

City of Rockaway Beach

City Council Meeting Minutes



Date: Wednesday, July 8, 2020
Time: 6:00 P.M.
Location: Rockaway Beach City Hall, 276 HWY 101 -Civic Facility

CALL TO ORDER – Sue Wilson, Mayor

ROLL CALL

[Mayor - Sue Wilson: Present](#)
[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Present](#)
[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Present](#)
[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Present](#)
[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Present](#)
[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Present](#)

CONSENT AGENDA

Beeman made a motion, seconded by Walhood, to approve the June 10,2020 minutes and check register; motion carried.

[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Motion](#)
[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: 2nd](#)
[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Approve](#)
[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve](#)
[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve](#)
[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve](#)
[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve](#)

CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Gillian Holbrook, 8845 Central Court Rockaway Beach, mentioned she participates in the Emergency Preparedness. She said as volunteers they can only act within the City decisions and policies. She stated they would like to know about these decisions and policies so they can begin to make real progress in preparing for disaster. She said she is from Nedonna Beach, and that Nedonna Ave. is becoming little by little a diverse neighbor hood and they want to be sure everyone feels welcome. She mentioned they were concerned about the Mayor's social media comment and wished she addressed it.

PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wislon read the following: Kyla Sjogren, Volunteer Coordinator with the Trailhead & Beach Ambassador program, will speak about the Beach Ambassador Program and is looking for volunteers to promote safe recreations and stewardship of our natural resources.

Kyla Sjogren, 217 Paul Street, Wheeler, Oregon stated she was the Coordinator for the Trail Ambassadors. She gave a presentation about the program. She mentioned they had chosen the Rockaway Beach Wayside and are looking for volunteers. She stated the program goes through September 15, 2020.

Wilson read the following: Nan Devlin with Tillamook Coast Visitors Association will present the 2020-2021 Marketing Plan.

Devlin mentioned what an interesting, complicated year it is/was. She stated that lodging gross sales were the highest ever in 2019 and then tourism came to a sudden halt due to COVID-19. She said they distributed posters, window clings, pavement clings and washable masks throughout the county and thanked Victor Troxel for being the local distribution center. She stated they had put out notices on the Rockaway Beach network page to keep others informed. She mentioned the Pledge part of Visit Tillamook Coast's sustainable tourism strategic plan. She stated the moments of kindness and fondness for Rockaway Beach from Facebook. She addressed the numbers Y-o-Y: Website Analytics, Facebook Analytics, Instagram Analytics, and E-newsletter Analytics. She said they advertised this year in the following locations: TriMet bus, ParentMap, Sar 105.1 radio, Washington, Willamette Living Magazine, Holiday ad: Oregon Coast Today, 1859, 101 Things to Do guide, Mile by Mile Guide, Travel Oregon visitor guide, Oregon Coast Visitor Association guide and Visit Tillamook Coast guide. She spoke about Earned Media, sample articles written about Rockaway Beach. She stated they adopted the new Travel Oregon food trail brand. She mentioned that her wayfinding budget was cut completely and would be asking county commissioners to reconsider funding after January. She said in the meantime she would be getting permits from ODOT and do RFP for sign fabrication. She addressed what's new for 2020-2021: Expand regional reach, Old Growth Trail and Tourism grant program for local businesses funded by room tax money. Devlin also described the proposed advertising grant program, a program designed to allow businesses to promote themselves directly.

STAFF REPORTS

Todd Hesse, Fire Chief, said the Department responded or participated in 47 events during the month of June. He mentioned COVID-19 Pandemic continues to impact the department and crews continue to follow the guidelines as set forth from the Oregon Health Authority and Tillamook County. He said the Department received 2 applications for membership during the month of June and is continuing a campaign to recruit more members. He mentioned the Tillamook County Fire Defense Board Chiefs are continuing to work on the Pulse Point project that he informed the council about the previous month. He said the Department had purchased several new medical training mannequins and tools. He mentioned purchasing new hoses and nozzles and planned to have them in service in the month of July. He stated three members have now completed the Firefighter 1 class and are currently awaiting certification from the state. He said Oregon Coast Visitors Association is funding a project to switch the reporting system. He

mentioned he was still working to get a safety message out for out beach users. He said overall, his mission and goals remain the same.

Charlie Stewart, Chief of Police, spoke about the UEMV (Unauthorized Entry into Motor Vehicles) which included several cases over the last 6 months near the South city limits, as well as many occurring in the county. He said the Criminal Mischief (Graffiti) vandalized 13 locations. He mentioned it's important to note that standing mask advisements and orders have provided additional challenges to identify persons of interest in many of our criminal cases. He said they have had to spend additional time collecting evidence to track down suspects. He asked that business owners take extra safety precautions. He stated that their radios were over 12 years old so he ordered replacements that would be compatible with the expected changes in the Tillamook County Radio Network. He said the department had purchased a FLIR Thermal System which is a piece of equipment that would assist during Search & Rescue and Criminal Cases. He stated he was pleased to have the volunteers back within the office. He said he wanted to thank Marilyn Elkins for the masks she had provided to the department. He mentioned he would like to thank the Rockaway Beach Fire Department, Tillamook County Sheriff's Office, Oregon State Police, and Coast Guard for assistance with the safe recovery of a missing 8-year-old on the beach, these partnerships are key to the safety and success of all our communities.

