



City of Rockaway Beach City Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, October 14, 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 #3 - Kristine Hayes: Present](#)
[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Present](#)
[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Present](#)
[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Present](#)

CONSENT AGENDA

Hayes asked about a reimbursement of a FEMA project on the check register, Shepard stated she was correct, that the project was discussed at a previous meeting.

Walhood made a motion, seconded by Beeman to approve the September 9, 2020 minutes and check register; motion carried.

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

CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Victor Troxel, 146 S Hwy 101 stated he will be receiving a brand-new beach wheelchair. Troxel requested a sign be placed at the wayside directing people to the wheelchair path on 9th and Breaker. Troxel mentioned he is stepping down as Rockaway Beach Champions and handing it over to Bill Hassell. Zandra Umholtz, 601 N 3rd mentioned on behalf of the Lions Club, they are hosting a Veterans dinner on Sunday November 8th from 1Pm-5PM. The dinner will be to-go and by donation, also the event will be advertised on Facebook.

PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Wilson read the following: Tillamook County Tobacco Prevention and Education Coordinator Tara Stevens will present on youth tobacco prevention in Tillamook County.

Tara Stevens, the Tillamook County Tobacco Prevention and Education Coordinator presented a slide show about the use of tobacco in the state as well as county wide. Stevens mentioned the percentages of tobacco use by youth within Tillamook County. Stevens stated Tillamook County Tobacco Prevention is working on a tobacco license requirement for any business selling tobacco products within Tillamook County. Beeman asked how much the license would cost businesses. Stevens mentioned Clatsop County charges about three hundred and fifty dollars. Stevens estimated around three hundred dollars. Wilson asked who would be administrating the tobacco licenses. Stevens stated the goal is to have the existing staff at the county do the registration and monitoring. Hayes asked if the county would be collecting revenue from the businesses. Stevens said the goal is not to collect revenue, that it would just be the fee for the initial license.

STAFF REPORTS

Charlie Stewart, Chief of police, thanked the citizens, community officials, and community partners for all their support. He mentioned the police department saw an increase in alarm calls and welfare checks, but it is standard with the recent power outages and storms. He said the police department has also seen an increase of vehicle accidents not just in the city but county and statewide. He stated the officers are up to date on their annual training of the three-year maintenance cycle for the state requirements. He mentioned based on the ODOT grant and other factors the police department is looking at extending coverage and stretching the hours covered each day.

Todd Hesse, Fire Chief, stated the department responded or participated in 82 different events during the month of September. Twenty-three of those calls were burn complaints. He mentioned the fire department is still doing small group training but hoped to start doing whole group training in the near future. He stated the fire department has 8 new recruits. He said the department is having a fire fighter from Tualatin Valley Fire and Rescue put on a class on vehicle extrication. He mentioned the county has been very active on improving the training and awareness on wildland fires. He stated the department has started the process of purchasing a command vehicle. He mentioned the side by side has been in use recently mostly for patrol but currently it has been putting out beach fires and participated in one water rescue. He stated the pumps on the two fire trucks are currently being repaired as they both failed their annual pump tests. He said the 501(3)c fire association purchased a 12ft zodiac boat with donations they received. The department felt they needed something to go into the lakes and help people during floods. He mentioned there will be a Tunk or Treat at the wayside on Halloween from 3pm-5pm. The department will have trucks stationed in the wayside. He said he wants to start to educate the council and public on National Fire Prevention Association guidelines. He will be discussing this each month with the council.

Rob Morris, Public Works Director, mentioned public works has been busy this past month with the power outages and making sure everything is up and running during the time of the outage. He stated public works is making electrical improvements to the pump stations and a reservoir to

increase resiliency and to avoid damage to pumps and control panels during power outages. He said approximately 47,000 square feet of roadway was overlaid in September with new asphalt and that it went well and added that new road shoulders were being laid. He stated the boardwalk has been repaired and is back open to the public and public works will be putting seating at the end of the boardwalk. He mentioned the City had a landscaping crew come and refresh landscaping at the post office.

