

MINUTES

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
OF
FEBRUARY 28, 2011
5:30 P.M.
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBER
313 COURT STREET
THE DALLES, OREGON

PRESIDING: Mayor Jim Wilcox

COUNCIL PRESENT: Bill Dick, Carolyn Wood, Brian Ahier, Tim McGlothlin

COUNCIL ABSENT: Dan Spatz

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Nolan Young, City Attorney Gene Parker, City Clerk Julie Krueger, Finance Director Kate Mast, Community Development Director Dan Durow, Police Chief Jay Waterbury, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Senior Planner Dick Gassman, Associate Planner Dawn Hert, RARE Planner Thomas Gilbertson

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Wilcox called the meeting to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Roll call was conducted by City Clerk Krueger; Councilor Spatz and Dick absent.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Wilcox invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Mayor Wilcox asked the Council to move Audience Participation ahead of the presentations on the agenda to allow a citizen to speak before leaving to attend another meeting.

It was moved by Ahier and seconded by McGlothlin to approve the agenda as amended. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION

Barbara Pashek, 1332 West 10th Street, The Dalles, thanked the Council for allowing her to make comments about agenda items before leaving to attend another meeting.

Pashek distributed a paper regarding proposed Resolution No. 11-007, appointing a committee to review economic policies. She said the names proposed to serve on the committee were already involved in various economic development groups and suggested the Mayor appoint more small business owners to the committee.

Pashek asked the City Council to consider moving the Goal 2, Tier III Objective regarding public transportation to a higher level. She said many people had no transportation options, particularly on the weekends, when the LINK buses didn't run.

Pashek said she believed the City Council should be paid for their work, noting most other entities did pay their elected officials.

Dave Larsen, 2206 East 19th Street, The Dalles, expressed concern that when the East 19th Street extension issue was revisited, the same plan would be implemented as was proposed in 2004. He said it would not be appropriate to install a collector street to handle large trucks into a residential area. Larsen said activities of Mid Columbia Medical Center were turning the neighborhood into a commercial area. Mr. Larsen asked the City to consider the cost to property owners when they develop a plan for the improvements.

Councilor Dick in attendance at 5:40 p.m.

City Manager Young said options were being identified for the improvements and may be similar to the previous proposal. He said staff was also investigating financing options to help make the project affordable for property owners.

Mayor Wilcox said the information would be available to the public prior to Council meetings.

Rich Williams, 1212 Blakely Drive, The Dalles, asked if Urban Renewal funds could be used to help update local school buildings. Mayor Wilcox said urban renewal money was restricted to specific districts and uses and could not be used to support school building upgrades.

PRESENTATIONS

Historic Landmarks Commission Annual Report

Associate Planner Hert reviewed the staff report. She reviewed grants and the projects that were completed during the past year and a brief updated on the status of goals. Hert asked the Council to accept the annual report of the Historic Landmarks Commission and support their upcoming goals.

Councilor Dick said he hoped geologic features would also be considered for preservation, noting the exceptional historic significance of our geology in the area.

Mayor Wilcox asked about the process for forming historic districts.

Associate Planner Hert said it was a long process, determining the nature of a proposed district required surveying the neighborhood, community involvement, specific involvement and/or requests by property owners of the area. She said when districts were considered, it was because someone had requested it.

Wilcox said severe restrictions for development were placed on historic districts and would be very important for property owners to have a say in the development of any new district.

Mayor Wilcox said he was opposed to goal 9, establishing an archaeology testing plan prior to First Street infill. He said it was awful to add costs to development or another layer of requirements beyond what was already necessary.

Associate Planner Hert said any project that had federal funding required archaeologic surveys and that it was not more than what was already required by law. She said the Historic Landmarks Commission believed it was important to protect archaeologic finds.

Mayor Wilcox said he was also opposed to goal 7, assist in saving and completing the Lewis and Clark Memorial and pursuing local landmark status for it. He said the materials in the obelisk were rotten and deteriorated and had no historic significance. Wilcox said there were better ways the City could honor Lewis and Clark.

Associate Planner Hert said there was a local group who wanted to preserve and possibly relocate the obelisk.

There was Council discussion regarding whether they should ask the Commission to revise their goals or to accept them with the knowledge there was no Council support for goals number 7 and 9.

