

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, Parks and Recreation Director Cosby, Finance Director Brooks, Fire Chief Ames, 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 reported that he and Councilor Brownson attended the East Astoria Uppertown Business Association meeting. The group formed last year and it was good to see businesses on that side of town getting together to discuss areas of common interest and concerns. Lack of affordable housing as an obstacle to new startups and relocating to Astoria, parking requirements, and the need for lighting along the Riverwalk was discussed.

City Manager Estes confirmed that during expansions when funding was available, lighting was added along the Riverwalk.

Item 3(b): Councilor Price No reports.

Item 3(c): Councilor Brownson reported on the East Astoria Uppertown Business Association meeting. The group is trying to improve their part of town and their meeting was worth attending. He was happy to get their input and point of view. He also attended the Homelessness Taskforce meeting, where a one-hour presentation was given by Helping Hands about data they have collected on the homeless and other people who need assistance. Helping Hands hopes to have their Yellow House operational by next July. Any solutions would come from the Taskforce. He encouraged everyone to attend the Taskforce meetings because there is a lot to learn.

Item 3(d): Councilor Nemlowill reported that she and Councilor Brownson attended a Port Commission special meeting to discuss the oil spill at Cannery Pier Hotel. She represented the City and showed support for the joint efforts to clean up the oil. The Coast Guard gave a great presentation on their current clean-up efforts.

Item 3(e): Mayor LaMear reported that she attended the stage play *Astoria Part II* and was given a poster signed by the cast which will be framed and hung on the wall next to the signed poster from *Astoria Part I*. The performance made her happy that she lived in Astoria now and not in the 1800s. She also attended the meet and greet for the Community Development Director candidates and Career Week at Astor Elementary. At Career Week, she learned more children wanted to be a police officer than mayor. When asked what a mayor was, one boy said, "It's when you look at something and you can see your face looking back at you."

CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were none.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were presented on the Consent Calendar:

- 5(a) City Council Work Session Minutes of 1/10/18
- 5(b) City Council Minutes of 1/16/18
- 5(c) Boards and Commission Minutes
- 5(d) Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for Uniontown TGM Grant (Community Development)

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Nemlowill, seconded by Councilor Brownson, 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): Ordinance Updating Section 8.045 – Transient Room Tax Distribution (2nd Reading) (Finance)

At the August 7, 2017 City Council meeting, Council approved a 2 percent increase to the Transient Lodging Tax rate from 9 percent to 11 percent, beginning January 2018. At the time Ordinance 17-11 was adopted Section 8.045.2 was amended to update the tax rate increase from 9 percent to 11 percent but Section 8.045.18 was not updated to reflect the distribution of the additional 2 percent.

HB 2267 placed restriction on new or increased local lodging taxes so that 70 percent of new or increased taxes must be used for tourism promotion or tourism related facilities and 30 percent is unrestricted in use. The earlier approved local lodging taxes must maintain the percentage of existing lodging tax used for tourism promotion and tourism facilities.

In order to distribute and manage the Transient Lodging Tax receipts Section 8.045.18 requires adjustment to account 70 percent portion of the increased tax (2 percent) to the Promote Astoria Fund and 30 percent portion of the increased tax to the General Fund. The attached ordinance segregates the original distribution of existing 9 percent tax and adds distribution for the increased 2 percent tax according to State Statutes.

It is recommended that Council adopt the proposed ordinance.

Director Brooks conducted the second reading of the ordinance.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Jones, to adopt the Ordinance updating Section 8.045 - Transient Room Tax Distribution. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(b): Ordinance Updating Section 7.100 – Criminal History Record Check (2nd Reading) (Police)

The City of Astoria currently conducts Background Checks on certain license holders, applicants, and volunteers. This is done in accordance with City of Astoria City Code Section 7.100. Staff would like to modify the existing ordinance to include Astoria 9-1-1 Rural Fire Department Subscribers. These agencies are required by Oregon Administrative Rules (OAR 259-009-0015) to conduct an employment and criminal history check prior to employment or utilization as a fire service professional. Fire service professionals include paid (career) or volunteer fire fighters, officers, or members of a public or private fire protection agency engaged primarily in fire investigation, fire prevention, fire safety, fire control or fire suppression or providing emergency medical services, light and heavy rescue services, search and rescue services or hazardous materials incident response.

To satisfy these requirements Astoria 9-1-1 would hold a letter requesting this service from each subscribing Fire Chief, and modify the annual Subscriber Agreement to include performing record checks for the Agency. The City Attorney has reviewed and approved the ordinance as to form.

It is recommended that Council adopt the proposed ordinance.

