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City Council Special Meeting  
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MINUTES

CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL MEETING  
COUNCIL CHAMBER, CITY HALL  
DECEMBER 16, 2024  
5:30 p.m.

VIA ZOOM/ IN PERSON

**PRESIDING:** Mayor Richard Mays

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Darcy Long, Tim McGlothlin, Rod Runyon, Scott Randall, Dan Richardson

**STAFF PRESENT:** City Manager Matthew Klebes, City Attorney Jonathan Kara, City Clerk Amie Ell, Public Works Director Dave Anderson, Police Chief Tom Worthy, Finance Director Angie Wilson, Community Development Director Joshua Chandler

**CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Mays at 5:30 p.m.

**ROLL CALL OF COUNCIL**

Roll Call was conducted by City Clerk Ell. Long, McGlothlin, Runyon, Randall, Richardson present

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Mays asked Councilor Runyon to lead the Pledge of Allegiance. Councilor Runyon invited the audience to join in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

It was moved by Long and seconded by Randall to approve the agenda as submitted. The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Randall, McGlothlin, Richardson, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

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### **PRESENTATIONS PROCLAMATIONS**

#### Proclamation – Canvas the Vote

Mayor Mays read the Proclamation.

### **AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

There was no audience participation.

### **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Matthew Klebes introduced Dr. Lance the new executive director for QLife.

Dr. Lance shared that she had spent over 10 years building technology companies and data centers and had been living in the area for nearly five years while working remotely. She expressed a desire to contribute to the community and emphasized the importance of broadband, which enabled her to move to the area and experience the benefits of living in a smaller community.

Klebes reported;

- An RFQ for the tourism services contract and forming an ad hoc review committee to evaluate responses would soon be occurring.
- An ad hoc committee would be formed in the new year to review the sign code.
- An additional \$2.2 million for the Columbia Gorge Regional Airport project had been received; Klickitat County Public Works will proceed with civil infrastructure bid documents.
- Met with a representative from Congressman Bentz's office, following up on a previous visit and community outreach to D.C.

### **CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilor Richardson reported;

- The Federal Street Plaza ad hoc committee made good progress.
  - Consultant provided several preliminary design sketches.
  - The committee is reviewing and providing feedback on the designs, with plans to share them with the public for feedback in the winter or early in the new year.

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Councilor Runyon reported;

- He had not had an outside meeting since the last report 6 days previous.

Councilor Randall reported;

- The Tri-County Hazardous Waste and Recycling Program Steering Committee met.
  - Outgoing Chair Steve Kramer was replaced by incoming Chair Phil Brady.

Councilor Long reported;

- There was no Urban Renewal Agency meeting last month as the required information was presented to the City Council.
  - The next Urban Renewal Agency meeting would be then next night at 5:30, in Council Chambers and available online.

Councilor McGlothlin reported;

- A city-wide gathering and employee party was scheduled for the 18th.
- Bell ringing for the Lions Club was scheduled for Saturday.

Mayor Mays highlighted several beautification and improvement projects completed in 2024 with the help of the Beautification and Tree Committee, City staff, and local agencies:

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- New trash cans downtown (in cooperation with Dallas Disposal and the Beautification Committee).
- Welcome to The Dalles signs at Exit 83 and the roundabout (with Columbia Gorge Community College).
- Planter box on Union Street.
- Downtown tree planting.
- Two rounds of tree grants (led by the Beautification and Tree Committee).
- Post office beautification project (with City Clerk involvement).
- Refurbishment of two city-owned triangles at Kelly & 12th and 6th & Trevor (with Columbia Gorge Community College).
- Refurbishing of downtown Christmas decorations (with Northern Wasco PUD and Parks & Recreation District).
- Library and State Office Building beautification (painting and landscaping).
- People's Forge sculpture on Union Street (with the Dallas Art Center).
- Fountain at Lewis and Clark Park (back in operation).
- Yard of the Month program (organized by the Beautification and Tree Committee).
- Light capsule at the Gitchell Building (with the City and Urban Renewal Agency).

Mayor Mays expressed appreciation for the collaborative efforts of the City staff and community

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partners, including Dallas Disposal, Columbia Gorge Community College, the PUD, the Parks and Recreation District, the library, the Dalles Art Center, Urban Renewal, and the Public Works Department, who played a significant role in the success of these projects.

Mayor Mays announced plans to meet with each Councilor individually to discuss committee assignments and liaisons for 2025 and beyond. He reminded the Council of the existing liaisons on several committees, including the Airport Commission, Community Outreach Team, Sister Cities, Q Life, Traffic and Safety Committee, Historic Landmarks Committee, LPSCC (Local Public Safety Coordinating Council), Household Hazardous Waste, and the Urban Renewal Agency. He encouraged Councilors to start thinking about their preferences for the new year.

