

City of Rockaway Beach

City Council Meeting Minutes



Date: Wednesday, December 9, 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

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

CONSENT AGENDA

Walhood made a motion, seconded by Martine to approve the November minutes and the November 2020 check register; Motion Carried.

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Motion
Position #2 - Tom Martine: 2nd
Position #1 - Nathan Beeman: Absent
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

Frances Buchanan spoke on behalf of the proposed logging near Jetty Creek. Frances stated she went to the gate of the Jetty Creek and met with three representatives, one from The Oregon Department of Forestry, Stimpson Lumber Company, and from Greenwood Recourses. They spoke about the difficulties of this project and spoke with two Stimpson Employees about the watershed. Frances asked for the City to look at options to help move forward with her project and to discuss it. Frances gave the council her contact information, 503-801-3148 nccwe.asst@gmail.com Hayes asked if the land had been assessed for value, Frances said it is part of what she is trying to do. Wilson asked if she was talking about the 55 acers, Frances stated the 55acres is only one part of the Watershed. Wilson asked if the plan would be to buy the entire watershed, Frances said yes. Wilson stated she should contact her advisors to see what

the liability would be and how the City would be held accountable. Shepard thanked her for coming in and speaking and said he would be in contact with her to hear more about her plan.

Jordan Gulaskey, 14955 Old Noman Road in Nehalem, Cell phone number is 757-262-6962. Jordan was representing the group of the North Coast Community for Watershed Protection; their leader Nancy Webster was unable to make it to the meeting. Jordan read a statement from advisor Trygve Steen, Trygve spent the last week near Jetty Creek measuring stream buffers and photographically documenting the Olympic Line Harvest Unit. Trygve stated the logging of Jetty Creek will exacerbate water quality and quantity issues for the town of Rockaway. Trygve said the logging will also affect the amount of water that will be accessible during the summer months. Trygve mentioned the Olympic line Harvest would be best delayed until after the rest of the watershed has recovered. Hayes asked if the buffer would be the setback requirements, Jordan stated they are required by the Forest Practices Act.

Betsy McMahn stated she was at the meeting to support the North Coast Community Watershed protection. Betsy mentioned the main goal is to make sure the water is adequate to drink. Betsy said the group is made up of about 700 people from the north coast area. Betsy stated her phone number 503-368-3201.

PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

STAFF REPORTS

Charlie Stewart, Police Chief stated the month of November had been very busy due to prepping for the move of the Police Department (PD) to City Hall. The PD has been focusing on emergency calls due to Covid-19 restrictions. Stewart stated the move went well and thanked Public Works for the help with the move. Stewart said the PD began the ODOT grant process and with the funds available they were able to cover some extra shifts. Stewart mentioned the PD has seen a spike in suicidal and violent crimes, the PD is being proactive and trying to work with the community. Stewart also thanked the City Hall staff as well for making space for the move.

Todd Hesse, Fire Chief stated the department was busy with 33 calls in the month, the calls have gone down but the medical calls have still been high. Hesse said Covid-19 is still impacting the department. Hesse gave the council a copy of the new fire station rules for the department to comply with all the OSHA rules. Hesse stated Covid-19 has impacted the stations trainings, the station can hold 23 people upstairs, so Hesse assigned seats six feet apart for the volunteers. Hesse mentioned the trainings will be lectures during the winter to keep the volunteers safe and still learning. Hesse stated fire engine 2113 received its final repairs and is back at the station. Hesse said Santa came to the station and it was a success with the community. Hesse announced that two volunteers, Nick Theoharis, and Dan Golden both received their Fire Fighter 1 certifications.

Rob Morris, Public Works Director stated the Public Works (PW) department was busy this past month due to the weather conditions. Morris mentioned PW is taking measures to ensure safety during the Covid-19 pandemic. Morris said the combination of king tides, high surf and several inches of rain in mid-November made for a crucial time of maintaining storm drainage and to

minimize flooding around town. Morris stated PW has been maintaining drainage and will do so with the upcoming king tides. Morris said the department had the regular cleaning and inspections of the water reservoirs. Morris also thanked the citizens for all the quick reports about problems in town. Morris stated the department installed holiday pole lights and assisted the beatification committee with decorating the exterior of the City Hall and the Wayside. Cheek thanked Morris and the Department for the extra care towards the drainage around town. Walhood thanked Morris and the department for the help with the Christmas decorations.

Luke Shepard, City Manager thanked Todd Hesse and Rob Morris for their great work in their new positions during the Covid-19 pandemic. Shepard stated the City finalized the debt refunding and that the final loan terms were better than expected. Shepard mentioned the interest rate anticipated was 2.4% but the final was a 2.1% interest rate. Shepard said the anticipated cost of the refinance was \$74,000, but instead the final cost was only \$35,000. Shepard stated the City anticipated \$320,000 in savings over the life of the new loan, but now that figure will be nearly \$400,000. Shepard mentioned the City will see the benefits little by little each year in the reductions in debt service payments, and the money that was budgeted this year that would've gone towards the old loans will be put to a better use. Shepard stated the PD is out of the old building and has now relocated to the City hall building. He added that the offer on the building has fallen through, so the building will remain on the market. Shepard thanked PW for helping the PD move buildings. Shepard stated the Fire Department found a way to do the Santa at the station and it turned out great and was very well received by the community. Shepard thanked the City Council and the Mayor for all the time they put in this year to keep the City moving in the right direction, and thanked Council President Beeman for all his years of service to the City.

OLD BUSINESS

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-964 A RESOLUTION TO TRANSFER FUNDS AND APPROPRIATE FUND EXPENDITURES FOR DEBT REFINANCING COSTS AND POLICE DEPARTMENT RELOCATION

Shepard stated the City will be reallocating money that has already been budgeted in the general fund as the original purpose for those funds are no longer needed now that the debt refinancing is complete. Shepard said the two payments would be put towards the out of pocket costs of the debt refinancing and to fund the police department relocation and remodel. Shepard mentioned went over the table shown in the resolution. Shepard stated since the PD building has not sold, the City will need to continue to make mortgage payments. Hayes asked if the \$35,000 cost of refinancing was included in the Resolution, Shepard stated that most of that cost was bundled in the refinance, but the out of pocket costs incurred were included in the Resolution.

Hayes made a motion, Seconded by Walhood to pass Resolution 20-964; motion carried

Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Motion

Position #4 - Terry Walhood: 2nd

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

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Hayes stated she watched PW put the tree up in the wayside and it was a pleasure and a joy to watch. Hayes mentioned it was also nice to see things draining around town. Walhood thanked PW and everyone for all their help and Chief Hesse with the kids for Santa at the Station. Walhood wished everyone a Merry Christmas and Happy Hanukah. Cheek wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Martine thanked the staff upstairs in City Hall for helping get the Fire Department donation letters sent out in the mail since they were a week behind because of Covid-19. Martine also stated a request to somehow find a way to change the speed limit near lake Lytle, Martine has had several neighbors come to him about this matter.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Wilson stated the Santa at the station drive by looked amazing and authentic. Wilson thanked Morris for the tree in the wayside and asked him to pass on the thanks. Wilson wished everyone a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Putman stated he is waiting state court decisions that will affect federal court matters. Putman said attorneys have been in communication for a recent City matter. Putman wished everyone a Merry Christmas, Happy Hanukah and Happy Holidays.

ADJOURNMENT

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Martine to adjourn at 6:50pm; motion carried.

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

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 13TH
DAY OF JANUARY 2021



Mayor, Sue Wilson



City Manager, Luke Shepard