



## Harrisburg City Council Minutes November 13, 2018

The Harrisburg City Council met on this date at the Harrisburg Senior Center, located at 354 Smith St., at the hour of 6:33pm. Presiding was Mayor Robert Duncan. Also present were as follows:

- Kimberly Downey
- Adam Keaton
- Randy Klemm
- Charlotte Thomas
- Youth Advisor Spencer Tucker
- City Administrator Brian Latta
- City Recorder/Asst. City Administrator Michele Eldridge
- Public Works Director Chuck Scholz
- Finance Officer Tim Gaines

Absent this evening were Councilors Robert Boese, and Mike Caughey.

Concerned citizen(s) in the audience: All present were for items on the agenda.

### The matter of a Discussion(s) with Other Agencies.

**LCSO Report:** Sergeant Brandon Fountain reviewed the October 2018 report with the City Council. He made note of the burglaries, and vehicle break-ins that occurred in the 800 block of Arrow Leaf. Deputy Steve Frambes had done some research and tracked down that the people who committed the burglaries were arrested in Eugene, and would face penalties in Washington, before they would come back here to face the charges in Oregon. The vehicle break-ins were not specific, so he wasn't sure if the vehicles were in driveways, or on the street. There is always a good percentage of vehicles which fail to have locked doors; that's likely with these as well. It sounded like they had a lead on who was breaking into the high school and churches, and were stealing concession supplies.

Councilor Thomas asked him about that. Pop and candy doesn't seem like much, but they've lost close to \$2,000 in revenue from that. Sergeant Fountain said its progressive losses that causes the problem. Latta said that he would speak with the Sheriff's office about warning people for traffic safety issues, such as running stop signs, and speeding. We would prefer that they didn't give warnings in relation to those. There were multiple instances of this in October. Sergeant Fountain said that they could have been a mile or so over the speed limit. In those cases, they

would generally warn somebody. Mayor Duncan explained the back story on why we used to request that warnings be given the majority of the time, and why we've changed our stance on that. He doesn't want the citizens to feel harangued, but when it comes to safety, it's a different issue. Downey asked how long it would be until traffic court was started; she was looking forward to people attending traffic court locally. Latta told her it would likely be January 1<sup>st</sup>, before they would be able to hold traffic court here.

#### The matter of Approving the Consent List

- Keaton **motioned to approve the consent list, and was seconded** by Thomas. The City Council then **voted unanimously to approve the consent list**. The adoption of the consent list approved the following:
  - **The payment of the October 2018 Bills**
  - **The minutes of August 14, 2018**
  - **The minutes of October 9, 2018**
  - **The minutes of October 23, 2018**

#### The matter of Approving Ordinance No. 968, "AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY NUISANCE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF HARRISBURG."

**Staff Report:** Eldridge explained that this abatement was not only vegetation, but also included garbage and junk. She had verified earlier today that the prime rate was still 5.25%, so the lien will be held at 7.25%. The City used a contractor for the work, which was extensive.

- Scholz related that it took 4 guys 12 days to clean up this property.
- Keaton thought that \$5,000 was a decent price for that amount of work. He then **motioned to approve Ordinance No. 968, "AN ORDINANCE TO LEVY NUISANCE ASSESSMENTS AGAINST REAL PROPERTY IN THE CITY OF HARRISBURG."** He was **seconded** by Thomas, and the **City Council voted unanimously to approve Ordinance No. 968, and thereby applying a lien for \$5,000 to property located at 540 Dempsey Court.**

#### The matter of Approving Resolution No. 1204 that Allows a Rate Increase on Solid Waste Management Services

**Staff Report:** Latta said that the terms of the franchise agreement we have with Republic Services, requires that any increase in rates needs to be approved by the City Council. Julie Jackson, the Municipal Relations Manager wasn't able to come down, but Rick and Rachel were present to answer questions. He reiterated information in the agenda bill, and noted that the increase would be effective on January 1<sup>st</sup>. The justification for the increase was on page 12. Staff recommends that the City Council approve the rate increase.

- Downey asked what the increase was last year?
- Rachel believed it was 3.5%.
- Downey said that we just increased the rates because of the recycling issues, and now we have another increase, that's more than last year. She has to be able to understand why, especially when asked by tax payers why they were having to pay more.
- Klemm brought up that the price of diesel was fluctuating and volatile right now, and has actually decreased, and he also had concerns about how the weighting had been configured on the graph on page 12.
- Rick brought up the fact that you were looking at CPI's and costs from June to June, and it's now November, so the current prices wouldn't be taken into account.

