

**CITY OF NEWBERG
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION
OCTOBER 25, 2005
6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL - 2ND FLOOR CONFERENCE ROOM**

AGENDA

- I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER***
- II. ROLL CALL**
- III. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

This is a quarterly meeting of the Newberg City Council for the purpose of general discussion of City business. No action will be taken. No oral or written testimony will be heard or received.

- IV. ADJOURNMENT**

*The Mayor reserves the right to change the nature and order of items that are discussed at the study session.

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SUMMARY OF JULY 26, 2005 CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION

Council Compensation

We will keep attendance sheets for all meetings of the Council and Council subcommittees. Council members appointed as representatives to other agencies will keep track of their meetings and report them to the City Manager. All meetings will be entered into a spreadsheet for a more accurate accounting when payments are prepared for Council members.

Prior to Jan. 1, 2007, the Council will review the issue of Council compensation and determine if any changes should be considered and how those changes should be approved, i.e. by Council action or referral to the voters. This will also be added to the list of items to be reviewed by the Charter subcommittee. We will provide a summary of how other cities in Oregon compensate elected officials.

Veterans Banquet

The City will not authorize any City funds to be expended for purchase of tickets or tables for the November 4 Veterans Banquet at Chehalem Middle School. Individual employees and affiliated organizations such as the Newberg Volunteer Firefighters are free to purchase tickets or tables as they may decide. We will send a letter to Joe Brugato explaining the City's position.

Council Minutes

The City will move toward using action minutes for Council meetings. This is contingent upon the development of a reliable video and audio recording system that will be the primary source for the records of Council proceedings. We will immediately look into the feasibility of replacing the desk microphones with lapel mikes for Council members and staff. We will also look at the cost of installing fixed cameras in the Council chambers.

Municipal Judges

We will begin work on a Request for Qualifications for the municipal judge positions. The five-year term of the present municipal judges has expired and they are working under contract to the City until such time as they are either reappointed or new judge(s) are appointed. The City Attorney will ensure that a wide dissemination of the RFQ occurs so that as many qualified candidates as possible apply. This may also include the judges currently under contract to the City.

C.O. R. E. (Civics Oriented Renaissance in Education)

An effort is under way by groups including the Oregon City Managers and the Mid-Willamette Valley COG to introduce a unit on local government into the Oregon schools curriculum. These groups are working with Oregon school organizations and teachers to accomplish this goal although it will take a number of years. The participation of local elected officials in this project is highly desired. Newberg elected officials will be contacted to help as it is introduced in local school classrooms.

Use of E-mail

We discussed the impact of the Beaverton case and the potential that home e-mails could be subpoenaed if they deal with City business. The City has provided City e-mail addresses and accounts for each Council member for just that reason to try to insulate home e-mails. If you are going to use your home e-mail to discuss City business, it is important to keep in mind that this could be discoverable in a court action. We will develop a Council policy or guideline for this.

Code RED

I will provide the Council with additional information on the Code RED emergency notification system.

Photo Red Light

We reviewed the status of photo red light. Redflex has looked at each of the intersections that were studied and determined that Villa Rd. and Springbrook Rd. D. are suitable for the program. ODOT has jurisdiction, however, and is recommending that initially only Springbrook Rd be installed with photo red light. When all of the reports are finalized, we will bring this back to Council for a final review and decision.

On the Record versus De Novo Hearings

We will draft an amended ordinance for the Council's consideration that would permit de novo hearings for applications appealed to the City Council. De novo hearings permit new written and oral testimony to be submitted for consideration. We discussed that the Council's role in an appeal hearing is to determine if the approving body, i.e. the Planning Commission, made a mistake in some aspect of the decision and what the appropriate remedy should be.

Condition of City Parks

We discussed the condition of City parks that are owned by the City but maintained by CPRD. We will contact CPRD on this to determine the extent of the maintenance issues and how these can be addressed to ensure that the parks consistently look good.

Council Rules/Guidelines

We will provide electronic copies of the Council rules and guidelines for the Council's review. A subcommittee was appointed to make recommendations on potential changes to the rules and guidelines. The subcommittee members are Councilors Currier, Boyes and Nelson.