

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Council Worksession
January 9, 2020
6:30pm

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

COUNCILORS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, CM/R; 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. **WORKSESSION TOPICS**

A. Presentation from Utility Service Partners Re: Service Line Warranty Program

Mayor Myers indicated he'd learned of the program while attending the LOC conference and after reading the materials he felt their service could be a great addition to the City. Dennis Lyon, from NLC Service Line Program introduced himself and noted their program was endorsed by the LOC and 19 other state leagues. He went on to provide a summary of the program, emphasizing it was completely administered by them with no cost to the City to participate, and completely voluntary to the homeowner. There were currently 12 participating municipalities in Oregon. Moving through his slide show, Dennis spoke about how aging infrastructure was problematic for cities and homeowners alike. Often times the general public didn't realize their lateral lines were subject to the same elements as the City's main lines, which break down over time. While municipal infrastructure was usually upgraded as a City is able, private homeowner lines were usually not...until there was a problem. Moving on to the nuts and bolts of the program, NLC would handle all marketing, service calls, billing, dispatching licensed contractors for repairs, etc. There were unlimited service calls, no service fees, up to \$8,500 in coverage per repair, no deductible, and a month to month agreement without penalty for terminating. In addition to their water and sewer line coverage plans, they had a new in-home plumbing plan for lines inside the point of entry, such as clogged toilets, slab pipes, etc. For each paid plan a month, the City could receive 50 cents revenue to be used for whatever they wanted. The City could also elect to opt out of the revenue, at which point customer plan costs would decrease by 50 cents per month. Speaking on their marketing approach in the community, Dennis explained they only market by direct mail and were limited to 3 mailings per year. The only request from the City is the use of the City logo and a generic signature to be included on their marketing materials, all of which would be run by the City for review before being sent out. If possible, though not required, they would also ask the City to provide an address list.

Responding to a question from Councilor Beyerl regarding the rates, Dennis noted their prices were broken up by the different plans: water lines \$5.75; sewer lines \$7.75; in-home lines \$9.95 per month.

Councilor Watkins indicated his support of the program. Councilor Beyerl liked the idea that individuals could decide whether or not they wanted the service and the City was not obligated to anything. He noted Jefferson was an old city with aging infrastructure.

Councilor Watkins moved for the City to work with NLC to offer services to the citizens of Jefferson. Councilor Webster seconded. Discussion: questions arose about what Council should do about the 50 cents, to which Dennis further explained the royalty program and that it would take roughly 6-weeks to set everything up so the Council did not have to decide that right then. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

B. 2020 Liaison Appointments

Mayor Myers reminded everybody it was an election year and some Councilors would leave and some would stay. He thought it would be proactive to have a Councilor join Dave Beyerl to become familiar with his role in the MPO, which would make for a smoother transition later. Councilor Perry indicated he had been the alternate for the MPO for some time and he'd like to take on that role when needed, and instead, somebody else could be found for the TAC.

There was brief discussion regarding the Technology Committee and whether it should be continued. In the end, the Council felt it had been very valuable, providing great benefit to the citizens, and should be maintained. Moving on, Mayor Myers thanked Audrey for her time as the school board liaison and recognized her schedule. He recommended discontinuing the liaison for the school board, noting most Councilors schedules were quite full and the City could obtain minutes from them or communicate other ways to stay informed. A Councilor could still sit in anytime they wanted as well. Councilor Campau wondered about dropping the liaison position to the FOL since the library was built. After some brief discussion, it was suggested to replace the FOL with the Historical Society, since the Conser House restoration had become a major priority. In addition, the 150th birthday planning could be added to the list for this year. All agreed and Mayor Myers would take on both.

Liaison Assignment Results for 2020:

- MPO – Dave Beyerl & Walt Perry as backup
- Chamber – David Watkins & Walt Perry as support
- Library – Edna Campau
- Planning – David Watkins
- Fire Board – Bob Rossiter
- Landmarks – Edna Campau
- Parks & Rec – Bob Rossiter
- MWACT – Walt Perry
- LOC – Walt Perry
- Technology – David Watkins & Audrey Webster
- TAC – Walt Perry & Bob Rossiter as support/backup
- Historical Society – Mayor Myers
- 150th – Mayor Myers

C. 2020 Worksession Calendar

Councilor Perry suggested they develop a mission statement for the City Council, noting the mission statement for the City had been completed and they had a cohesive group of thinkers. All agreed it could be part of an overall review of the City's vision/goals and to add it to the March worksession. Mayor Myers spoke about community surveys many cities were sending out. He was collecting them to present to the Council and they may want to consider doing something similar. He would bring those to the April worksession. Funding for additional law enforcement had been a continuing topic and with an election year upon the City, it was suggested they begin reviewing options for a levy early in the year. Sarah Cook could pull some information together for the February worksession to begin reviewing options. The Technology Committee's annual report to the Council was set for the July worksession and September was set aside to tie up any loose ends in preparation of the 150th birthday. Other topics could be added as they worked through the year.

III. APPROVAL OF ACCOUNTS PAYABLE – Councilor Beyerl moved; Councilor Rossiter seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

IV. VISITORS

Patti Ball offered an update on the Conser House project – Noting the next step was to remove the skirt and transition board so the contractor could see behind them and provide an accurate bid. Public Works saved the grant about \$1,000 by offering to remove those as well as the insulation debris cleanup. They were thinking ahead about phase 2 with the 2nd story plumbing to get a bathroom upstairs. The Conser Family was putting them in touch with a draftsman who would put a plan together. The brainstorming session with Sharon Leighty was set for the following Wednesday at City Hall from 3-5pm.

V. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Walt Perry reminded all that on Feb 13th from 11am – 1pm, the City was hosting the LOC Small Cities Meeting.

David Watkins inquired about the water plant, to which Jeff explained the contractors were moving on sight. A ground breaking ceremony would need to be planned asap if the City was having one. Sarah and the Mayor would chat and get invites out.

Mayor Myers was pleased with all that was accomplished in the last year and was looking forward to another great year.

VI. ADJOURNMENT - Dave Beyerl moved; Walt Perry seconded. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 7:40pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 23rd day of January, 2020.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder