

**CITY OF NEWBERG  
CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES  
JUNE 27, 2007  
6:00 P.M.  
NEWBERG CITY HALL ADMINISTRATION CONFERENCE ROOM  
414 E. 1<sup>ST</sup> ST., NEWBERG**

**I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER**

Mayor called the meeting to order.

**II. ROLL CALL**

**Members**

|          |                   |              |             |
|----------|-------------------|--------------|-------------|
| Present: | Mayor Bob Andrews | Robert Soppe | Jeff Palmer |
|          | Roger Currier     | Bart Rierson | Mike Boyes  |

**Staff**

|          |                                   |
|----------|-----------------------------------|
| Present: | James Bennett, City Manager       |
|          | Terrence Mahr, City Attorney      |
|          | Norma Alley, Deputy City Recorder |

|         |            |
|---------|------------|
| Absent: | Bob Larson |
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**III. GENERAL DISCUSSION**

**1. Annexation Policy**

Jim Bennett began discussion by addressing questions asked to him in correspondence. First was regarding the annexation going back on the ballot without going through the entire process. He said no the annexations cannot be placed on the ballot without going through the process again. Second, is it possible to have one on a ballot and the other on a second ballot. He said yes they can be separated. Third, any obligation from the council to put it back on the ballot. He said no. The applicant can request for it be considered to go before the voters, but there are no expectations of the council as to it having to go on the ballot or when. The council retains the right to deem when it is appropriate to put those on the ballot. Another issue that came up is the issue of either promoting an annexation as it was approved by the council and to what extent the council can inform the voters of the issues. The typical reading of state law is that prior to the actual action of placing it on the ballot the city can prepare factual material to educate the public. The elected members of the council can advocate at any time, but must do it on their own and cannot use any City resources.

Councilor Rierson asked would it be okay for council to consult with the city attorney after an item is on the ballot.

Jim Bennett said most definitely.

Mayor Andrews asked has staff received any applications for annexations to be placed on the ballot.

Jim Bennett said staff has received letters requesting the matter be placed back on the ballot. The City does not have a process that requires them to file a new application.

Mayor Andrews asked if the letters were requesting for it to be on the November ballot.

Jim Bennett said yes the request is for the November 2007 ballot.

Councilor Soppe said the council was asked two questions of does it meet the criteria and should the voters vote on this. I saw the legislative question as should this be on the ballot not should it be annexed. I think it is up to the voters to decide to see if this should be annexed. With that in mind, going back and doing the legislative part is perfectly reasonable if the standards have changed.

Councilor Boyes said he would support it going on the ballot again if things changed and the City does not have to fund it.

Councilor Palmer said I want to hear what has changed from the time it failed and from us receiving it again. I think it is folly to introduce the same points over again.

Councilor Boyes suggested limiting the number of times it is on the ballot before having a waiting period.

Councilor Soppe suggested a waiting period of more than 6-12 months and less than ten years, having a formal application, and charging a fee to cover staff and council time.

Jim Bennett said the council could consider at least one more opportunity to go back on the ballot and if it fails again then have a mandatory waiting period before it comes back a third time.

Council directed staff to draft a preliminary policy for Council review.

## **2. Other Business**

Councilor Palmer updated the council on the happenings of the Animal Shelter Subcommittee.

Councilor Boyes asked if a street sign was going to be placed on Loren Court and asked who was responsible for that.

Jim Bennett said the residence of Loren Court would be responsible to put in the sign because it is a private street. He said he would look into this.

Councilor Soppe said a few months ago a matter was before us to change the signs at Springbrook, Second and Fernwood. The signs were meant to be temporary so the matter needs to be closed.

Councilor Palmer asked if signs could be placed to refer parking to the Second Street parking lot.

Councilor Soppe recommended putting signage to bring awareness to the breezeway between Second Street and First Street.

Councilor Currier suggested looking into a two-story parking structure the parking lot.

## **IV. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.