It was moved by Ahier and seconded by McGlothlin to recommend the Historic Landmarks Commission revisit and revise the 2011 short term and long term goals. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

Main Street Program Progress Report

RARE Planner Gilbertson reviewed the staff report. He reported the steering committee had been appointed and subcommittees were being formed. Gilbertson said there had been a goal setting session facilitated by Oregon Main Street Coordinator Sheri Stuart which helped the group develop goals and objectives. He said the group would continue to work on identified issues and collaborate with other organizations to complement their efforts and would work to secure funding for a part time paid coordinator in the future.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Young reported that City County Insurance had issued property insurance credits to participating members. He said the City of The Dalles would receive \$30,454 in credit, to be applied to future premiums.

Young said he had attended a recent League of Oregon Cities Board meeting and heard a report by the Red Cross regarding earthquake danger in Oregon. He said The Dalles was located in zone 3 of the Cascadia Fault and would likely be the area where refugees would come from the coast and Willamette Valley areas. He said it was something to consider and ensure our community emergency plans included that factor.

City Manager Young provided the City Council with the League of Oregon Cities' legislative priority list for the year.

Young said the City had filled a position for administrative intern for the past two years and asked if the City Council would allow the position to be filled for another year. Young said the position had been very beneficial to the City as well as to the students who were in the Masters programs for Public Administration.

It was the consensus of the Council to continue with the administrative intern position for the upcoming year.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

City Attorney Parker said he had attended a recent government law seminar. He said there was discussion regarding the model ordinance for telecommunications ordinances and a discussion regarding franchise versus right of way ordinances. Parker said both of these issues were objectives of Council goals and he would be investigating both.

Parker said there was a proposed overhaul of public records laws that did not seem to be popular with municipalities and he would also be following that discussion. Parker said he had also learned about a bill regarding consent to annexations and would be following that proposal.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilor Dick said the Urban Renewal Advisory Committee had not met in February, but had a meeting scheduled for March.

Councilor McGlothlin said the Traffic Safety Commission had met and made a recommendation regarding sidewalk placement at the Ninth Street and Brewery Grade intersection. Public Works Director Anderson said the estimated cost of the improvements at that intersection was \$12,000.

Councilor Wood said the next Historic Landmarks Commission meeting was scheduled for March 23rd.

Mayor Wilcox said he would be attending Mayor's Day at the Capitol on Wednesday. He said he was serving on the League of Oregon Cities conference planning committee and urged the Council to attend their next conference. Wilcox said the Community Outreach Team had met and added a new team member, School District 21. He said he attended the Vision planning meeting last week and had also attended a meeting of business leaders.

Adoption of 2011 City Council Goals

It was the consensus of the City Council to move the public transportation objective in Tier III of Goal 2 to Tier II.

It was moved by Wood and seconded by Ahier to 2011-12 City Council goals as amended. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

CONSENT AGENDA

It was moved by Ahier and seconded by Wood to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.

Items approved by Consent Agenda were: 1) approval of February 14, 2011 regular City Council meeting minutes; 2) approval of February 9, 2011 Goal Setting meeting minutes; 3) Resolution No. 11-006 accepting a dedication of a monument from the Columbia Gorge Genealogical Society for the Pioneer Cemetery; and 4) Resolution No. 11-007 concurring with the Mayor's appointment of a committee to review economic development policies.

ACTION ITEMS

Request by St. Mary's Academy to Waive Conditional Use Permit Application Fee for Construction of a Building Addition

Senior Planner Gassman reviewed the staff report.

St. Mary's Academy Principal Kim Koch said construction of the building would use local contractors, keeping money in the community. She said the building would house the library and computer services.

Councilor Dick said St. Mary's was an important community partner and he appreciated their service to the community.

It was moved by Wood and seconded by Dick to approve the conditional use permit fee waiver request by St. Mary's Academy. The motion carried; McGlothlin abstaining, Spatz absent.

General Ordinance No. 11-1310 Repealing General Ordinance No. 657 Establishing the Civil Service Commission

City Attorney Parker reviewed the staff report.

City Clerk Krueger read General Ordinance No. 11-1310 by title.

It was moved by Wood and seconded by McGlothlin to adopt General Ordinance No. 11-1310 repealing General Ordinance No. 657 establishing the Civil Service Commission, by title. The motion carried unanimously, Spatz absent.


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ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 6:50 p.m.

Submitted by/
Julie Krueger, MMC
City Clerk

SIGNED:


James L. Wilcox, Mayor

ATTEST:


Julie Krueger, MMC, City Clerk