CITY OF NEWBERG COUNCIL MINUTES
FEBRUARY 4, 2008
7:00 P.M. MEETING
PUBLIC SAFETY BUILDING - TRAINING ROOM

Work Session was held prior to this meeting. No decisions were made. A presentation on the Library's Children Expansion Campaign was given and an update on Redflex.

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Andrews called the meeting to order.

II. ROLL CALL

Members Present:	Mayor Bob Andrews	Mike Boyes	Roger Currier	Bob Larson
	Jeff Palmer	Bart Rierson	Marc Shelton	

Staff Present:	Robert I. Tardiff, City Manager Pro Tem	Terrence Mahr, City Attorney
	Dan Danicic, Public Works Director	Elizabeth Comfort, Finance Director
	Barton Brierley, Planning and Building Director	Becky Green, HR Director
	Jennifer L. Nelson, Recording Secretary	Norma I. Alley, City Recorder

Others Present: Sheryl Kelsh, John Trudel

III. *PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE*

The Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

IV. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Mr. Robert I. Tardiff, City Manager Pro Tem, discussed budget prioritization and public access to camera equipment.

V. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Ms. Sheryl Kelsh, Director of the Chamber of Commerce, discussed promotional projects for tourism in publications including publishing the directory in house, the wine map, and direction cards at gas stations, as well as, the significant drop in website visits due to change in the web host.

Councilor Currier asked if the wineries listed in the wine map were required to be Chamber members.

Ms. Kelsh stated the pricing was available for both Chamber and non-Chamber members.

Councilor Rierson suggested the Visitor's Center lend individual Global Positioning System (GPS) units with pre-programmed locations to visitors.

Ms. Kelsh stated another visitor center is doing something similar with placing greeters at various points with handheld units capable of printing location maps upon request.

Councilor Larson asked about the costs of the publications and how they were covered.

Ms. Kelsh replied costs were covered by marketing budgets and one is self supporting.

Mayor Andrews asked about an increase in the personnel budget and why that occurred.

Ms. Kelsh noted they lost an employee in the 1st quarter and added a contract employee back.

Mr. John Trudel approached to acknowledge **Mr. Jim Bennett, the former City Manager of Newberg**, and **Mr. Dan Danicic, Public Works Director**, for their efforts with the resolution on Crestview Drive and their involvement with the Five-Party team. He felt the working relationship established with City staff is a good thing for the whole community and hoped for it to continue.

VI. CONSENT CALENDAR

1. Consider a motion approving City Council Minutes for January 7, 2008.

2. Consider a motion approving the Visitor Center 2007/08 1st and 2nd Quarter Reports.

3. Consider a motion approving **Resolution No. 2008-2759** appointing Ken Marron as the Public Works Maintenance Division Laborer II.

4. Consider a motion approving **Resolution No. 2008-2763** directing staff to proceed with a request for jurisdictional transfer from Yamhill County of the rights-of-way of a portion of Crestview Drive.

MOTION: Rierson/Currier to approve the Consent Calendar including the Regular Session City Council Minutes for January 7, 2008, the Visitor Center 2007/08 1st and 2nd Quarter Reports, **Resolution No. 2008-2759**, and **Resolution No. 2008-2763**. (Unanimous) Motion carried.

VII. PUBLIC HEARING

Consider a motion approving **Ordinance No. 2008-2690** and **Resolution No. 2008-2766** approving procedures for appointments to boards, commissions, and committees established by ordinance and resolution.

TIME – 7:25 PM

Mayor Andrews called for any biases, conflicts of interest, ex parte contact, or abstentions; none stated.

Terrence Mahr, City Attorney, presented the staff report (see official record for full report).

Discussion followed concerning the background behind the Finance Committee and its current purpose.

Councilor Larson asked about the system of checks and balances for the Mayor appointing positions. Staff replied the Council must give consent and the Mayor is to consider input in good faith before the appointment.

Councilor Palmer expressed concerns for the language on page thirty-eight, item three and the exception for Council consent.

Discussion followed concerning how council would give their consent for the appointment, since only one appointee will be facing the council as appointed by the Mayor and the council is only voting to ratify his decision.

Councilor Rierson felt uncomfortable with this arrangement stating he preferred each applicant to come before the entire council. He also felt this was a necessary system for "checks and balances".

Mr. Mahr explained the new model charter proposed by the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) directs all elections do be done by mayoral appointment with consent of council. The council would have the authority, however, to propose an amendment to go to the next election.