Council discussed that they were worried about the increase in relation to recycling that they had recently allowed, in addition to this second rate increase. Rick said in 2017, that they

were making \$50 a ton from recycling in early 2017, and now they are paying \$50 a ton for recycling. Council reiterated that the median income in Harrisburg is low, and we have to be good stewards for our citizens. They related that they need to understand what the justification for the increase was, so that they can explain this the citizens. Several Councilors had to answer questions from citizens in relation to garbage fees and recycling. Keaton, who is a member of the Linn County Solid Waste Advisory Committee, said that they were possibly re-evaluating how rate increases are calculated. The CPI was used in this document, but there are other ways we can do it at the county level. Some of this was supposed to be resolved, and there were supposed to be more meetings this year, but there hasn't been any for a while. Rachel said that each City is different dependent upon the franchise agreement. She doesn't think that's related to our prices, but she hasn't been in those meetings to know for certain. Mayor Duncan said that we'd still like to wait until December to make a decision.

A brief discussion was held in relation to the changes to the CPI, and how it relates to our rural area. Latta said that it's a challenge to use that scale now. He will be sure to touch base with Julie to answer some of the questions that Council has. Mayor Duncan said that he understands how much it costs to just get a couple of trucks down here, so we understand that much, even if we don't like it. Rachel said that there are local nuances, and Rick added that customer service was coming back to our area, due to all the interesting things we allow on the west coast.

#### The matter of Filling a Vacancy on the Library Board

**Staff Report:** Latta told the City Council that one of the applicants had pulled their application, therefore, the only applicant is Heather Long. The Library Board recommends that the Mayor appoint her to the term that had been held by Sherri Singleterry. The ordinance allows a Library Board member to hold two full terms before they have to take a year break. Therefore, Heather Long can still fill two full terms after the current term ends.

- Downey **motioned to appoint Heather Long to serve on the Library Board with a term ending June 30, 2020. She was seconded by Klemm, and the City Council voted unanimously to approve the appointment of Heather Long to the term previously held by Sherri Singleterry, which expires on June 30, 2020.**

#### The matter of Appointing Persons to Three Vacancies on the Planning Commission

**Staff Report:** Latta told Council that we almost had another applicant, but unfortunately, they didn't meet the deadline for the position. His suggestion is that the City Council appoint the incumbents to the four year terms, and the new member to the term ending at the end of next year.

- Thomas **motioned to appoint Todd Culver and Kurt Kayner to serve on the Harrisburg Planning Commission with terms beginning on January 1, 2019 and ending on December 31, 2022. She was seconded by Downey, and the City Council voted unanimously to appoint incumbents Todd Culver and Kurt Kayner to the Planning Commission with terms ending on December 31, 2022.**
- Thomas then **motioned to appoint Jeremy Moritz to serve on the Harrisburg Planning Commission for a term ending on December 31, 2019. She was seconded by Downey, and the City Council voted unanimously to appoint Jeremy Mortiz to the term that was vacated by Charlotte Thomas, that ends on December 31, 2019.**

#### The matter of Discussing Existing Capital Improvement Projects (CIP) as it Relates to the City's Strategic Plan

**Staff Report:** Latta was going to slightly alter the way that he was presenting the Strategic Plan, and was looking for the top one or two priorities in each of the main projects and city functions reflected in the CIP plan. These will be focused upon over the next five years. Some of these will be completed as we complete the projects outlined in the water bond project, so obviously, we won't need to focus on those in the strategic plan.

**Water System CIP:** Scholz reviewed the water CIP listing. He noted that the river intake would be removed completely. The bond would take care of the treatment system, plus numbers 7, 10, some of 11, and the storage improvements. (Some of 11 will also be completed by the HRA District.) 9 was actually completed. He would also be removing 15, and 16. Numbers 6, 8, 12, and 13, plus a portion of 14, would remain on the list. Council agreed with what was remaining. Latta noted that staff will narrow those down to what is most important for the Strategic Plan.

**Sanitary Sewer CIP:** After asking Scholz what the most pressing concerns were for the Sewer CIP, Council agreed that adding a 2<sup>nd</sup> main line to carry sewage from the east side of town under the two railroad tracks was the top priority, with repairing the 1<sup>st</sup> and existing main line, being second and then replacing the line from the main lift station to the lagoon would be the third top priority.

**Storm Drainage CIP:** The main priority was culverting open ditches on property the city owns, and meeting our TMDL requirements. The TMDL is now a state priority.

