

**CITY OF JEFFERSON**  
Council Worksession  
March 8, 2018  
5:30pm tours & 6:30pm meeting

**COUNCILORS PRESENT:** Mayor Myers, Edna Campau, Dave Beyerl, Walt Perry, Bob Rossiter, Audrey Webster, David Watkins, and student representative Riley Davis

**COUNCILORS ABSENT:** None

**STAFF PRESENT:** Sarah Cook, City Recorder; Jeff Buskirk, PWD; MCSO Deputy Garrett Olson

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Marion County Commissioners Sam Brentano, Janet Carlson and Kevin Cameron

I. At 5:30pm, the Commissioners joined members of the City Council, staff, and the public on a tour of the library that was currently under construction, as well as the old gas station property at the corner of Main St. and the highway, which the City expressed interest in obtaining from the County. Refreshments were provided by FOL during this social time.

II. **COUNCIL MEETING CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE** – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute. He welcomed the Marion County Commissioners for their annual state of the county presentation, who were seated at the dais to better address the Council and public.

III. **WORKSESSION TOPICS**

A. Marion County Commissioners – Annual State of the County Presentation

Commissioner Carlson noted it would be a town hall type of format and hoped there would be dialogue among those in attendance. She introduced herself, as well as Commissioner's Brentano and Cameron, and provided handouts that included topics they were all involved in.

Commissioner Cameron started by expressing thanks for the tour of the Library, noting he intended to follow up with United Way for grant funds to assist with its completion. His topic surrounded economic development and he spoke about the North Santiam River Canyon and a recently updated economic development study that was signed by the governor. He spoke briefly on the estimated \$92 million project for a complete sewer system, the 3-basin rule and the number of people that depended on it. Another project he was involved in was the broadband study, which would help identify where the holes were and they could come up with a plan to better serve rural areas. Also, a critical concern for more long-term consideration, Mr. Cameron noted they were very short on industrial land supply for job creation and development. He spoke some about the Mill Creek industrial complex, which would bring about 1,000 jobs to the area, but would put a strain on housing. He said it took Woodburn nearly 20 years to get their additional industrial property, but the County had recently hired a new economic development coordinator and he was excited to see what he could do, noting there was much to consider for the future.

Commissioner Brentano spoke next and explained how the last 15 years of raising safety concerns and nagging about a bridge had finally paid off for the Scotts Mills Bridge, which finally made its way to next years budget. In other news, he reported he'd just come off a ride-along with Jefferson's contract Deputy Garrett Olson, who Sam indicated he'd known the Deputy and his family for years. He experienced a pretty high-level call, which included a foot chase and he thought Deputy Olson was perfect for the Jefferson community. Moving on to what he really came to talk about; garbage and recycling. He had worked hard on establishing a working plan and system and spoke about collectors, sorting of loads, and how he had either led or been very close in leading the state with recycle percentages, but with the growth in population and economic conditions what they were, it filled the gap sooner than expected and suddenly they were full. He commented on China's

unwillingness to take what was sent to them, which had put a wrench in plans that would have included a bigger, state of the art, commercial industrial recycling center that could handle volumes of 30,000 tons per year. With China backing out, he indicated it was difficult enough just to hold on to projects they already had. He directed everybody's attention to the handout that identified items that were no longer considered recyclable, some of which never should have been put in recycling to begin with, and commented he hoped it was all temporary, but for the time being and much to his dismay, it would all go to the landfill in Corvallis.

On to Commissioner Carlson, she referenced a handout which shared information about the 175<sup>th</sup> year anniversary of Marion County. She also recalled the 2009 event, which included Jefferson and every city in the county. For the 175<sup>th</sup> year, they planned to join in the festivals and events already going on in all the celebrations in every community within the County. Also, in the booklet, she pointed out the county's budget, noting out of all the property taxes they collected, they kept just 18 cents of every dollar and of that, 17 cents went toward public safety. She summarized other areas of the budget, including transportation at nearly 25%, public safety at 22%, health services at 19%, and so on.