Director Brooks conducted the second reading of the ordinance.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Price, to adopt the Ordinance updating Section 7.100 – Criminal History Record Check. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(c): Resolution – Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project IFA Financing Contract (Public Works)

Where each of the City's numbered streets between 6th and 11th Streets meet the Columbia River, a short bridge connects the solid-ground road to the over-water pier structure. These waterfront bridge structures are of utmost importance to the City as they provide access to critical portions of our waterfront. Currently the structures are all vehicular load limited.

In September 2014, the City entered into an Intergovernmental Agreement with the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) for the design phase of the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project that will replace these six structures. In April 2015, OBEC Consulting Engineers, Inc. (OBEC) was hired by ODOT as the engineering design consultant.

In February 2017, Council authorized City staff to apply for loan funding from Business Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority (IFA) for the City match and expenses not covered by the project during construction. The two major City expenses are utility relocations and repairs to the 11th Street extension outside the project limits to achieve highway load capacity. These expenses are currently estimated at \$337,000.

Total estimated City funds contributed to this project is \$1,698,548. To date, the City has contributed \$242,987 from Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds and Promote Astoria funds. The remaining match amount of \$1,455,561 is proposed to be paid by the IFA loan that will be paid back by the City's future STP funds. Current project schedule anticipates construction of the odd numbered street structures (7th St, 9th St and 11th St) to begin by October 1, 2018 and the even numbered street structures (6th St, 8th St and 10th St) to begin after September 3, 2019.

It is recommended that City Council approve the Business Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority Financing Contract in the amount of \$1,455,561 to provide the remaining match funds for the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Price to adopt the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project Financing Resolution. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Nemlowill to approve the Business Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority Financing Contract in the amount of \$1,455,561 to provide the remaining match funds for the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(d): Resolution – Reestablish Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project Fund (Finance)

Public Works staff has continued progress related to establishing a loan for the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project which will cover the City required matching funds. In order to facilitate the tracking of resource and requirements related to the project, the Public Works Department along with the Finance Department is requesting creation of new fund to track Surface Transportation Program (STP) funds, IFA loan proceeds and associated requirements of the project. The Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project fund will be a Capital Improvement fund. Attached is a resolution for Council consideration.

It is recommended that Council consider the attached resolution for adoption to create a new Capital Improvement Fund.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Brownson to adopt the resolution to reestablish the Waterfront Bridges Replacement Project Fund as a new Capital Improvement Fund. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(e): Resolution – Agree to Work Cooperatively to Facilitate Environmental Remediation

In January, oil leaked from a tank located beneath an abandoned pier into the Columbia River. The Coast Guard and other parties quickly responded. Representatives of the City were contacted by the Coast Guard and assisted. The pollution released created an environmental and economic threat to the region. Senator Betsy Johnson asked that local jurisdictions affected by the spill pass resolutions to work together on remediation. These resolutions may assist in securing State funds as well as federally sourced Maritime Environmental Response (MER) funds. The Port of Astoria recently passed a similar resolution and the Clatsop County Commission will be considering a resolution at an upcoming meeting. The attached resolution has been reviewed and approved as to form by City Attorney Henningsgaard. It is recommended the City Council consider the resolution.

Councilor Jones confirmed the resolution would not obligate the City to expend any resources.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Brownson, to adopt the resolution to work cooperatively with other jurisdictions to facilitate environmental remediation. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(f): Library Architectural/Engineering Services Contract (Library)

City Council established the goal of renovating the Astor Public Library in 2017. The proposed contract will begin the renovation securing the firm of Hennebery Eddy Architects Inc. to assess the condition of the current 50-year-old building. The information will establish the foundation for moving into Phase II upon completion of a successful capital campaign.

It is recommended that City Council approve the contract authorizing the Mayor and City Manager to sign on behalf of the City of Astoria.

Councilor Nemlowill said the library's future was in good hands with Director Pearson and those on the selection committee.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Nemlowill, seconded by Councilor Brownson, to authorize Mayor LaMear and City Manager Estes to sign a contract with Hennebery Eddy Architects Inc. for architectural and engineering services for the Astor Library. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

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

There was none.

The City Council meeting recessed to convene the Astoria Development Commission meeting.

The City Council meeting reconvened at 7:42 pm and immediately recessed into Executive Session.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

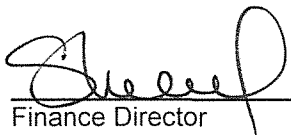
Item 8(a): ORS192.660(2)(h) – Legal Counsel

The City Council will meet in executive session to discuss legal proceedings.

ADJOURNMENT

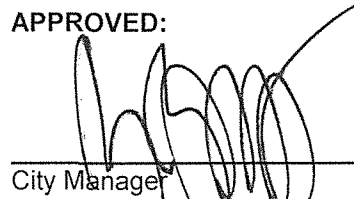
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned to ADC.

ATTEST:



Finance Director

APPROVED:



City Manager