



City of Eagle Point

City Council

MARCH 26, 2019

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 P.M.

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

Council Members Present: Ruth Jenks, Bill Fierke (via Skype), Bernie Grossman, David Lacombe, James Mannenbach, and Kevin Walruff.

Council Members Absent: Michael Stanek.

Staff Members Present: Henry Lawrence, City Administrator; Darin May, Police Chief; Robert Miller, Public Works Director; Sara Miller, Code Enforcement Officer; Souvanny Miller, City Attorney; Melissa Owens, Finance Director; Mike Upston, Planning Director; and Cindy Hughes, City Recorder.

Guests: Bob Strosser, Jackson County Commissioner; Nathan Sickler, Jackson County Sheriff; Suzi Collins, Planning Commissioner; Jerry Close, Planning Commissioner; Eric Gunn, Budget Committee Member; Jason McCauley, Budget Committee Applicant; Mike Moran, Budget Committee Applicant; Millie Wewerka, Budget Committee Member and Planning Commissioner; and members of the public and press.

2. FLAG SALUTE AND INVOCATION

Councilor Walruff led the Pledge of Allegiance and Jerry Zieman offered the invocation. Following the Pledge of Allegiance, Mayor Jenks reminded everyone about quieting cell phones until after the meeting.

3. AUDIENCE QUESTIONS/COMMENTS CONCERNING ITEMS NOT ON AGENDA

There were no audience questions or comments.

4. PRESENTATIONS

4.1 Jail Update - Nathan Sickler, Jackson County Sheriff

Jackson County Sheriff Sickler presented a PowerPoint presentation entitled Jackson County Jail Capacity Crisis (Submission No. 1) with an accompanying video https://youtu.be/WY0a_MNOGOQ.

Sheriff Sickler discussed the history of the jail, comparisons with other jurisdictions, and provided supporting data about the need for increased jail capacity including reducing recidivism and crime rates. Sheriff Sickler went on to report that the

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Jackson County Board of Commissioners approved moving forward with the proposal of creating a service district at a cost of .83 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value on real estate to generate funding for a new jail. All local jurisdictions will be asked if they would like to participate and if agreeable, would go to a vote at the November election. A brief discussion followed about what would happen if a City determined to not participate and basically the proposal for a new jail would need to be reevaluated. Sheriff Sickler added that the Library Bond will come off in 2020 and free up .12 cents per \$1,000 of assessed value. Last, Mayor Jenks suggested people attend a jail tour, and Sheriff Sickler offered to answer questions now or in the future via phone or email. There were no questions.

5. PUBLIC HEARINGS

5.1 Public Hearing regarding amending Eagle Point Municipal Code Chapter 3.16 - Weeds and Excessive Vegetation.

Mayor Jenks announced the Public Hearing had been advertised and all legal notifications were made in compliance with state and local laws. Mayor Jenks further explained that in addition to a presentation from Staff, all persons interested in offering testimony would be allowed to speak at the appropriate time.

At 6:53 p.m., Mayor Jenks opened the Public Hearing regarding amending Eagle Point Municipal Code Chapter 3.16 - Weeds and Excessive Vegetation. Sara Miller, Code Enforcement Officer, reviewed the related agenda statement and explained about the need to amend the Eagle Point Municipal Code to support the general public health, safety and welfare, and promote best practices for enforcement. In addition, an amendment was added to the Ordinance for the Public Works Director to work with the Fire Marshall to hold the City to the same standards. There were no questions from the Council.

Mayor Jenks then invited public testimony in favor and opposition of the proposal but there was no testimony.

Councilor Fierke inquired about the City Administrator's ability to declare an emergency and whether or not the Fire Marshal would be consulted about Section 8.16.040. Ms. Miller responded that the City consults with the Fire Department on a case by case basis, and that the appeal process begins with the Code Enforcement Officer and goes all the way up to the City Council. There was additional discussion that confirmed fencing and homes are included in the 100' fire break. Ms. Miller explained about the Ordinance purposefully mirroring that of Medford and Central Point, to help Eagle Point property owners with properties in other cities.