Public Comment:

David Kellogg, 724 Salamander Rd. – recalled last year's talk on the homeless problem and wondered what had changed since then, noting it was not so much of an issue in Jefferson, but more so in Salem. Janet Carlson explained it was a big problem with multi-faceted solutions and they couldn't just do one thing that would make it all go away. They were looking at the housing shortage, shelters, drugs, mental health, etc. She had worked with the City of Salem early on, but then a new Mayor and several City Councilors were elected and when things changed in terms of leadership, as Jefferson was aware, it took quite a long time to bring them along with what they were trying to accomplish. Salem was working diligently on housing issues, including working with Union Gospel Mission to move a shelter, which was in a land use process now. She further explained Marion County had been working on Law Enforcement Assisted Diversion (LEAD) for mentally ill, addicted, and/or treatment resistant, which would help with changed behaviors and harm reduction. They also put about \$60k in the budget to create a network of care database, which would catalog where all the available services could be found in one place. Another aspect they were working on was re-entry housing for prisoners, so there was a lot going on, she indicated, it all just took time.

Councilor Beyerl thought the talk about broadband was interesting and explained Jefferson's recently formed Technology Committee that was established to evaluate the needs in the area and hope to form a plan to provide better internet service and communication to the public. Councilor Webster added the need for reliable high-speed internet was so important and spoke on businesses that were affected when credit card machine went down, or the inability to log into security systems from home to check on cameras, etc.

Councilor Perry commented about transportation, noting that Jefferson was nestled between 2 cities, yet there was no type of agreements for transportation efforts between them and wondered if there would be a solution at some point. Sam Brentano recalled taking that inquiry back with him a couple years ago and when he approached transit with it, he was told they'd made attempts years back and there was not enough interest so they had no plans to do it again. He explained they had to make a new case that showed there was a demand and a need. Councilor Beyerl, as Chair of the MPO, indicated they were working on a study to increase transportation out of Albany to include Jefferson, but it likely wouldn't happen in his lifetime.

Nancy Hamby, 14486 Parrish Gap Rd. – inquired about the detour for the Marion Creek bridge project, to which Commissioner Brentano indicated the work would be done in the summer, but he was unaware of the details about the detour.

Councilor Webster offered background on the recent school bond that had passed and the discovery that a new water line was necessary before building could begin to ensure proper fire flows, which was not included in the cost of construction. The City had agreed to pay a portion of the expense but she wondered if the

Commissioners knew of any other sources of funding that could help. Commissioner Cameron suggested she get in touch with the economic development/community services department to inquire about available grants. Likewise, there were internet grants the schools could apply for and he welcomed a call from her to further explain. Councilor Beyerl talked about a previous grant the City had applied for to install sidewalks for along S. Main/Jefferson-Scio Rd, but it had been denied and he was curious if any other funding was available, as it was a safety concern. Janet Carlson noted MC Public Works kept a list of projects going and it should be on it and encouraged them to just keep bringing it up. She also encouraged somebody from Council to try and get involved in the monthly breakfast meetings held at the Covered Bridge Café in Stayton, where people from other jurisdictions get their heads together and network about all sorts of things.

Mayor Myers commented on the possibility of federal dollars coming down and the big push for infrastructure repair nationwide. Commissioner Carlson said it depended on who you talked to, but she just returned from DC and was very optimistic, noting there was particular interest in rural areas. There were others more skeptical about money coming down because of the politics involved as well.

Audrey Roshine, Talbot Rd. – expressed concern about draining Detroit and the impact it would have on them. Commissioner Carlson shared her concern, indicated there were petitions about it, briefings had occurred back in D.C. about it with Army Corps, in addition to a session coming in May with Congressman Schrader. She further shared that a letter, signed by Ron Wyden, Jeff Merkley and Kurt Schrader, indicated they supported the purpose, which was to protect fish, but had several questions about the strategy, alternatives, best practices, etc., adding it was not a done deal yet. Further discussion to take place on the large turnouts for public meetings, alternatives, and how best to address all the challenges, with the overall idea that there were no hard, fast answers yet.

