



City of Rockaway Beach

City Council Meeting Minutes

Date: Wednesday, September 16, 2020 (*Rescheduled from September 9, 2020*)
Time: 6:03 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: Absent
Position #3 - Kristine Hayes: Present
Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Present
Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Present
Position #2 - Tom Martine: Absent

CONSENT AGENDA

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Walhood, to approve the August 12, 2020 minutes and check register: motion carried.

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

CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS

PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Tillamook County Tobacco Prevention and Education Coordinator Tara Stevens will present about youth tobacco prevention in Tillamook County. (*Rescheduled for October 14, 2020*)*

STAFF REPORTS

Charlie Stewart, Chief of police, stated the police department has stayed very busy with the amount of people visiting, and saw a slight increase in burglaries. He stated the Police Department received an ODOT grant of \$5,000 for traffic safety exercises, this grant will be spread out from October 2020 to September 2021. Also, they have been seeing an increase in scam calls in the city, so if anybody gets a scam call feel free to get the contact info and give the police department a call. He mentioned the police department has recently joined county wide with law enforcement with the Narcan program.

Todd Hesse, Fire Chief, said the department responded or participated in 77 events during the month of August. He mentioned with the recent dry weather the fire department was very present on the beach over the weekends, for fire safety and water safety. He said COVID-19 has impacted the training of the fire department, but they have started to split up into three groups each to focus on different trainings. He mentioned the Department has had six new recruits, one being fully trained. He stated he is still on the lookout for a new command vehicle, but with COVID-19 it has been a struggle. He said the new ATV is in service and is waiting for a few more things to go on it but they have been taking it on the beach to patrol. He mentioned the Department placed signs regarding fire and water safety on the beach at main beach entrances, as well as key spots on the beach. He stated he is going through all the policies and procedures to update the manuals. He mentioned he will be attending a meeting to discuss the burn ban in effect in Tillamook County. He spoke about the wildfires, and the Departments response to the Lincoln City fires.

Rob Morris, Public Works Director, introduced himself to the council and talked about his duties and goals for the department. He stated he has had great interactions with the citizens and the city staff has been extremely supportive. He mentioned the Public Works staff has been very impressive and there might be a need for one more operator. He stated the Department did a great job making sure everything was up and running during the recent power outages. He said the nature preserve had a couple of trees fall on it as well as hanging over it, there was only one 10ft section that will need to be repaired. He stated one of the upcoming projects will be paving in town.

Luke Shephard, City Manager, stated he was happy the council has met Morris. He stated he can't thank the Fire department enough for everything that they do. He mentioned the City had the financial auditors in town the beginning of September for three days and it went very well. He stated the City has had many changes especially with staff in the past year, but after the exit meeting with the auditor he believes the City is in a better financial state now than a year ago. He stated The City is working on refinancing the city hall loans which is two USDA loans.

OLD BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-690 A RESOLUTION TO AMEND EXISTING ADMINISTRATIVE FEES REGARDING OPEN BURN PERMITS AND COMMERCIAL BURN PERMITS

Wilson read the following: This resolution has been revised based on council input received at the August meeting. The administrative fee for commercial open burn permits has been increased and the open period reduced.

Shepard stated he worked with the Fire Chief to make the decision about the new costs for burn permits. Hayes mentioned it is like a business entity, Shepard said the free permit is for homeowners' small fires.

Hayes made a motion, seconded by Cheek, to approve Resolution 20-690 to amend existing administrative fees regarding open burn permits and commercial burn permits; motion carried.

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

[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: 2nd](#)

[Mayor - Sue Wilson: Approve](#)

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

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

[Position #4 - Terry Walhood: Approve](#)
[Position #5 - Penelope Cheek: Approve](#)
[Position #2 - Tom Martine: Absent](#)

NEW BUSINESS

APPROVAL OF RESOLUTION 20-961 A RESOLUTION TO RECEIVE AND APPROPRIATE GRANT FUNDS FROM THE OREGON DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION AND FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY.

Wilson read the following: The Police Department has been awarded funding from the ODOT Traffic Safety Grant. The FEMA home elevation project DR-4328-4-R will receive additional funding.

Hayes asked why the police department was listed twice and had two different numbers. Shepard mentioned 10455069 is to receive five thousand dollars in grant money and the one below is to expend the same five thousand. Hayes asked why some lines were different from others, Shepard stated another grant shares the same GL account on the expenditure side, but the GL is not shared on the revenue side.

Walhood made motion, seconded by Hayes, to approve Resolution 20-961; motion carried

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

DISCUSSION ON USDA LOAN REFINANCE

Shepard stated the City has been looking at ways to save money, he also stated the city is looking at moving the Police Department into City Hall. Shepard mentioned he spoke with three different banks and none could touch the terms of the City's current loan. Shepard said he discussed the loan with Government Capital and concluded they could save money, but the City's annual payment would stay the same. Shepard stated DA Davidson reduce the annual payments and reduce the interest rate. Shepard mentioned he had a conference call with DA Davidson and the City's Bond Counsel, to work through processes to refinance the loans. Shepard said the first step would be an authorizing Resolution to allow him to negotiate the refinance. Shepard mentioned the City could save about ten thousand dollars a year and be able to avoid any payments for the 2020 Budget year. Cheek asked if the council had to pass a resolution this council meeting. Shepard said no. Putman asked Shepard if he contacted the USDA asking if there were any opportunities to reduce requirements. Shepard said he contacted USDA, USDA said no and if The City could find anything better, the City must take it. Hayes asked if one loan was for the building and one for the parking lot, Shepard said no. Hayes asked if Shepard has looked at the parking lot. Shepard stated unfortunately the City cannot repay the parking lot loan early.

COUNCIL CONCERNS

Walhood mentioned she talked to an Insurance Underwriter about renter loans, the owners could get six months to one years loss of rent due to a declared disaster.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Wilson welcomed Public Works Director Morris, and said the community is being mindful of fires at this time.

ATTORNEY COMMENTS

Putman updated the council on legal matters.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:01pm.

MINUTES APPROVED THIS 14TH
DAY OF OCTOBER, 2020



Mayor, Sue Wilson



City Manager, Luke Shepard