There being no further testimony or final comments, Mayor Jenks closed the Public Hearing at 7:01 p.m.

Next, Mayor Jenks reported the related Ordinance No. 2019-03 was scheduled later in the Agenda; however, there having been no objection to changing the order of

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business, Mayor Jenks asked to discuss and deliberate the proposed Ordinance No. 2019-03; however, there was no discussion.

Next, Mayor Jenks asked for a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-03. Councilor Mannenbach made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2019-03, an Ordinance amending Eagle Point Municipal Code Chapter 3.16 - Weeds and Excessive Vegetation, and Councilor Lacombe seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

6. CONSENT CALENDAR

6.1 Presentation of Regular Meeting Minutes of March 12, 2019.

Mayor Jenks announced the Consent Calendar. Souvanny Miller, City Attorney, requested the Minutes be amended to include her as being present during the meeting of March 12. Cindy Hughes, City Recorder, agreed with making the proposed amendment. There were no other questions or comments. Mayor Jenks moved to approve the Consent Calendar as amended and Councilor Walruff seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

7. CONSIDERATION OF ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT CALENDAR

There were no items considered for removal from the Consent Calendar.

8. PRESENTATION OF BILLS TO BE PAID

Mayor Jenks asked if there were questions about the bills to be paid including the additional bills list. There being no questions, Councilor Mannenbach moved to approve the Bills to be Paid in the amount of \$22,667.91 as well as the Additional Bill List in the amount of \$9,202.07 (Submission No. 2). Councilor Walruff seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

9. OLD BUSINESS

9.1 Discussion regarding the Southern Oregon Transportation Engineering, LLC Traffic Analysis for the Robert Trent Jones Boulevard Intersections

Robert Miller, Public Works Director, reviewed the related agenda statement including recommendations regarding striping a bike lane, a marked crosswalk, and removal of an evergreen bush at the corner of Pumpkin Ridge and Robert Trent Jones Boulevard (RTJ). Staff requested the Council's general direction as to a next step, explaining about the safety standards set out in the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) for streets and highway.

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Council discussion followed with Councilor Fierke's general agreement with the recommendations but not eliminating street parking. Councilor Fierke added that the speed limit should be reduced from 30 mph to 25 mph on RTJ beginning by the 7th hole of the golf course, and further that an electronic speed radar reader board be added with data evaluated on a regular basis. Councilors Walruff, Mannenbach, and Grossman, as well as Mayor Jenks were in overall agreement with Councilor Fierke's comments. Councilor Walruff stated caution about double yellow lines as drivers sometime interpret them as an area to drive faster. Councilor Walruff and several other Councilors expressed interest in the cost of the crosswalk.

Police Chief May responded to Councilor Grossman about the high speeding hours between 7 and 9 a.m. and 3 and 5 p.m., with two patrol cars recently in the area three days per week. However, Chief May reported that no tickets had been issued but stops had been made as an educational tool for cars going less than 10 mph over the limit.

Mayor Jenks expressed interest in striping options and an additional speed radar board with flashing lights and downloadable pictures of drivers. Mr. Miller responded that he would look into striping options, and that the speed radar boards are being replaced as they go out. A brief discussion followed about commercial vehicles traveling on Stevens Road.

Councilor Lacombe expressed surprise at the amount of traffic on RTJ and appreciated the police patrol in the area. However, the speed of cars with an average speed of 33-35 mph was not what he had been led to believe. Councilor Lacombe further expressed support of not limit parking, removal of the bush, and looking at the cost of striping.

Mayor Jenks then invited citizens to provide comments but noted a limited amount of time.

Jim Brick and Chris Buchanan came forward with Mr. Buchanan speaking to items missing from the report such as the speeding reported on page 3 of the report, and speeding reported at the rate of 80 to 99 mph. He then spoke about parking signs, and thought the amount of traffic in a 24-hour period (1,575) with new subdivisions and population growth warranted the requested stops signs and crosswalks. Mr. Buchanan added that stop signs and crosswalks are the most cost effective way to control speeding. He wanted to see if they would work, and noted he would be the first to ask for them to be removed if they didn't work. Mr. Brick added that stop signs work and expressed support for trying the stop signs and flashing lights although he opposed removing street parking.