With no further questions or comments the Mayor called a break at 7:30pm so the Commissioners could be excused and Council could return to their seats at the dais. The meeting reconvened at 7:38pm.

#### B. Strat Plan Review – Section B Recreation & Open Space

A suggestion was made to move all completed items to the archive list, as was done with the previous section, which staff would do. Discussion took place on the condition of 7<sup>th</sup> St. Park and the various clean up attempts that had been made over the years. Council discussed the need for a park maintenance plan for existing and future parks and agreed to add that as a new item. Councilor Rossiter also suggested encouraging more public involvement, perhaps similar to a group like the FOL, who could assist with developing a plan for future parks, which the Council agreed with. Staff would make the changes discussed and bring back the edited version.

#### C. Review of the 2010 City Charter

Mayor Myers suggested bringing the Charter more in line with other cities that allow the Mayor to break a tie and look to eliminate the ability to create one. Council agreed. Councilor Beyerl also suggested making a change in Section 3: Boundaries, to incorporate SB1573, to which Council agreed. He also had tried to figure out a reasonable way to change Councilor terms so that half the Council, plus the Mayor, didn't expire all at once; however, there was no easy solution given the number on Council. Mayor Myers commented he was not looking to make substantive changes and that it was the responsibility of the elector to make the effort to educate themselves. Other minor non-substantive changes were made to a few words in the document and staff would proceed through the elections process.

### IV. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE

Councilor Beyerl moved to approve as presented and Councilor Rossiter seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

**V. VISITORS**

Nancy Hamby announced the closing of Hamby Realty on March 23<sup>rd</sup> and invited everybody to Mersha Studer's retirement party the same day at 4pm. Mayor Myers thanked Nancy for all she'd done for the community over the years.

Bill Stam, Native American Vets Memorial – shared he'd just returned from giving a speech in Arizona about the memorial and there would be an article about it in their local newspaper. Everybody applauded him.

**VI. COUNCIL COMMENTS**


Councilor Watkins wanted to propose a competition for new welcome to Jefferson signs, but understood Jeff Buskirk was going to talk to the art teacher about restoring the existing ones. He liked the idea of restoring them but thought a competition would be a fun way to involve the public and mentioned perhaps a \$50 reward for the winning design. Councilor Webster liked the idea but thought they should take their time with it, which could provide for several opportunities to advertise it publicly. Councilor Beyerl agreed and suggested public works move forward with restoring the existing signs so they didn't decay worse. Overall, Council was in support of the idea.

Councilor Webster spoke about the Technology Committee meeting, asking Council for support in directing the Planning Commission to review the idea of implementing a change to the development code that would require developers to place the necessary fiber infrastructure to the home at the time of construction. Council supported the idea and directed planning staff to research the subject.

Mayor Myers said the LDS church had picked up cleaning duties for the Mint Festival, which had been done by the City Council in past years. Instead, this year he wondered how the Council felt about assisting with the set up at the start of the festival to show support from the City, visibility of Councilors and so on. A suggestion was also made to have a booth at the festival and have Councilors take shifts in manning it. Handouts and information could be made available and it was a great way to engage with the public. All agreed it was a good idea and supported it. Mayor Myers also shared the date had been set for oral arguments regarding the Writ of Mandamus appeal, which was May 31<sup>st</sup> at 1:30pm.

**VII. ADJOURNMENT** – Councilor Beyerl moved to adjourn. Walt Perry seconded. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 8:30pm

**MINUTES APPROVED** this 26<sup>th</sup> day of April, 2018.

  
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Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Sarah Cook, City Recorder