

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Regular Council Meeting
November 8, 2018
6:30pm

COUNCILORS PRESENT: David Beyerl, Walt Perry, Edna Campau, Bob Rossiter, David Watkins, Audrey Webster, Michael Myers

COUNCILORS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, City Recorder; Jeff Buskirk, PWD

- I. **COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE** – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute.
- II. **OLD BUSINESS** – none
- III. **NEW BUSINESS**

3.1 Car Club Presentations

Mayor Myers commented that it was a great way to move into the holiday season, noting the month prior the library was handed over to the City through amazing efforts, and the car club was present to hand out gifts of money to several community organizations. This, he added, was what was best about Jefferson; everybody coming together to support one another. Mayor Myers recognized Rick Dimick, the car club president, noting they owed him a great deal of thanks for bringing the car club into Jefferson, which he believed saved the festival of flowers, and sponsoring the princess court. They were present to give \$4,000 back to the community, which they raised at various local events. Mayor Myers also recognized Bud Jones, Commander of Jefferson Santiam Post 4065 of Jefferson, who helped with the parade float. In addition, Mayor Myers noted the many businesses that stepped up to support the local events, taking money out of their profits to do so, including, Wilbur Ellis, Pape, Freres, LB Tractor, AG, Harts Nursery, Century Farms, Gross Farms, 3G Ranch, Jefferson Auto, and many others. The Council stood and applauded the car club and all those who supported the community.

With that Ed Andersen, the car club treasurer came forward and introduced the VP, Billy Wagaman who reiterated what the Mayor said and provided some background on the car club and how they'd grown. The princess court was called up for recognition and the gifting of money continued, to include the wrestling team, food pantry, Parks & Rec., Native American Memorial, Community Center, FOL, Fire Dept, and Teen Connection. Melinda Myers presented the princess court with certificates and Toby Davies was asked to speak on behalf of the Native American Veterans Memorial. The princesses presented Gwin Stam with gifts.

There was a final round of applause and thanks before the Mayor paused briefly to allow the room to clear out.

3.2 Technology committee Memo Re: City Facebook Page

Mayor Myers noted the memo in the packet and Councilor Webster commented that all the pertinent information was in it. She understood the City had explored the idea of a Facebook page in the past and decided against it at that time; however, with all the tools that were now available, she hoped the City would reconsider, noting the City Recorder would be the primary person posting from the City. In response to Councilor Perry's concern about it being an open comment forum, Audrey explained the ability to turn off

comments. The Technology Committee wanted it to be a method for people to receive information and updates, but they didn't want to create a place for discussions about the City and they were sensitive to that concern as well.

In response to Mayor Myers question, Sarah Cook indicated Facebook had made a lot of changes since it first came on scene. She too was initially concerned with the commenting portion, but having the ability to shut comments off eased her mind. Her only other concern was maintaining the public records, noting any activity on the page became a public record that must be kept. With some research, the TC was able to determine all activity on the page could be downloaded and stored, as long as it was done at least annually because that was how long Facebook stored it. Discussion took place on the need for a social media policy. Mayor Myers indicated he was not comfortable going live with a City Facebook page until such policy was adopted and most of the Council agreed, although Councilor Webster preferred to get FB started sooner. Councilor Beyerl moved to approve the COJ FB page, contingent upon the adoption of a social media policy. Councilor Rossiter seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

3.3 LOC If I were a Mayor Student Contest

Mayor Myers saw this project as another step toward civic education, with an incentive for some. He suggested, at the local level, the City provide the information to the 3 schools and the City would pick a date to review the submittals. For the winner at the elementary level, he suggested a prize of art supplies and for both Middle School and High School, he thought a cash prize of \$50 and \$100 respectively would be good. The project was talked about during the Mayor's conference and he was very impressed by what he saw from other schools and he thought it was a great way to support them.

Councilor Campau moved to proceed with the OMA 'If I were mayor' student contest on all 3 school levels. Councilor Webster seconded. Discussion: Councilor Perry mentioned that some participants who attended Jefferson schools may not reside in the City, or even in the same County. Council agreed it would be offered to all students of the Jefferson School District. Mayor Myers also indicated he'd shared the idea with the Superintendent, who thought it was a great idea, but the project would go to all 3 school principals for them to work it into their curriculum as they felt best, noting it might or might not work this year, since it was nearly half over. Council agreed they liked the idea and perhaps could get it going sooner the following year. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

IV. DISCUSSION INFORMATION

4.1 Conser House Security

Karen Wells came forward to address Council on the subject, Chair of Jefferson Historical Society & Museum. She noted one of the things that came up during their last meeting was the security for the building so she wanted to inquire about what kind of security the building would have during the time period they were working to restore the building. She further noted the Historical Society was planning to move forward with turning the Conser House into a museum, but that they were open to it being used for more things as well. She thanked the City for supporting them. Discussion ensued on the current security in place and the need to prepare for winterization, to which the Public Works Director indicated he would shut the water off, clear the lines, remove AC units, and secure windows. As far as the items left in the building, Sarah Cook explained that not everything was out yet and there were some things that were moved to the new library that shouldn't have been and need to go back for the garage sale.