## **PUBLIC HEARING**

### Recommendation for Award of the 6th Street Widening, Contract No. 2024-010

Mayor Mays read the rules for the public hearing.

Mayor Mays opened the public hearing at 5:49 p.m.

Mayor Mays called for the staff report.

Dave Anderson Public Works Director reviewed the staff report.

Mayor Mays asked for clarification of the number of parcels eligible.

Anderson said there were 17 parcel some with duplicate ownerships.

Mayor Mays said they would pay \$3800 and change and they would also pay an SDC that would total around \$5500.

Anderson confirmed that was correct.

Mayor Mays asked if staff was concerned that they had not received confirmation of receipt of the notification from 5 people.

Anderson stated that this was the second time the issue had been brought up. The district had been formed a little over a year ago, and after addressing concerns from the County and a resident about assessments, opposition subsided. The council moved forward with establishing the district, and now the final step was finalizing the fee. Since no developments occurred in the interim, everyone would pay the same fee to connect.

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Richardson asked for clarification, confirming that the fee would only be assessed when someone develops the property, and they would not receive a bill immediately.

Anderson confirmed that if there is no development of the property within the next 15 years the fee would not be assessed.

Richardson asked if there was a parallel process for the sanitary sewer line.

Anderson confirmed that there was a parallel process for the water connection and that the water system construction had already been completed in September 2013. The reimbursement district process for the water main was also finalized at that meeting.

Runyon clarified that no homes that had previously received City sanitary sewer service would be charged.

Anderson confirmed that homes with existing sewer service would not be assessed the fee.

Mayor Mays asked for public testimony in favor or in opposition to the proposed fee finalization for the reimbursement district.

There was none.

Mayor Mays asked if anyone wished to testify or ask questions on the matter.

There was none.

Mayor Mays closed the public hearing at 5:57 p.m.

It was moved by Long and seconded by Runyon to adopt Resolution No. 24-034 establishing fees for the East 9th Street Sanitary Sewer Main Improvements Reimbursement District. The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Runyon, McGlothlin, Randall, Richardson voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

## **CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD ACTIONS**

Recommendation for Award of the 6th Street Widening, Contract No. 2024-010

Engineering Division Manager Dale McCabe reviewed the staff report.

McGlothlin sought clarification regarding flooding at the underpass, specifically noting flooding

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near Taco Bell, and inquired about the situation at the Hostetler underpass.

McCabe clarified that the location near Taco Bell had an updated storm system installed by ODOT, which discharged into a pond near the gymnastics center and Barge Way restaurant. The grades and pipe sizes in place were sufficient, and unless additional infrastructure, like a lift station, was added, the flooding situation was expected to remain unchanged.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Randall to authorize the City Manager to enter into contract with Crestline Construction for the 6th Street Widening, Contract No. 2024-010, in an amount not to exceed \$3,524,610.50. The motion carried 5 to 0, McGlothlin, Randall, Lon, Richardson, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

Adopting Resolution No. 24-030 Establishing Budgetary Policy for the Appropriation of Strategic Investment Program Taxes and Revenues from the 2021 SIP Agreement with Design, LLC

City Manager Matthew Klebes reviewed the staff report.

It was moved by Long and seconded by Richardson to adopt Resolution 24-030, as presented. The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Richardson, McGlothlin, Randall, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Authorizing the City Manager to Execute an Intergovernmental Funding Agreement with Wasco County for Transfer of a Portion of the City's Opioid Settlement Funds

City Manager Matthew Klebes reviewed the staff report. He invited Debby Jones Wasco County Prevention Specialist and Overdose Prevention Coordinator to join and answer questions.

McGlothlin asked for a description of the Gorge Recovery Center.

Jones said the Recovery Center was a new nonprofit established within the last year. She said the organization had received over \$2 million in state funding but had not yet finalized its location. If the Recovery Center was not within City limits, funding would have to be managed through the County. She also said services had to be provided within the specified area, as stipulated in their contract.

McGlothlin inquired about the basis of the opioid settlement, questioning what the pharmaceutical companies had done, what the infraction was, and why they chose to settle. City Attorney Jonathan Kara explained that the opioid settlement involved companies like

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Johnson & Johnson, Walmart, and Teva, as well as other pharmaceutical distributors and manufacturers. He said it was a national situation with many jurisdictions suing these companies. The lawsuits focused on their roles in contributing to the opioid epidemic, including allegations that pharmacies failed to act on red flags, such as patients obtaining narcotics from multiple doctors, and that manufacturers had been involved for other reasons. He emphasized settlement funds were highly restricted and had to be used specifically for opioid epidemic abatement efforts.

Jones added that the State received 45% of the opioid settlement funds, while cities and counties shared 55%. She said their work followed the State's focus on the continuum of care, with prevention now on equal footing with harm reduction, recovery, and treatment. Jones explained they had worked with the National Opioid Resource Network for technical assistance to ensure compliance. She emphasized that the Department of Justice oversaw the funds and that annual reports had to justify spending in line with abatement strategies.

McGlothlin asked for more clarification on NORCOR and the Dufur School District.

Jones said that NORCOR was going to use the funds for medically assisted treatment, which was one of the abatement strategies aimed at providing help to individuals, especially in an incarcerated setting. She added that NORCOR had applied for a different grant, possibly through the CCO, to support these efforts. She said that the Dufur School District had requested a larger amount of funding, but it was determined that it did not align with the abatement strategies and was considered supplementary. As a result, their request was reduced, and the funds would be used to purchase an opioid prevention curriculum for the district.

Jones said The Next Door was focusing on the LGBTQ+ population and planned to conduct harm reduction as well as prevention efforts. She explained that survey data showed this population in The Dalles was using substances at a higher rate and was at greater risk. She added that The Next Door had already implemented programs to provide specific outreach to this group.

Mayor Mays clarified that the funds were very restricted and could not be placed in the City's general fund. He emphasized that the funds had to be used for specific purposes, which was why the City was entering into an agreement. He then asked if the County had passed the agreement or if it was still pending, noting that the County had officially opted in.

It was moved by McGlothlin and seconded by Randall to authorize the City Manager to execute the IFA with Wasco County, as presented. The motion carried 5 to 0, McGlothlin, Randall, Long, Richardson, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Jones added that Captain Carrico of the City Police Department had been a great resource,

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meeting regularly with the team. She mentioned that through the opioid prevention grant, the City Police Department had successfully used the clearinghouse to ensure there were no issues obtaining Narcan for the community. Jones noted that they were considering a training for local businesses to ensure they had Narcan emergency rescue packs. She added that the City Police Department would be working with school districts to do outreach with parents and youth to raise awareness about the opioid crisis, particularly the dangers of carfentanil, which is more potent than fentanyl. She also shared that the Gorge Academy, a local hair, beauty, and massage group, had trained 30 students to be prepared to assist in emergencies. She expressed appreciation for the City Police Department's support in these efforts.

### Adoption of Mill Creek Watershed Forest Stewardship Plan

Dave Anderson Public Works Director reviewed the staff report.

McGlothlin asked if this topic had been before council before.

Anderson said that he had brought up the topic when providing a summary of some grants the City had applied for and projects that were underway in the watershed a year or two ago.

Anderson said that the grant that had been submitted last week was intended to provide 25% of the funding for a \$675,000 purchase through the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board (OWEB). He explained that the Conservation Fund was simultaneously applying for a \$2 million grant through the U.S. Forest Service's Forest Legacy Program to cover the remaining 75%. If everything came together, the hope was that the City would be able to acquire the properties with minimal or no expenditure of City funds.

Mayor Mays asked how many acres the Arrowhead Ranch included.

Anderson said there were 3642 acres.

Richardson expressed strong support for the Mill Creek Watershed Forest Stewardship Plan and praised Anderson and the Public Works team for their efforts in putting the plan together. He noted that it complemented the Water Master Plan and would help the City control some of its source property.

It was moved by Richardson and seconded by McGlothlin to adopt the Mill Creek Watershed Forest Stewardship Plan. The motion carried 5 to 0, Richardson, McGlothlin, Long, Randall, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

Adopting Special Ordinance No. 24-605 Accepting Real Property on West 6th Street for Public Street Purposes.



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Eric Hansen Deputy Public Works Director reviewed the staff report.

Kara said the item supported an earlier action regarding the West Sixth Street expansion and involved exchanging right of way for private properties that abutted the street. He noted that the GIS map was generally accurate, but a recent title report revealed additional property owners. Kara recommended Council choose alternative number two, which included modifications based on the title report. He clarified that references to Sandra Dean should be replaced with "Vested LLC," a Washington Limited Liability Company, and Hans and Donna Winterlic, who were her silent partners in the property. He confirmed that Ms. Dean had agreed to the changes, and everything was in order with the property owner. He recommended Council adopt the ordinance as amended by title only, incorporating the modified language.

It was moved by Long and seconded by Randall to adopt Special Ordinance No. 24-605, with minor modification presented by the City Attorney, by title only.

Mayor Mays asked the City Clerk to read the ordinance by title.

Amie Ell City Clerk read the ordinance by title.

The motion carried 5 to 0, Long, Randall, McGlothlin, Richardson, Runyon voting in favor; none opposed; none absent.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

In accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

Mayor Mays recessed Open Session at 6:45 p.m.

Mayor Mays reconvene Open Session at 7:30 p.m.

## **ADJOURNMENT**


Being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Submitted by/  
Amie Ell, City Clerk

SIGNED:

  
Richard A. Mays, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Amie Ell, City Clerk