Cathy Hartman of Eagle Point expressed total support of the study and spoke in opposition of adding new stop signs.

Creed Terry expressed support of a raised cross walk and spoke about one that was used in the City of Ashland on Oak Street which he said eliminated a speeding

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problem overnight. Mr. Terry requested the Council and City Engineer drive on Oak Street in Ashland. There was additional discussion on the removal of speed bumps and some with adverse affects although Mr. Miller reported that designs have improved.

In conclusion, Mr. Miller will move forward with cost estimates for crosswalks and striping options.

10. NEW BUSINESS

- 10.1 Ordinance No. 2019-03. An Ordinance amending Eagle Point Municipal Code Chapter 3.16 - Weeds and Excessive Vegetation.

Discussed and deliberated after the Public Hearing listed as Item No. 5.1.

- 10.2 Resolution No. 2019-14. A Resolution proclaiming Arbor Week as April 1-7, 2019 in the City of Eagle Point, Arbor Day Celebration on April 4, 2019, and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Arbor Day Proclamation.

Robert Miller, Public Works Director, reviewed the related agenda statement, explaining that approval of Resolution No. 2019-14 would authorize proclaiming Arbor Week and the Mayor signing the Arbor Day Proclamation. 2019 marks the twenty-seventh consecutive year for the City of Eagle Point to be declared a Tree City. Mr. Miller concluded with an invitation to celebrate Arbor Day with the planting of a tree at Chamberlain Park on Thursday, April 4, 2019.

Mayor Jenks asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-14, a Resolution proclaiming Arbor Week as April 1-7, 2019 in the City of Eagle Point, Arbor Day Celebration on April 4, 2019, and authorizing the Mayor to sign the Arbor Day Proclamation. Councilor Grossman made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-14 and Councilor Lacombe seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; James Mannenbach, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

- 10.3 Resolution No. 2019-15. A Resolution appointing Citizen Members to the Budget Committee.

Cindy Hughes, City Recorder, reviewed the related agenda statement explaining about the vacancies and applicants wishing to serve on the Budget Committee. Applicants McCauley and Moran were present, and each spoke about their experience. Council discussion followed with support for all of the candidates.

Mayor Jenks asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-15, appointing Citizen Members to the Budget Committee. Councilor Walruff made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-15 appointing Wyn Lewis and Mike Moran; and Councilor Mannenbach seconded the motion. Councilor Grossman requested that Applicant McCauley's application be held for future openings. There was no additional discussion. Roll call: David Lacombe, yes; James Mannenbach, yes;

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Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

Mayor Jenks invited Applicant McCauley to attend the Budget Committee meeting and any of the other public meetings, and suggested talking with the Chamber of Commerce.

- 10.4 Resolution No. 2019-16. A Resolution authorizing a donation of General Funds in the amount of \$15,000 to the Eagle Point and Upper Rogue Chamber of Commerce for the July 4th community events and fireworks display.

Henry Lawrence, City Administrator, reviewed the related agenda statement and introduced Bob Pinnell, the President of the Eagle Point and Upper Rogue Chamber of Commerce. Mr. Pinnell reported on this being the 60th anniversary of the 4th of July Parade and plans for a festive celebration with the Blue Knights Drum & Bugle Corps coming back. While Mr. Pinnell requested the donation, he also reported on the Chamber's other efforts to increase the livability of Eagle Point. Fundraising efforts for the student visit to Showa, Japan, are underway; and he recently received flag donations for the Avenue of the Flags. Councilor Walruff expressed appreciation for the Veterans Day Walk, and Mayor Jenks acknowledged Mr. Pinnell being at the 4th of July event at 5:00 a.m. until after midnight. Others expressed appreciation and it was noted there are lots of opportunities to volunteer during the 4th of July.