Mrs. Wells was also seeking permission to have an event at the Conser House during the Festival of Flowers, where they could open the building up to the community to show its condition and the need for renovation.

Mayor Myers explained that Sarah and City Hall staff can be her contact for things of that nature, noting they could provide access to the building and other things so she didn't have to wait between Council meetings. He also reminded her that Edna Campau was her liaison, so she would be a good point of contact too.

Councilor Campau pointed out one thing they shouldn't lose sight of, that was not a given at that point, was that it would even be a museum. She expressed the need for a master plan, a feasibility study, and several other things, so she didn't think they should be promising the Conser House to the Historical Society before any of that was completed. Mrs. Wells was curious when that would happen because the Historical Society was moving forward with the plan for a museum, to which Councilor Campau noted they were a non-profit, so they could still seek grants for improvements to the building, but it was ultimately the City's property and responsibility. Mayor Myers recalled the year prior when the Ad Hoc committee was formed, its purpose and intent, which he understood was to create a plan for the City to move forward with a feasibility study, master plan, obtain grants, etc. After that, the City could consider some kind of arrangement with the Historical Society. There was some confusion amongst some members of the Council and Karen Wells, and further clarification was provided. Karen Wells announced they had already begun raising money, which would go toward the planning phase and a meeting she'd arranged with a museum consultant from Eugene. Mayor Myers made several attempts to make it clearer and further explained the roles of all the committees that had the Conser House as a common interest. In the end, the group agreed the Festival of Flowers event was a great time to open up the Conser House, per the request.

4.2 Letter to MC Commissioners Re: Land Acquisition – Updated letter, FYI

- V. **CONSENT AGENDA** – Councilor Beyerl moved to approve, and included the updated bills the City Recorder sent in an email earlier that day. Councilor Perry seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**
- VI. **COMMITTEE/DEPT. UPDATES** – Beyerl suggested skipping that portion of the agenda, as the Council had just met 9 days ago and had gone over it all then; everybody agreed.
- VII. **VISITORS** – Linda Baker, 1287 Filbert St. – heard about the possibility of volunteers moving things back to the Conser House that shouldn't have been moved over and she wondered if it could happen before Nov. 29th. Councilors would make arrangements to volunteer and see that it was completed.
- VIII. **EXECUTIVE SESSION** – ORS 192.660 (2)(I) – Performance Evaluation of Public Officers, Agenda or Employees – Council entered into executive session at 7:50pm and returned back to regular session at 8:08pm.

Councilor Webster moved to approve a 1-step merit increase for Jeff Buskirk, moving him to step 6 on the current salary scale, and retro-active to July 2018. Councilor Beyerl seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

Councilor Campau moved to approve a 1-step merit increase for Sarah Cook, moving her to step 9 on the current salary scale. Councilor Rossiter seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

IX. **COUNCIL COMMENTS**

Audrey Webster reminded everybody of the Technology Fair on Saturday, Nov. 10th and Edna Campau reminded all of the Library's grand opening on Dec. 13th.

David Watkins was happy they were able to retain the existing Council and looking forward to working with them going forward. He also expressed concerned with the lack of lights at the new intersection on Hwy 99. He also shared with the Council that he and Sarah Cook had met with the Fire District to inform them we'd purchased Nixle and how the two entities might work in conjunction when putting word out to the public on certain news and events.

Mayor Myers noted the annual tree lighting event was Dec. 4th and that same night was the retirement celebration for Commissioner Janet Carlson. Since he couldn't be in both places, he asked for a Councilor to attend the retirement ceremony on behalf of the City, to which Councilor Perry volunteered. All agreed the City should purchase a "Jefferson" shirt from Prairie Farmhouse and a nice card thanking her for her years of service. Sarah Cook would handle the purchases and keep it under the \$50 limit.


- X. **ADJOURNMENT** – Walt Perry moved to adjourn; Dave Beyerl seconded. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 8:16pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 24th day of January, 2019.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Recorder