

CITY OF JEFFERSON
Regular Council Meeting
January 27, 2022
6:30pm

COUNCILORS PRESENT: Mayor Myers, Dave Beyerl, David Kellogg, David Watkins, Walt Perry, Bob Rossiter (zoom), Keonali Hutley (zoom)

COUNCILORS ABSENT: None

STAFF PRESENT: Sarah Cook, CM/R; Jeff Buskirk, PWD

I. CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order at 6:30pm and led in the flag salute.

II. OLD BUSINESS

2.1 Jefferson Historical Society & Museum 2021 Review & Plans for 2022

Frank and Patti Ball were present to share information with the City Council on the progress of the Conser House renovations and moving the museum in, speaking to the various grants they had obtained, as well as the funds the City designated. To address the Mayor's inquiry, Patti provided information on the oral history program the museum would be offering, noting she had been interviewing Jack Knight for Jefferson's history during his time in town, as well as local high school students to record their experiences of attending school during a pandemic. In addition, she hoped to add history from women and minorities, as well as offer teachings about all the good, positive things being a volunteer does for a community.

Moving ahead to the coming year, Patti spoke about various events in the works, including a Glennly Marlatt Day in early summer. Councilor Watkins asked about how they were marketing the museum, to which Patti noted was a bit of a challenge; however, they had contacted a reporter who wrote articles on historical places and would be reaching out to Travel Oregon to be included in their materials, as well as the usual word of mouth and social media platforms. Plans for the second phase, which included upstairs at the Conser House, were in the works as well, with their hope of having small office rental space that would provide then with operating income. Another project they'd like to see was installation of an irrigation system, since it was their plan to host weddings at the site, they'd like for the grass to be green and maintained year-round. Mayor Myers offered his extensive collection of leftover sprinkler system parts to them, and could put them in touch with somebody that helped him install his own system. Brief discussion took place on funding and Patti noted they had been fairly successful with grants, a few private donors, as well as the generous contributions from the Conser Family and City of Jefferson. Sarah Cook confirmed it was her intention to continue budgeting funds for the Conser House while there was renovation taking place. As it was a City-owned property that had been neglected for decades, she felt it was the City's responsibility to contribute toward the costs of its renovations, noting; however, the Budget Committee could make changes during the budget cycle.

III. NEW BUSINESS

3.1 Water Assistance Program

Sarah Cook provided brief explanation on the program funded through the State, noting the requirement to enter into a contract to get it started in Jefferson. No funds would actually run through the City's budget; however, it would be an added resource that staff could share with citizens who were having a difficult time paying their water bills. Councilor Kellogg moved to approve the contract for water assistance provisions and directed the City Manager to sign the agreement acknowledging participation in the low-income housing water

assistance program, as provided in the agreement with Mid-Willamette Valley Community Action Agency. Councilor Watkins seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

IV. DISCUSSION/INFO

4.1 Notice of Environmental Assessment Availability for Salem Casino Site – FYI

4.2 Amended IGA for Continuation of Community Prosperity Funds

City Manager, Sarah Cook explained the Marion County Economic Development program had been extended for 2 more years and the City would receive \$15k each year. The funds the City had received to date had been put to use for parks and Conser House renovations.

4.3 Review of Council Liaison Appointments

Mayor Myers provided brief explanation on the purpose of having Councilors assigned to other local agency committees, which was to maintain communication around the City. He did not want anybody to feel like they had to do it though, and sought the Council's feedback on whether or not all of the committees were still necessary. Moving down the list, it was agreed that the purpose of establishing the Technology Committee had been met and there was no need to maintain the committee when staff could simply reach out to one of them if they needed help with anything technology related. Bob Rossiter, though no longer the liaison to the Fire Board, saw value in maintaining the relationship and also noted their meetings were typically very short. New Councilor, Keonali Hutley volunteered as liaison. There was brief discussion about the School Board, the need to keep a Councilor assigned, and a suggestion to receive the minutes of their meetings instead. Mayor Myers wondered about a joint meeting with the School Board and volunteered to reach out to the Superintendent to discuss.

With no other changes, the results of the committee assignments were:

- Historical Society: Mayor Myers
- MPO: Dave Beyerl & Walt Perry
- Chamber: David Watkins
- Planning: David Watkins
- Fire Board: Keonali Hutley
- Parks & Rec: Bob Rossiter
- School Board: Bob Rossiter
- Library: Dave Beyerl
- Landmarks: no liaison, share minutes
- MWACT: Walt Perry
- LOC: Walt Perry
- TAC: Walt Perry & David Watkins

V. CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Beyerl moved to approve the consent agenda, including the 2 invoices added earlier that day. Councilor Perry seconded. Discussion: Councilor Kellogg inquired about the mowing at the corner park, to which Jeff Buskirk explained the erosion control being provided by the annual rye grass, and noted most of the grass will be gone once a park was developed. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

VI. VISITORS – None

VII. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Dave Beyerl shared the Library was back to holding meetings after having been suspended since the start of Covid. It was a time for introductions, regrouping, and they plan to get the word out to fill vacancies.

Sarah Cook explained the technical issue the reader board was having and the company that serviced it did not have enough technicians, so they had been unable to send somebody down, but hopefully soon.

Walt Perry shared the City would once again be hosting the LOC Small Cities Lunch Meeting on February 10th at the Community Center. He also shared information on new groups forming at the LOC, including the People of Color Caucus, which he was participating in.

Mayor Myers noted the ribbon cutting at the water treatment plant was a success and complimented all the hard work put in on the long awaited project. He was pleased to see the Marion County Commissioner's present, noting they came with news of a grant approval for funds to complete the XR system, which had been removed from the overall water plant project due to high costs.

Sarah Cook confirmed everybody had reviewed the trifold regarding the 3rd deputy and all approved to get it sent out and advertise everywhere.

VIII. ADJOURNMENT – Councilor Beyerl moved to adjourn, seconded by Councilor Kellogg. All were in favor and the meeting closed at 7:45pm.

MINUTES APPROVED this 24th day of February, 2022.



Michael D. Myers, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder