

A regular meeting of the Astoria Common Council was held at the above place at the hour of 7:00 pm.

Councilors Present: Nemlowill, Jones, Price, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear.

Councilors Excused: None

Staff Present: City Manager Estes, Interim Parks and Recreation Director Dart-McLean, Finance Director Brooks, Interim Fire Chief Curtis, Police Chief Spalding, Public Works Director Harrington, Library Director Pearson, and City Attorney Henningsgaard. The meeting is recorded and will be transcribed by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.

### REPORTS OF COUNCILORS

**Item 3(a):** Councilor Jones said he was looking forward to working with Councilors Herman and Rocka, but he would also miss working with Mayor LaMear and Councilors Price and Nemlowill. Even though the Council had a lot of split votes, that is a sign of a healthy representative body. It has been great to debate, vote, and still get along great.

**Item 3(b):** Councilor Price had no reports.

**Item 3(c):** Councilor Brownson had no reports.

**Item 3(d):** Councilor Nemlowill said she still liked all of the Councilors even though she has disagreed with them many times. Democracy is alive and well in Astoria. She would miss serving on the Council, but still had plenty to offer Astoria in other ways. She recognized Amelia Nemlowill, representing the Student Council of Lewis and Clark Elementary.

**Item 3(e):** Mayor LaMear thanked the community for their support over the years. Serving as Mayor has been a wonderful experience and she appreciates Astoria.

### CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were none.

### CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were presented on the Consent Calendar:

- 5(a) City Council Minutes of 11/19/18
- 5(b) Boards and Commission Minutes
  - (1) Parks Board Meeting of 10/9/18
  - (2) Planning Commission Meeting of 10/23/18
  - (3) Traffic Safety Committee Meeting of 10/23/18
  - (4) Design Review Committee Meeting of 11/1/18
- 5(c) Public Works Status Update
- 5(d) Parks Department Status Update
- 5(e) Finance and Administration Status Update
- 5(f) Library Department Status Update
- 5(g) Fire Department Status Update
- 5(h) Police Department Status Update

**City Council Action:** Motion made by Councilor Nemlowill, seconded by Councilor Price, to approve the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

## REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

### **Item 6(a): Second Reading and Adoption of Ordinance Modifying Multiple City Codes to Correct State Legislative Changes**

The first reading of this ordinance was held at the December 3, 2018 City Council meeting. A recent audit of Oregon Revised Statutes referenced in the Astoria City Code revealed discrepancies that necessitate corrections as a result of changes made by the State Legislature. Some sections have changed and some have been repealed. A copy of the City Code Sections to be updated is attached.

It is recommended that Council consider conducting a second reading and adopting the ordinance amending the following City Code sections included in the memo.

Director Brooks conducted the second reading of the ordinance.

**City Council Action:** Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Nemlowill, to adopt the ordinance modifying multiple City Codes to correct State legislative changes. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

### **Item 6(b): Scandinavian Heritage Park Design Consideration**

At the December 17, 2017 City Council meeting, the Council approved a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) with the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association (ASHA) for construction of park improvements on City-owned property located at 1590 Marine Drive (copy attached). This site is known as the People Places Park and is one of the current parks maintained by Parks and Recreation Department. The MOA specifies that ASHA will be responsible for construction of the park facilities and for continued maintenance of the park after completion.

ASHA hired the consulting firm of West Studios to prepare plans for the park improvements. They held a public open house on September 11, 2018 to review concepts and obtain input from the general public. They have completed a survey of the site, met with impacted adjacent property owners, met with ODOT staff, and obtained a geotechnical investigation of the site prior to any construction. ASHA has been coordinating all of these efforts with Planning Consultant Rosemary Johnson, and City staff in the Engineering and Parks departments.

The plans were presented to the City Council on October 16, 2018 for information and comment. The HLC approved New Construction Permit (NC18-06) at its November 20, 2018 meeting. The Parks Board reviewed the draft plan at their December 5, 2018 meeting and recommend that the City Council approve the plans as submitted. Once plans have been approved by Council, ASHA will proceed with development of construction drawings which will be presented to the Council at a later date for review and approval.

It is recommended that Council approve the proposed plans by Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association for the Scandinavian Heritage Park at 1590 Marine Drive.

Loran Matthews, 1820 7<sup>th</sup> Street, Astoria, President of the Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association (ASHA), introduced members of their Parks Committee and project team who were present in the audience. He provided background information about ASHA's efforts to create a monument and thanked City Staff and Commissions who have helped get their project to this point.

Judith Lampi, 605 Alt. Hwy. 101, Warrenton, briefly reviewed ASHA's goals and objectives for the park and monument, details about maintenance of the park, funding sources, and public input collected during the planning process.

Audrey West, 950 Hiawatha Place South, Seattle, WA, West Studio, gave a PowerPoint presentation on the design of the park and monument. She provided details about the key elements and ADA features, noting the educational, cultural, and safety aspects of the park's features.

Ms. Lampi shared details about the park's logo, merchandising, connecting the park with the Riverwalk, and parking. She invited the community to their fundraiser at Fort George Brewery on January 29, 2019 and noted that ASHA had already begun their capital campaign.

Councilor Nemlowill said she was impressed with how organized ASHA has been. She believed the project was in good hands. She declared that the artist who made the logo, Roger McKay, is her father, but she did not believe that represented any conflicts of interest.

Councilor Price stated ASHA had done an impressive amount of work. She had seen a comment on Facebook asked if it was possible to add electrical outlets so that additional lighting could be added for special events.

Councilor Nemlowill asked if the City had been in contact with the organization that feeds people in the park.

Interim Parks Director Dart-McLean confirmed that the City had not initiated a conversation yet because the project was still going through the approval process. However, there is ample time to let the organization know about the changes that are planned for the park.

**City Council Action:** Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Nemlowill, to approve the proposed plans by Astoria Scandinavian Heritage Association for the Scandinavian Heritage Park at 1590 Marine Drive. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

#### **Item 6(c): County Lodging Tax**

Clatsop County Commission Adopted Ordinance 2018-07 on July 25, 2018 imposing a one percent tax, County-wide on transient lodging for jail operations and tourism promotion. Under the County Ordinance, the County will keep 30 percent of funds collected within the City of Astoria for jail operation. The remaining 70 percent of collected tax within City of Astoria would be transferred to the City of Astoria - Promote Astoria Fund, in compliance with ORS 320.350.

An intergovernmental agreement (IGA) recognizing the one percent tax within the City of Astoria and distribution according to the County adopted ordinance is attached. A copy of County Ordinance is attached for reference.

The City and County would enter into the agreement to implement the terms adopted in County Ordinance No. 2018-07 and to document City's consent to the imposition and collection of the tax within the city limits.

City Attorney Henningsgaard has reviewed the attached agreement with County legal counsel.

Councilor Brownson asked if the County has been mandated to share a portion of the tax with the City.

City Manager Estes explained that the State Statute requires 70 percent of any new transient lodging tax must go towards tourism promotion. Because the City of Astoria is the jurisdiction that promotes tourism, the tax revenue will be forwarded to the City.

Councilor Brownson asked how the County would spend the remaining 30 percent of taxes collected in Astoria.

Suzanne Johnson, Clatsop County Assessor, said the County collects the tax revenue from each provider and 70 percent of that revenue would go to Astoria. She explained that each provider would have to fill out a form and register with the County. She confirmed that State law mandates that 70 percent of the tax revenue collected in Astoria be returned to the City of Astoria.

Councilor Brownson wanted to be clear that the City did not impose this tax on its lodgings.

**City Council Action:** Motion made by Councilor Nemlowill, seconded by Councilor Price to approve the intergovernmental agreement with Clatsop County for the collection and distribution of transient lodging taxes, pursuant to ORS 320.350. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

**Item 6(d): Verizon Lease Amendment (Reservoir Ridge)**

The attached First Amendment to Land Lease Agreement with Verizon for the new Reservoir Ridge communications site has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. The document has also been reviewed by the Emergency Communications Manager. This Agreement reflects additional requirements placed upon Verizon by the City in regard to long term maintenance of the land shelter. This structure has had several water intrusion issues that have been corrected by certified contractors. The Agreement places any future liabilities on Verizon that may result from additional water intrusion. The Agreement also clarifies antenna placement on the tower.

It is recommended that City Council approve and authorize signature.

City Manager Estes confirmed the tower at the Column needed be removed during good weather because heavy equipment will be required. Staff has been focused on amending the lease agreement, but he would like the tower removed next summer.

Councilor Nemlowill said the purpose of this agreement was to get the tower removed from the Column. She was glad to see the project move along.

**City Council Action:** Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Jones to authorize the City Manager to sign the First Amendment to Land Lease Agreement with Verizon. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

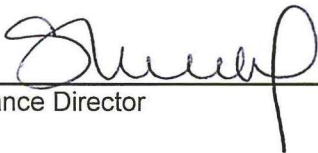
**NEW BUSINESS & MISCELLANEOUS, PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA)**

There was none.

**ADJOURNMENT**

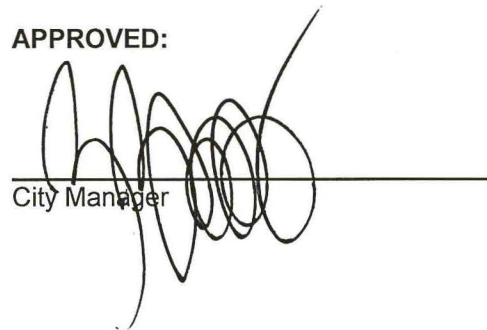
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:37 pm [37:30] to convene the Astoria Development Commission meeting.

**ATTEST:**



Finance Director

**APPROVED:**



City Manager