Councilor Palmer stated he was comfortable with the Mayor appointing with consent, but questioned what the procedure would be for removal of members.

Discussion followed concerning the standards of attendance required by ordinance being two consecutive absences or any other non-performance of duty where council could make the call to remove a member. It was desired to have some mechanism (officially and unofficially), other than recorded minutes, for maintaining control over absences and how to address problems that arise.

Councilor Palmer requested an update on changes in status or composition of committees as well.

MOTION: **Larson/Shelton** to approve **Ordinance No. 2008-2690** approving procedures for appointments to boards, commissions, and committees established by ordinance and resolution read by title only.

Councilor Rierson noted his intent to vote against the ordinance with a preference for an amendment to the charter.

VOTE: To approve **Ordinance No. 2008-2690.** (5 Yes/2 No [Palmer, Rierson]) Motion carried.

MOTION: **Larson/Shelton** to approve **Resolution No. 2008-2766** approving procedures for appointments to boards, commissions, and committees established by ordinance and resolution.

MOTION: **Palmer/Currier** to amend **Resolution No. 2008-2766** changing the language of the first sentence in item three to state: "In certain instances, an appointment can be made by the Mayor without following the above procedure. No appointment can be made, however, without the consent of the City Council." (Unanimous) Motion carried.

MOTION: **Andrews/Palmer** to amend **Resolution No. 2008-2766** changing the language in item 2b: "Failure of appointee to attend the meeting ~~will~~ [may] be good cause to delay the appointment or withhold consent of appointment." (Unanimous) Motion Carried.

VOTE: To approve **Resolution No. 2008-2766** as amended. (5 Yes/2 No [Boyes, Rierson]) Motion carried.

Discussion commenced proposing the discontinuing the Finance Committee, formalize grounds for non-performance of duty and the removal process with committee chairpersons.

VIII. CONTINUED BUSINESS

None.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Consider a motion approving **Resolution No. 2008-2765** providing a program for assistance to low-income homeowners assessed for costs of local improvement through a Local Improvement District.

TIME – 8:25 PM

Mr. Mahr presented staff report (see official record for full report).

Discussions followed concerning the establishment of the area median income. Staff was directed to contact local agencies to gather more comparisons that might be readily available.

Mayor Andrews questioned the council as to their preference concerning interest only type of payments with principal payments being deferred until sale or ownership transfer.

Councilor Currier expressed concerns with the vagueness of interpretation and placing the City in jeopardy by deferring payments all the way to the tail end.

Discussion followed on interest rates and the costs to the City with semi-annual payments.

Councilor Rierson supported the proposal for the benefit of being in compliance without forcing low income residents from their homes because they cannot pay for an LID.

Discussions followed concerning the administrative process for monitoring and tracking this type of program.

Councilor Marc Shelton expressed concerns that the residents who would come before the council are those who can afford the LID, but do not agree with it rather than the low income residents, but felt it was the right thing to do.

Mayor Andrews asked about the process for this program only being available at the beginning of the LID and possibly considering a petition for those whose financial circumstances change drastically after the event. Staff replied this would be a significant policy decision and could be approached as a hardship case.

MOTION: Currier/Rierson to table **Resolution No. 2008-2765** providing a program for assistance to low-income homeowners assessed for costs of local improvement through a Local Improvement District with recommended changes until April 7, 2008. (Unanimous) Motion carried.

X. COUNCIL BUSINESS

TIME – 9:20 PM

Councilor Rierson wished to discuss an amendment to the City charter for the appointment of members.

MOTION: Currier/Palmer to increase the City Councilor compensation from eight to ten dollars per meeting.

MOTION: Larson/Palmer to amend to make the increase effective July 1, 2008, for the 2008/2009 Fiscal Year. (Unanimous) Motion carried.

VOTE: To increase the City Councilor compensation to ten dollars as of July 1, 2008. (6 Yes/0 No/1 Abstain [Shelton]) Motion carried.

XI. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(a) relating to employment of a public officer – City Manager Recruitment.

TIME – 9:30 PM

Executive Session was held. No decisions were made.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Larson/Boyes to adjourn at 10:53 PM (Unanimous) Motion carried.

ADOPTED by the Newberg City Council this 3rd day of March, 2008.

Norma I. Alley

Norma I. Alley, City Recorder

ATTEST by the Mayor this 6th day of March, 2008.

Bob Andrews

Bob Andrews, Mayor