Luke Shepard, City Manager, once again welcomed the City's new Public Works Director. He mentioned the overlay and that the City will have those costs (about \$75,000) reimbursed by a grant through the Oregon Department of Transportation. Shepard stated that the City has had two offers on the Police Department building and there may be a third offer on the building. He stated the City will need to hold a public hearing before the City Council can approve the sale of the property. He said he may schedule a special council meeting on October 29th to hold the public hearing and to discuss the purchase offer. He added that many factors are still up in the air at this point in time but would let the City Council know as soon as possible. Beeman asked if the council could know who is trying to purchase and what the plans are for the building. Shepard stated the city must state that in the public notice for the public hearing. He mentioned all City departments will be helping the police department relocate. He said he has been working with the police department on streamlining code enforcement but that will be placed on hold until the police department is relocated as that will now be the department's priority. He stated the Planning Commission has an opening and people can pick up applications at City Hall or find it on the city's website. He mentioned that the tree lighting ceremony in November may be canceled due to COVID-19 and the recent increase in cases both Tillamook County and the State of Oregon. He said the City was given the Gold Safety Award from the League of Oregon Cities for having zero loss-time injuries in the 2019-2020 fiscal year. He mentioned OSHA has drafted workplace COVID-19 regulations that are more restrictive than what currently exists and that these may impact operations once implemented.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-962 A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY OF ROCKAWAY BEACH TO REFINANCE OUTSTANDING OBLIGATIONS AND PROVIDING FOR RELATED MATTERS.

Wilson read the following: The City intends to take advantage of current market conditions. The low interest rates available at this time will likely produce debt service savings both annually and long term.

Shepard stated there will be short-term and long-term savings for the City. In the first five years the City will see an annual debt service savings of approximately \$35,000. In the current budget year, about \$123,000 in debt service payments will not need to be expended. He mentioned with the current USDA loans the City is required to keep around \$66,000 in reserve, but it will no longer be a requirement with the new loan. He said the current USDA loan has a 4.5% interest rate and the new loan will be about 2.4%. Hayes asked about the 5 loans the City is refinancing. Shepard said 2 of the loans are through the USDA for the city hall building, there is the sewer ocean outfall loan, the parking lot loan, and the water plant loan. He said all the of the loans will

keep their existing pay-off dates, but that because the total amount refinanced is higher with all loans combined, the interest rate will be lower. This will benefit the USDA loans most because they will have 26 years remaining. Wilson discussed the two other outstanding loans, Shepard stated there was a USA Bank loan for the McMillen Creek Reservoir that the City cannot repay it early. Shepard stated the City will save about \$363,000 over the life of the new loan.

Beeman made a motion, seconded by Hayes to approve Resolution 20-962 a resolution authorizing the City of Rockaway Beach to refinance outstanding obligations and providing for related matters; motion carried.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

NEW BUSINESS

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Hayes stated that she doesn't know why the councilors seats are numbered and thinks that the City should not have positions numbered. Shepard mentioned the reason they are numbered is to be able to keep track of the positions over time, such as if a council member were to step down midterm or become unable to serve for any other reason. Hayes stated Tassi from the County told her Rockaway Beach is the only other city to have the positions numbered. She mentioned it would be easier for people to run and make it fairer, also making it less stressful for the community voting. Martine stated he thinks having the positions numbered keeps things organized. Beeman Thanked the Fire Department, Police Department, Public Works, and the City Manager. He also wanted to mention he is on the upcoming election and he is not present on Facebook much but will be going on to make comments about the upcoming election. Walhood thanked all department heads and City staff for all the work they are doing in the City. Cheek thanked everybody.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Wilson mention that Walhood was the driving force for the new post office landscaping. Wilson acknowledged her for her vision and thanked her.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Putman updated the council on legal matters. Wilson asked Putman if he submitted documents on time for a current City case. Putman stated all documents had been submitted.

ADJOURNMENT

Check made a motion, seconded by Martine to adjourn the meeting at 7:06pm: motion carried.

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

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 18TH
DAY OF NOVEMBER 2020,


Mayor, Sue Wilson


City Manager, Luke Shepard