



CITY OF EAGLE POINT

"Gateway to the Lakes"

OREGON

EAGLE POINT CITY COUNCIL
17 BUCHANAN AVE. SOUTH, EAGLE POINT, OREGON

SEPTEMBER 24, 2013

SPECIAL STUDY SESSION MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.

Mayor Russell called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Council Members Present: Bob Russell, Jonathan Bilden, Wayne Brown, Bill Fierke, Ruth Jenks, and Aaron Prunty.

Council Members Absent: Kathy Sell.

Staff Members Present: Henry Lawrence, City Administrator; *Joe Kellerman, City Attorney; Robert Miller, Public Works Director; Melissa Owens, Finance Officer; Mike Upston, Planning Director; and Cindy Hughes, City Recorder.

Guests: Julie Brown, Rogue Valley Transit District (RVTD) General Manager; Connie Skillman, RVTD Board Chair; Sharon Kohlmeier, RVTD Board Vice Chair; Bill Mansfield, RVTD Board; Stan Littrell, RVTD Board; Terry Bateman, RVTD Board; Rick Dyer, RVTD Board; Suzi Collins and *Millie Wewerka, Planning Commissioners; Janet Siedlecki, Economic Development Commissioner; Jerry Zieman, Budget Committee Member; and members of the public and press.

2. TRANSIT DISTRICT STUDY

Mike Upston, Planning Director, introduced members of the Rogue Valley Transit District (RVTD) Board, and reviewed the agenda statement. The four major areas of focus during the meeting included: annexation process, RVTD's interest, costs, and voter support.

Mr. Upston welcomed questions, comments and discussion. Numerous aspects concerning the proposed bus service to Eagle Point were discussed as follows:

- Community interest, statistics, and Eagle Point's growth rate

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- Survey and survey language to determine if bus service should be placed on a ballot
- Citizen interest in relationship to tax increases for services
- Change of preferred routes; service to individuals with disabilities, safety, and distance between stops
- Ridership within Eagle Point and other areas, including youth and senior ridership and comparison to other communities
- RVTD's recent expansion of services during weekends and evenings
- Future Highway 62 Expressway
- Timeline for placement on the November ballot
- Competition for tax dollars and funding options
- Unanimous support by the Transit Study Stakeholder Group
- RVTD's enthusiasm and support for services to Eagle Point
- RVTD polling, meeting with Southern Oregon University (SOU), and survey opportunities
- Formation of a subcommittee.

*Joe Kellerman joined the meeting at 6:39 p.m., followed by Millie Wewerka at approximately 6:40 p.m.

After discussions, Mr. Lawrence stated staff would attend the SOU meeting on October 2, and bring this item back to the next Council Meeting. He also reminded the Council that one of this year's goals is to make a decision about bus service in Eagle Point.

Mayor Russell expressed appreciation to the RVTD Board Members for coming to the meeting and complimented the stakeholder group for their work.


3. ADJOURN

At 6:55 p.m., Mayor Russell closed the Special Study Session of the Eagle Point City Council.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Hughes, City Recorder

ATTEST:


Robert E. Russell, Mayor