

MINUTES
Warrenton City Commission
Regular Meeting – February 13, 2018
6:00 p.m.
Warrenton City Hall - Commission Chambers
225 S. Main
Warrenton, OR 97146

Mayor Balensifer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present: Rick Newton, Pam Ackley, Tom Dyer, Mark Baldwin and Mayor Henry Balensifer

Staff Present: City Manager Linda Engbretson, Community Development Director Skip Urling, Public Works Director Collin Stelzig, Police Chief Matt Workman, Finance Director April Clark, Public Works Operations Manager Kyle Sharpsteen, and Deputy City Recorder Dawne Shaw

COMMISSIONER COMMENTS

Commissioner Baldwin requested to add agenda item 7-E to discuss the gravel road policy. There were no objections from the Commission.

Commissioner Ackley stated she attended luncheon with the Clatsop Association of Realtors where Tom Horning discussed earthquakes and emergency preparedness. She noted Seaside has emergency supply barrels placed around town and it would be good for Warrenton to develop this as well. She noted Mr. Horning also discussed making improvements to bridges and the option of using scooters to get around when roads are impassable. City Manager Linda Engbretson noted the emergency checklist (Go-bags) from CREST was added to the city website.

Commissioner Newton agreed that Tom Horning's presentation is very interesting and informative. He noted he met with Sylvia Stevens of CERT last week and discussed their efforts. He also discussed a drone that CREST purchased for search and rescue.

City Manager Linda Engbretson stated she received a request from the Deep Sea Fisherman's Benefits Fund and would like to add it as an agenda item. She also noted the city has received several compliments on various departments this week and would like to highlight them – she has received good comments on the city park and compliments to city staff or the condition of the park; and compliments to sanitation truck driver Caybin Marshall, for great customer service; and also in a recent auto accident, Ms. Engbretson stated she was approached and told how professional our Police and Fire departments were on the scene.

Mayor Balensifer stated last week he hosted a meeting with a very large group, about 35 people from NRCS, ODFW, DSL, Noah Fisheries, EPA and others from out of state, as part of a seminar series with the Portland University Hatfield School of Government. He reviewed the discussion topics, which included tsunami preparedness and the Warrenton inundation areas. He also requested to add agenda item 7-F for the WBA application, and item 7-G, Deep Sea Fisherman's application for waiver of Community Center fee. There were no objections from the Commission. Mayor Balensifer also noted Port Commissioner Stevens is here to speak during public comment.

Commissioner Newton noted Nygaard Logging is donating wood chips to put down in the dog park to help with the mud holes.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

PUBLIC COMMENT (Agenda Items) – Captain Robert Stevens, liaison from the Port of Astoria to the City of Warrenton, stated he wanted to take this opportunity to introduce himself and hopes that the liaison will work for the benefit of both organizations and form a partnership to explore items of mutual interest. He stated he will attend meetings as needed. Mayor Balensifer suggested a joint meeting with the Port in the future to discuss the Waterfront Revitalization Plan.

BUSINESS

Community Development Director Skip Urling stated Rhonda and Dax Sewell have submitted a petition to vacate the northern 225 feet of SW Date Avenue, south of SW 6th Street, and is requesting to set a public hearing date of March 13, 2018. He explained the particulars of the proposed street vacation, as outlined in the agenda packet and noted there could be issues in the future, such as fire truck turn arounds. Brief discussion followed and Mayor Balensifer noted Fire Chief Demer's letter noting concerns about getting a fire apparatus down that street, and asked Mr. Urling what his recommendation is. Mr. Urling recommended not vacating the street but stated an alternative would be the right to occupy. The petitioners, Mr. & Mrs. Sewell spoke in regards to the street vacation and showed diagrams and pictures of the area in question. They noted they had not considered the license to occupy but had no objections. Brief discussion followed and it was noted there will be no additional charges for the License to Occupy. The Sewell's stated that are comfortable moving forward with a License to Occupy.

Commissioner Ackley made the motion to table indefinitely the public hearing to consider the Sewell petition to vacate a portion of SW Date Avenue, south of SW 6th Street. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

MINUTES

Community Development Director Skip Urling presented Ordinance No. 1217 for the second reading and adoption, noting the first reading was done at the last meeting.

Commissioner Ackley made the motion conduct the second reading by title only of Ordinance No. 1217; *An Ordinance Vacating Undeveloped Street Rights-of-Way in the Plats of Warrenton Park and Portsmouth Addition to Warrenton in Warrenton, Oregon.* Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

Mayor Balensifer conducted the second reading of Ordinance No. 1217, by title only.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1217. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

Mayor Balensifer reviewed the application from Debbie Little to serve on the Community Center Board. He noted he has interviewed Ms. Little and recommends appointing her to the board.

Commissioner Ackley made the motion appoint Debbie Little to Position No. 6 on the Community Center Board. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

City Manager Linda Engbretson presented the Collective Bargaining Agreement for General Employees, and highlighted a few items. Mayor Balensifer thanked the City Manager for her dedication and hard work, noting it is not easy doing negotiations.

Commissioner Ackley made the motion to approve entering into the Collective Bargaining Agreement 2017-2021, and approve COLA pay retro-active to July 1, 2017. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

Commissioner Baldwin discussed the gravel road policy, noting one road in particular, Chinook St.; where promises from the property owner were made that the damages to a Warrenton city street would be repaired. He asked Public Works Director Collin Stelzig to speak on whether the contractor got a right-of-way use permit, and would like to know the status. Commissioner Baldwin stated he feels the road should be repaired to our standards. Mr. Stelzig stated everyone working in our right-of-way should get a permit, however he is not sure if they did get one; he noted they did get the LUCS (Land Use Compatibility Statement) signed off on. He noted typically Public Works would go out before the work is done to assess the condition. Mr. Stelzig noted the culvert was replaced and is wider now, so it is a non- issue; in regards to the road, he is not sure if it is better or worse, but staff has noted the road is in the same condition as it was

before. City Manager Engbretson asked if there is a standard for our gravel roads and Mr. Stelzig noted he is not sure. Mayor Balensifer asked if Commissioner Baldwin would be satisfied for Collin to go out and take another look at it the road and Commissioner Baldwin stated he would like to go with him. Mr. Stelzig will provide a report at the next meeting. Discussion continued, and the need to firm up the gravel road policy was noted.

Mayor Balensifer reviewed the WBA application from Charles Dennis and noted he will be a great addition.

Commissioner Newton made the motion appoint Charles Dennis to Position No. 5 on the Warrenton Business Association. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye

City Manager Engbretson stated the Deep Sea Fisherman’s Benefit Fund is requesting we waive one night’s the fee for the community center. Mayor Balensifer noted the community center has trouble being solvent. Ms. Engbretson stated the Benefit Fund will pay one night and the city will pay one night; the money comes from the general fund. She noted the need to visit this during the budget season.

Commissioner Ackley made the motion to waive one night Community Center fee. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Newton – aye; Ackley – aye; Baldwin – aye


PUBLIC COMMENT – Scott Widdicombe spoke in regards to the 8th street flood control structure and presented documents and pictures of homes located on the Skipanon River during high and low tides, which will be retained for the record.

Sherry Holdiman thanked the Commission, the City Manager Engbretson and Chief Workman for the countless hours of support and assistance to her family.


Tyler Johnston speaking on behalf of the Warrenton’s Police bargaining unit discussed the status of the bargaining agreement and noted they would like to move forward. He asked the City Commission to talk with the bargaining unit.

There being no further business Mayor Balensifer adjourned the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

APPROVED:


Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dawne Shaw, Deputy City Recorder