

MINUTES
STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2016
STANFIELD COUNCIL CHAMBERS
150 WEST COE AVENUE

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Stanfield City Council was called to order at 7:07 p.m. by Mayor Tom McCann at the Stanfield City Council Chambers, located at 150 West Coe Avenue, Stanfield, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Mayor Tom McCann and Councilors Pam McSpadden, Don Tyrrell, Lynn Weathermon, Del Manley, Jack Huxoll, and Jason Sperr. Also present were City Manager Blair Larsen, Police Chief Bryan Zumwalt, and Finance Director Jerry Carlson.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor Tom McCann led the audience and members of the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM MARCH 1, 2016

Mayor Tom McCann approved the minutes for the March 1, 2016 council meeting as written.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Finance/Administrative: Councilors Sperr and Manley moved and seconded to approve the finance report for the month of February 2016 as presented. Ayes: McSpadden, Tyrrell, Weathermon, Manley, Huxoll, and Sperr. Nays: None. Motion carried.

COUNCIL DISCUSSION ON BUDGET PRIORITIES AND GOALS

Mr. Larsen said that he was in the middle of working on the proposed budget for next year, and he is not sure how much discretionary funding the City will have, but it would be helpful to have a discussion to hear from the Council about goals or things that they would like to be paid for if the money is available. He said that last year, the budget included the Façade Improvement Grant and Sidewalk Grant programs. He said those are both good things to continue if the money is available, and the Council is interested. He said some funding may be available in the next fiscal year from an enterprise zone payment that should occur, but he did not have any information on what that amount would be. He said that this would be one-time money, and could be used for a special purpose.

Councilor Huxoll said that the City should save for the ODOT project. Councilor Sperr asked how much the match would need to be. Mr. Larsen said that it depends on which phase is approved, but it could be around \$100,000.

Councilor Sperr said that he would like to see additional street lights installed. Mr. Larsen said that the ODOT project would include street lighting.

Councilor McSpadden said she would like to see a video signboard installed. Councilor Sperr agreed, and said that the 4th of July committee might be able to match funds for something like that. Councilor McSpadden also said that she would like to see new shelters at parks, park bathrooms, playground equipment, and walking trails.

Mayor McCann said that an electronic reader board should be priority, and perhaps the City can lease one.

Councilor Sperr said that he hears from people about dirty streets, and perhaps it would be good to increase funding for that.

Mayor Mcann said that the City should put away money for another traffic light.

Councilor Sperr asked about funding reserves police officer. Chief Zumwalt said that a lot is required for the reserve officer to fund, and this is quite common. Councilor Sperr said that it should be a priority to fund equipment for reserves. Chief Zumwalt said that reserve officers are hard to find, and he would be offering reserve positions to some recent applicants.

The Council and staff discussed possible locations of future traffic lights, future development, the potential Umatilla Housing Authority project, and possible purchases of vehicles and major equipment in the next fiscal year.

Councilor Sperr asked about the sale of City-owned property. Mr. Larsen explained the current situation with the property on Wheeler and Wayne. He said that the Council set a minimum bid for the property, and as soon as someone offers it, then the City is legally able to sell it. He said that the realtor hired for 170 S. Main Street is interested in that property, and is fine with paying the minimum bid. He said that the price set for 170 S. Main Street is \$109,000. Mr. Carlson said that he hopes that the sale will be taken care of in the current fiscal year. Mr. Larsen said that he would include it in the budget for the next fiscal year, but would not budget the spending of that money as a precaution in case the property does not sell.

Mr. Larsen said that he thinks Main Street is a priority, as is funding for repaving streets. He said that a trail along Stage Gulch is a priority as well. He also said that a video sign board would be a great improvement.

Mayor McCann asked if marketing efforts for economic development would be a good thing to fund. Mr. Larsen said that he would rather go through other means to attract employers, and advertise to hospitality groups about a potential hotel. He said it is also tricky, because the City does not own any of the property.

Mr. Larsen asked if the Council thought that the Sidewalk and the Façade Improvement Grant programs were worth continuing. The consensus of the Council was to continue them for at least one more year.

Mayor McCann said that the City should also be thinking about a contribution to the Eastern Oregon Trade and Events Center. The consensus of the Council was that \$2,000 or \$3,000 was acceptable.

Mayor McCann said that he would like to talk to Mr. Morris about restriping streets, parking spaces, bike paths, and the walking trails.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Larsen said that the property next to City Hall is listed for \$109,000. He said that the only thing left is the final mold treatment, and putting a separating wall in the attic. He said that the statement of economic interest forms for the state were ready now.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Weathermon asked if there was any fallout on the Echo police contract from the recent issues with the Police Department. Mayor McCann said that he had talked to their Mayor and City Administrator, and they said there is nothing to worry about. Mr. Larsen said that he didn't think there was any support on the Echo City Council to take action against the contract between Echo and Stanfield. Councilor Weathermon asked how things ended up with the accident last summer on US 395. Mr. Larsen said he didn't remember exactly, but he thought it was settled. He said he would check and get back to him. Councilor Weathermon asked if that affected our insurance rates. Mr. Larsen said insurance rates go up every year, and this year's increase is less than previous years, and he has not seen anything that makes him think that the City's rates are taking a big jump from that incident.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider, Mayor Tom McCann adjourned the regular meeting of March 15, 2016 at 8:14 p.m., with the next meeting scheduled for April 5th, 2016.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. Blair Larsen, City Manager/Recorder

Attest: _____

Date of Approval: _____

Mayor