Mayor Jenks asked for a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-16, a Resolution authorizing a donation of General Funds in the amount of \$15,000 to the Eagle Point and Upper Rogue Chamber of Commerce for the July 4th community events and fireworks display. Councilor Lacombe made a motion to approve Resolution No. 2019-16 and Councilor Walruff seconded the motion. There was no discussion. Roll call: James Mannenbach, yes; Kevin Walruff, yes; Bill Fierke, yes; Bernie Grossman, yes; David Lacombe, yes; Ruth Jenks, yes; and Michael Stanek, absent. The motion passed unanimously by those present.

11. REPORTS FROM CITY COUNCIL AND CITY COMMITTEE REPRESENTATIVES

Councilor Fierke reported on the Friday Letter and Finance Report being informative but was startled at the \$1M plus in outstanding court fines owed to the City. Melissa Owens, Finance Director, explained how the bulk of the fines collected on larger fines is received by the City but the State receives a larger portion on smaller fines.

Councilor Lacombe asked to pass this report along to the Police Department as he had observed Eagle Point's Police Officers interacting with citizens, smiling, and waiving, and it being heartwarming to see they are vested in our City.

Councilor Grossman announced the Community Development Commission had an upcoming meeting, and expressed appreciation to Robert Miller, Public Works Director for the new barbeque grills at Lucas Park.

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Councilor Walruff reported attending a phenomenal performance of Beauty and the Beast by Eagle Point High School theater students with the support of Mrs. Oppelt.

Mayor Jenks reported attending the Rogue Valley Metropolitan Planning Organization and that an adjustment is anticipated to the funding stream to Rogue Valley Transit District. Upcoming meetings include the Rogue Valley Council of Governments with a focus on wildfire prevention, and Mayor Jenks encouraged attendance at the League of Oregon Cities Spring Conference (April) in Ashland with many interesting sessions.

12. STAFF REPORTS

Mike Upston, Planning Director, reported on the current active development of seven subdivisions, multi-family projects, as well as progress on the Richardson Vet Clinic, Storage Emporium, and Butte Creek Mill shown in the Friday Letter. In addition, longer range planning continues with the Rogue Valley Transit District's Transit Master Plan. Mr. Upston also added that the Community Development Commission was scheduled to meet the following week.

Melissa Owens, Finance Director, announced the Finance Report was in the Council packet. There were no surprises reported and everything was exactly as anticipated for this time of year. Ms. Owens further reported working on the annual budget and recruitment for two positions in Public Works (one for the water operator position and the other as the result of a recent resignation) as well as an Account Clerk position resulting from Devon Linebaugh being selected as the Permit Tech for the Building Department. Ms. Owens concluded with a brief update about including information such as the court fines in the finance report. There was additional discussion about the high rates of failure to appear for court hearings and the financial impact.

Robert Miller, Public Works Director, reported signing off on the final plat for Emerald View, and resolving an issue with the Oregon Department of Transportation regarding the timing of the Stevens Road Project.

Police Chief May reported making a conditional offer of employment with a potential start date of May 1st. With that addition, the Police Department will be fully staffed.

Sara Miller, Code Enforcement Officer, deferred to the Friday Letter for recent cases and explained about her role as a liaison between Eagle Point's citizens and Eagle Point's Municipal Codes, and working to get voluntary compliance. As the Code Enforcement Officer, Ms. Miller also works closely with the Police Department as she encounters criminal activities. In addition, a strong partnership with the Fire District helps in coordinating weed and nuisance abatement during fire season. Ms. Miller further reported on community programs through the Police Department including: Shop with a Cop (a program which raised approximately \$4,000 to help make Christmas for 31 children in Eagle Point), National Night Out, and Trunk or Treat. A brief discussion ensued about the Sign Ordinance with positive results from realtors.

There were no other reports.

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13. INFORMATION

There were no information items for discussion.

At 8:34 p.m., Mayor Jenks recessed the meeting for a short break and announced there was no other regular business scheduled after the Executive Session.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION PURSUANT TO ORS 192.660(2)(h), To consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed.

At 8:41 p.m., Mayor Jenks opened the Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(h), and closed the Executive Session at 9:11 p.m.

15. ADJOURN


There being no further business, Mayor Jenks closed the meeting at 9:12 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,


Cindy Hughes, City Recorder



ATTEST:


Ruth Jenks, Mayor