

**CITY OF UMATILLA
COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 8, 2008
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Trott called the regular council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Trott, Councilors Meade, Fenton, Sutton and Johnson
ABSENT: Councilors Roxbury and Jorstad
STAFF PRESENT: Recorder Gettmann, Finance Director Glover, Police Chief Huxel
And Public Works Superintendent Frances

MINUTES: Councilor Fenton moved to approve the minutes of the December 4, 2007 regular council meeting as presented. Motion was seconded by Councilor Johnson and unanimously approved. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Larry Nelson expressed his support of approving the liquor license application for Divine Dining and commented on the plan for Highway 730 between Irrigon and Umatilla.

Sam Nobles expressed his support for approving Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT's) plan for Highway 730 between Irrigon and Umatilla. He noted that there were no objections at any of the other agency's presentations.

Cathy Putnam announced that the Booster Club was having a steak feed on February 2, 2008 at the Hermiston Community Center in Hermiston.

Kathy Meharry expressed her gratitude for the support of the restaurant and sports bar.

CONSENT AGENDA: Discussion item consisted of the quarterly payment for dispatch services. Councilor Fenton made a motion to accept the initialed bills, court report, lien search report and the building permit report. Motion was seconded by Councilor Sutton and unanimously approved. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye.

Liquor License Applications – Applications were submitted by Kathy Strong for X-Cess and Melissa Strong for Divine Dining. Councilor Johnson moved to approve the liquor license applications and was seconded by Councilor Fenton. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Planning Commission appointment applications were submitted by Melvin Ray, Heidi Sipe, Boyd Sharp and Rick Funderburk. Parks & Recreation committee appointment applications were submitted by Lyle Smith and Bill Wright. Library Board appointment applications were submitted by Lynda Carraher and Corrine Funderburk. Budget Committee and Transient Room Tax Committee appointment applications were submitted by Rick Funderburk. Mayor Trott proposed to appoint Melvin Ray, Heidi Sipe, Boyd Sharp and Rick Funderburk to the Planning Commission, Lyle Smith and Bill Wright to the Parks & Recreation Committee, Rick Funderburk to the Budget Committee and Transient Room Tax Committee and Lynda Carraher to the Library Board to fill the single vacancy. Councilor Johnson moved to confirm the appointments and was seconded by Councilor Sutton. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Planning Commission Recommendation – Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT's) Plan for Highway 730. The Planning Commission recommended approval of ODOT's short term plan to widen Highway 730 between Umatilla and Irrigon to provide a center turn land and close unused accesses and also the long term plan to provide frontage roads and close residential accesses directly to Highway 730. After some discussion, Councilor Fenton moved to confirm the Planning Commission's recommendation of approval. Motion was seconded by Councilor Johnson and unanimously accepted. Roll call: Meade – aye (with reservations); Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye.

NEW BUSINESS: U.S. Department of Housing & Urban Development Grant Closeout Agreement. Staff explained that the grant was for the soccer field on 3rd Street. Councilor Fenton moved to accept the closeout agreement and authorize the Mayor to sign the documents. Motion was seconded by Councilor Sutton and unanimously approved. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye.

Resolution #11-2008 – Declare Surplus Property. Staff reported that the parking lot at 912 6th Street was being used as a parking lot for the library. The library building has been sold and with the proposed new library/city hall facility, the parking lot was no longer needed. Councilor Meade moved to approve Resolution #11-2008 and was seconded by Councilor Sutton. Roll call: Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Sutton – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Larry Nelson offered additional comments regarding ODOT’s plan for Highway 730 between Umatilla and Irrigon.

Kathy Meharry inquired about the parking lot being declared surplus property. Response was that the property must be declared surplus before it could be sold.

MAYOR’S MESSAGE: Mayor Trott announced that with the absence of the City Manager, his performance evaluation would be postponed until the February 2008 meeting and also announced that the current council committee positions would remain the same: Personnel Committee – Chairperson Valerie Jorstad and Stephen Sutton; Community Development Committee – Chairperson Bill Meade and Steve Johnson; Finance Committee – Chairperson George Fenton and Valerie Jorstad; Public Works Committee – Chairperson Cindy Roxbury and George Fenton; Police Committee – Chairperson Steve Johnson and Bill Meade; Information Technology – Chairperson Stephen Sutton and Cindy Roxbury.

Mayor Trott reported that he had attended the Port of Umatilla board of director’s meeting and was interested in the City taking over the marina and RV Park. He asked for volunteers from the Community Development Committee and Finance Committee to form a committee with the senior staff to study the feasibility of the project.

STAFF REPORT: Updates were given for the library/city hall grant applications and the City’s website. Reports were given for the museum/Transient Room Tax Committee, City Council goal setting and establishing a storefront loan/grant program.

Public Works Superintendent Frances gave an update on the water service line replacement in McNary.

Police Chief Huxel reported that the police department’s activity report would be presented at the next meeting.

COUNCIL INFORMATION & DISCUSSION: Discussion items included the sign at the city hall/library site, security cameras and acquisition of the marina.

ADJOURN: With no further business discussion, the meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

DAVID P. TROTT, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Linda Gettmann, City Recorder