Luke Shepard, City Manager, said the Boardwalk was under budget and the contractor had leftover material so he allowed the contractors to add on an additional 60 ft along with one more viewpoint. He mentioned the contractors would also be installing fencing under the new deck to limit access under the deck to the large cedar tree, as foot traffic can compact the soil and cause damage to the tree. He said because the project is under budget, there is funding to add a security system and that the Police Chief is working on it. He stated the International Police Museum is onboard for another 12 months. He said the hiring committee found somebody they liked for the Public Works Directors opening, with a start date projected for August. He said the new Public Works Director would be a certified professional engineer. He stated this has the potential to save the city money in the long run, and produce better designs, project managing and reduce the City's dependence on consulting engineers. He stated the Census response rate for Rockaway Beach was only 16% and to please take part. He mentioned the City was starting the new budget, this means the City has one year to streamline how it operates with a focus on its core services. He said if done correctly, this would allow the City to look at adding back Park and Rec, Code Enforcement and Emergency Management. He explained the finances behind at the City Hall building and Police Department building, and the inefficiency of the situation. He mentioned the City Council agreed to allow the City Manager and Police Chief to continue to look into the issue, with an eye towards selling the Police Department and relocating the Police Department to the Civic Facility. The Police Chief stated he supported the move.

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF THE TILLAMOOK COAST VISITORS ASSOCIATION SERVICE CONTRACT

Wilson read the following: Tillamook Coast Visitors Association to provided services including Tourism Marketing, Advertising Administration and implementation. Please see included

Marketing Plan and Budget for details. Wilson said onto the approval of the Tillamook Coast Visitors Association Service Contract and asked for Councilors thoughts. Hayes said she would like to see this be put out for bid and explained why. Beeman stated he agreed with Hayes and said it wouldn't hurt to get other input and explore other opportunities. Walhood mentioned many of the fees only go towards advertising. Cheek said it would be wise to seek other opportunities. Martine said he thinks its good to search and see with other opportunities are available. Wilson said there was no need to make a motion at this time.

DISCUSSION OF PROPOSED MARKETING GRANT PROGRAM

Wilson read the Following: City Manager worked with Tillamook Coast Visitors Association to draft a Marketing Grant program that would allow local businesses to apply for funding to advertise their businesses. Shepard would like the City Council to weigh-in on the program draft. Shepard said he would like to hear from Council whether they like it or not. He mentioned its an easy process where the City would write a check for 50%, and it only requires a few guidelines. Councilor Hayes, Cheek and Walhood provided their thoughts.

APPROVAL OF OLCC LIQUOR LICENSE FOR "ROCK BOX"

Wilson read the following: Cart LLC "Rock Box" has applied for a limited on-site liquor license at 503 HWY 101 N. Please see application and site plan included in council packets.

Cheek said she wanted to know which kind of alcohol they were planning on serving. Hannah Sandhu, 530 N Hwy 101, said the only type of alcohol planned to be served was beer. Cheek said she had drove by and questioned the fence height. Council discussion the height requirement of the fence.

Cheek made a motion, seconded by Hayes, to approve the OLCC Liquor License for "Rock Box" as long as it meets OLCC guidelines and City Planning; motion carried.

[Position # 5 - Penelope Cheek: Motion](#)

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: 2nd](#)

[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Approve](#)

[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve](#)

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve](#)

[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve](#)

[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve](#)

APPROVAL OF TILLAMOOK COUNTY HEALTH DEPARTMENT LEASE AGREEMENT

Wilson read the following: The Tillamook County Health Department has requested another 5-year lease for space within City Hall. This lease will allow the department to continue to provide medical services here in Rockaway Beach. Payment terms have been updated to reflect inflation and current utility rates.

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Beeman, to approve the Tillamook County Health Department Lease Agreement; motion carried.

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Motion](#)

[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: 2nd](#)

[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Approve](#)

[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve](#)

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve](#)

[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve](#)

[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve](#)

APPLICATION RECEIVED FOR VACANT SEAT ON THE PLANNING COMMISSION

Wilson read the following: Penny Cheek's appointment to the City Council left an open seat within the planning commission. Georgeanne Zedrick has submitted a resume for consideration by the City Council and has been a resident in Rockaway Beach for two years. Georgeanne Zedrick said she is interested in how the City works and said she now had the time to help with the process.

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Martine, to appoint Georgeanne Zedrick to the Planning Commission; motion carried.

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Motion](#)

[Position #2 - Tom Martine: 2nd](#)

[Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Approve](#)

[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve](#)

[Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve](#)

[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve](#)

[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve](#)

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Martine said he appreciated the City of Rockaway and thanked Public Works for removing the graffiti for the old growth tree. Cheek mentioned her concern regarding the tree and asked if there was a way to provide surveillance equipment for the tree. Walhood said she encouraged others to check out the boardwalk. Beeman mentioned he walked the boardwalk looking for graffiti and didn't see anything, he said he was impressed with the cleanup and thanked the City Manger and City staff for doing a fantastic job. Hayes spoke about the graffiti on the boardwalk. She said she was thrilled about having an inhouse engineer as it would save the City money. She mentioned the Facebook post and was disturbed by it, she said she ran for Council to insure all are safe within the Community and the post is a Council concern and is not acceptable.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Wilson said please complete your Census, it benefits the City. She wanted to thank the Rockaway Community Church and thanked a gentleman for weed eating around town. She addressed the concerns regarding Facebook comments.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Putman said he wanted to provide an update on the City's trial regarding Maureen Taylor. He stated the city had prevailed.

ADJOURNMENT

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Beeman, to adjourn at 7:57pm; motion carried.

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Motion

Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: 2nd

Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Approve

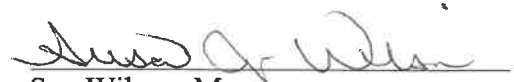
Position #2 - Tom Martine: Approve

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Approve

Position #4- Terry Walhood: Approve

Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 12TH
DAY OF AUGUST 2020.


Sue Wilson, Mayor


Luke Shepard, City Manager