**Transportation CIP:** Some of the main priorities in streets were already in the strategic plan as priorities. The biggest priorities here were 4<sup>th</sup> Street, the Traffic signal at 3<sup>rd</sup> & LaSalle Streets, and 9<sup>th</sup> St. from Hammer Subdivision to Marcus Landing.

**Parks & Recreation System CIP:** The main priority here was improving the 100-acre parkland.

## **Others.**

### City Day at the Capitol- January 24, 2019:

- Latta noted the importance of this day being the chance for City Councilors and Mayors to meet with their legislators. He encouraged their attendance there, and could arrange for transportation, as well as meeting times. He also outlined the priorities that all the city's in the state decided on as being those that the LOC would focus on.
- Several Councilors were interested in participating in that program and would like to attend.
- Latta said that we have two months to prepare. He would work on a brochure, or on elevator pitches that Council could use there. Programs that worked with other districts and cities were always popular, so the fact that Mental Health was a priority, gives us an opportunity to work with the Linn County Sheriff's Office on a program addressing or training on mental health. That's just an example of something we could do.

### Lead & Copper Notice:

- Scholz told the City Council that we had received a violation notice, in relation to our reporting of lead and copper samples to the state. He knew that we had not had any problems here, so launched into an investigation of what the issue was. They have samples that they are required to take at homes throughout Harrisburg, and one of the homeowners had not supplied the sample. They had to submit it the next day. Unfortunately, one of his crew members accidentally didn't check the correct box, and the lab therefore didn't report that sample to the state. The lab should have realized this, but regardless, it was our error. His crew has been retrained on how to work with these forms.

In the meanwhile, if you review the state standards on lead and copper, you'll see a violation for the City of Harrisburg. Even though it was a paperwork error, the state has to leave this up. It does show as the violation having been corrected. If Council hears concerns from anyone, please reassure them that it was a reporting error, on a ridiculously complicated system that the state has for this reporting.

Justice Center Remodel:

- Latta asked Council to please respond to an email he sent around 4:45 or so today. Our engineers estimate on the cost of the remodel came back and is about \$90,000 to \$130,000 more than what was originally estimated. Most of the cost is due to the structural issues that were uncovered during the demolition. The city can modify the plans in order to eliminate the price difference, but it means that we have to eliminate things we've already made decisions on. (Such as waiting on the additional jury room construction or modifying the types of materials used.) The City does have a little over \$400,000 in the Capital Improvement Line in the Community and Economic Development fund, which is our building reserve account. We can use this, and it makes sense to do so, because the funds initially came from the HRA fund, and this structure is in the HRA boundaries. It seems appropriate to use it for this. He had the plans with him tonight, if anyone wanted to review them.

Council decided that they would prefer to respond to the email, as they didn't have enough time to review the plans and would like to have the time to do so. Downey expressed dismay over the delay in construction, but Latta related that as the City kept uncovering structural issues, the engineer had to keep delaying the timeline. They were supposed to get it to us earlier than they did but operated under those constraints. Latta thought that we should be able to use the building in May 2019.

**With no further business to discuss, the City Council adjourned at the hour of 8:25pm.**

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**Mayor**

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**City Recorder/Asst. City Administrator**





# 2019 Legislative PRIORITIES

**The League of Oregon Cities' 2019 legislative priorities are reflective of the major issues that city officials throughout Oregon are concerned about and represent opportunities and challenges that, when addressed by the Legislature, will make Oregon a stronger state.**

- 1. Mental Health Investment** – continued protection and investment in crisis intervention services, expansion of emergency access to care, rental assistance for mental health clients, and specialized training for police.
- 2. Revenue Reform/Cost Containment** – reform of both the property tax system and the Public Employee Retirement System (PERS).
- 3. Housing/Homelessness Improvement** – address housing shortages and increases in homelessness that are impacting residents by advocating for technical assistance, stronger partnerships, and increased state investment in housing development and services for the homeless.
- 4. Infrastructure Finance and Resilience Investment** – advocate for an increase in the state's investment in key infrastructure funding sources, including, but not limited to: the Special Public Works Fund (SPWF), the Brownfield Redevelopment Fund, and the Regionally Significant Industrial Site loan program.
- 5. Right-of-Way Authority/Broadband Investment** – Seek additional state support and funding for increased and equitable broadband infrastructure deployment, while opposing any legislative efforts to restrict municipal authority to provide broadband services.
- 6. Third Party Building Inspection Preservation** – clarify the ability of local governments to continue the practice of hiring private-party building officials and building inspectors to provide services for local building inspection programs.

***Let Cities Work!***