours consider renewable energy policy is because we are considering the possibility of subsidizing them because energy project developers need our help. Otherwise, why would we be involved in the first place? Much like what we discussed when we began the renewable energy discussion, Cities don't know how to build an energy plant nor operate them. But subsidies, we do understand. In general I disagree with the entire notion of subsidies as a means of development because it means the good people of Troutdale and Oregonians in general "float" the cost of business on the public's credit. Tax payers should not be in the business of funding private business unless they are deemed investors and get a cut; rising retail rates are not a cut. Today, the renewable energy business isn't able to compete in the market, and then rate payers have to pay inflated retail costs for something their dollar built in the first place for private enterprise. So I ask myself, why should the people support non-competitive projects, anyway? I believe this is wrong, and is a type of theft from the public, no less then taking private citizens land without fair market value compensation.

Second, the reason that renewable energy projects ask for subsidies is because on the federal level they do not receive equitable treatment, and don't have the tax shelter traditional energy generation businesses enjoys. Renewables are not subject to equal tax treatment or finance treatment from the Treasury or the federal agencies. It is true that only with subsidies can renewables compete with fossil based energy production who have lower interest rates on construction loans as a gift from federal agencies, and whose investors obtain completely **tax-free** interest revenues from something called a "depletion allowance". The fossils enjoy open, easy access to capital upon their BTUS, while renewables are turned away. This results in a constant effort to find adequate financial assistance at local levels to gain a competitive improvement to join the energy market. As it turns out, the laws themselves are mostly written fairly (for "BTUs") but the federal agencies use what is called their "agency discretion" to reserve the right not to give renewable equal treatment. This is wrong, too. While some may say this is speculation, it is not, and my trip to Washington and Senator Wyden's active legislation demonstrates the awareness of the problem and the need to level the playing field to ensure renewables access to federal resources.

In short, if you take the fact we are dealing with energy proposals, and then consider the fact that they are only asking local municipalities, it is because there is no other way currently; the federal "wrong" is actually causing the local "wrong." If the Federal government was providing BTU parity giving equal access to renewable interests, we wouldn't have to face these decisions in the first place, and we could return to the proper business our city was designed to do.

According to the Federal Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, it is wrong to impose different tax and finance treatment on anyone, especially by the federal government. The OCC's job is supposed to require the federal agencies to ensure equal access to capital. We shouldn't need any new law to have equal treatment between producers of the same commodity otherwise we don't have a free market and we breakdown the foundation of our economic structure.

Today I will make my stand:

2 Wrongs do not make a right. Bad federal legislation and practice forcing bad local legislation or practice does not make good policy. "Correcting" the inequality created at the federal level with a subsidy at the local level was always a bad – terrible - idea, and currently we are stuck with it.

What I saw in Troutdale's ZESC energy proposal was the possibility of answering the American call for better government, and the hope in using that potential to stimulate economic development; a need without question. It gave me a glimpse into solving many of our hard working American problems by building something via a public private partnership without the subsidies. Even though, this opportunity has passed, I still believe Troutdalians, Oregonians, and American's and our cities deserve to have these legislated bureaucratic wrongs corrected, and I think this is something upon which we can achieve with bi-partisan support in supporting our Senator Wyden's Parity (equality) objectives.

No energy projects should be financed upon the people's assets or credit. No subsidies for any energy development. I would like the City of Troutdale to say *clearly* that no renewable energy project of any kind will obtain the City's assets or credit and finance on the people.

Next, I think democrats and republicans can stand shoulder to shoulder and insist that the federal congress must insist that federal agencies change to a practice of equal treatment. In the words of Senator Wyden, a Democrat, I quote with admiration from my conservative heart - his words of May 20, 2009:

"The amount of (a) tax credit (should not) be tied to the way energy is produced but rather the amount of energy produced to create a level playing."

Americans understand in our capitalist souls that the only way our economy works is if we are on the same ground. We would personally hate to be subjected to different tax treatment than our competitor in private business, and this shouldn't be allowed in the business we all depend on-energy. A BTU is a BTU. A megawatt is a megawatt. In other words all energy output no matter how it is created is energy. Financing treatment should be the same and taxation should be the same no matter how a megawatt is created.

We can only remove our local help when the federal agencies begin to act equitably. I say that this position is the only firm ground upon which we can build our energy future. All else is financially non-viable sand upon which we would build.

In conclusion and simply put: due to the disparate tax treatments that fossils have obtained, financial money managers of investment portfolios *should* invest every dollar they have in fossils before ever putting a single dollar toward the one billion BTUs of biomass that sit unused on our forest floors, winds, and landfills every year, because the money managers cannot justify *opting for higher taxes* to their shareholders by investing into unequally treated renewables. Without a way to be profitable, the laws of finance dictate, not a single renewable project will ever get financed until every fossil project is complete. This is exactly how bad the differences are and why Oregon leadership is doing something about it.

I am asking the City of Troutdale to join me in this stand by asking the Councilors--- of both political parties--- to show the federal congress how this is done and declare that we will have a level playing field of no subsidies at home, and expect a level playing field of equal treatment from Washington so businesses will develop and rebuild America in stimulus based on sound economics.

Will the council join me, and use this stand as a guiding principle as we consider the fullness of Troutdale's energy interests?