

**CITY OF JEFFERSON**  
Council Worksession  
January 12, 2023  
6:30pm

**COUNCILORS PRESENT:** David Watkins, David Kellogg, Mayor Myers, Bob Rossiter, Charles Vickery, Keonali Hutley, Chandra Cruikshank  
**COUNCILORS ABSENT:** None  
**STAFF PRESENT:** Sarah Cook, CM/R; Jeff Buskirk, PWD; Sgt. Olson & Deputy West, MCSO

I. **CALL TO ORDER/FLAG SALUTE** – Mayor Myers called the meeting to order and led in the flag salute.

II. **WORKSESSION TOPICS**

A. Swear In New Councilors: Chandra Cruikshank and Charles Vickery

Chandra and Charles came forward individually and repeated the oath of office given by Mayor Myers. They were welcomed with applause and took their seat at the dais.

B. Election of City Council President

Councilor Kellogg nominated David Watkins and Councilor Hutley seconded. Mayor Myers called for any other nominations before proceeding to a vote. Councilor Watkins nominated Bob Rossiter; however, the motion died for lack of a second. All in favor of the original motion: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

C. 2023 Council Liaison Appointments

Mayor Myers indicated he had spent time talking to each Councilor about the roles and their placements and had come up with the list that was provided in the materials. He noted one change, which was to include Councilor Rossiter on the new City Parks Committee, to partner with Councilor Watkins. Councilor Hutley expressed interest in participating in the Chamber; however, with it being inactive it was suggested that she attend the Community Partner’s Meetings at the Conser House if she was able. All agreed with the appointments made by the Mayor, which were as follows:

Historical Society – Mayor  
MPO – Walt Perry  
Planning – Charles Vickery  
Fire Board – Keonali Hutley  
Parks & Rec – Bob Rossiter  
School Board – Bob Rossiter  
Library – Chandra Cruikshank  
MWACT – David Watkins  
LOC – Walt Perry  
TAC – Walt Perry & David Watkins

D. Volunteer App for Planning Commission

Councilor Watkins moved to approve the application of Walt Perry for Planning Commission. Councilor Rossiter seconded. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

E. Update on Dangerous Building Case 2022-01: 145 S. Main St.

Sarah Cook provided a brief verbal update, noting new materials that were sent out earlier that day with the latest information, which had been correspondence with the Fire Dept., photos of 2 new fire extinguishers, and options for the City Council to consider that were provided by the City Attorney. She noted a permit application had been submitted to the County; however, they were backed up in processing them, which was no fault of the property owner; however, the property still remained in non-compliant status at that point and \$100/day fines had begun accruing since January 2<sup>nd</sup>.

Councilor Kellogg suggested setting a hard date of 2 weeks, where all orders of the Fire Marshall should be completed and approved and if they weren't, the City would complete the work and lien the property. Mayor Myers expressed concern about splitting the issues, wondering if separating the structural portions from all the rest was acceptable, as it seemed the City couldn't correct one part of the order and leave the structural for the owner.

Councilor Watkins preferred to stay out of it, noting he was extremely concerned that one thing would lead to more and more expensive discoveries, such as issues with plumbing and electrical, and did not want to burden the City with that. Councilor Rossiter agreed and added the structural piece needed to be rebuilt entirely, not piece meal work. All agreed the delays at the County were out of anybody's hands, but there should still be continued progress with everything else. Mayor Myers recommended a final notice be sent to the property owner, noting a final 2-weeks would be given, before the subject would come back before the Council for a final decision on their direction: City abates/liens property or request Fire District deem it to be demolished. All agreed and noted the fines would continue accruing in the meantime.

**III. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE** - Councilor Rossiter moved to approve, seconded by Councilor Kellogg. Discussion: Mayor Myers pointed out errors with dates associated to the new year and Sarah Cook provided explanation on the office computer upgrades and landscaping/irrigation at the Conser House. All in favor: Ayes – 6, Opposed – 0. **APPROVED.**

**IV. VISITORS**

Linda Baker, FOL – provided new green Library binders to the new Councilors and handed out the 5<sup>th</sup> installment to all, which spoke of the daily life of a Library Director.

Councilor Charles Vickery introduced his family in the audience.

## V. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS

Councilor Rossiter noted the City had made a lot of good advances over the years and he was looking forward to working with the new Councilors to see that continue.

Councilor Kellogg was curious what others thought about those that set off illegal fireworks over the holidays, indicating it was not likely a high priority for law enforcement; however, he'd heard concerns from many in the community and wanted to bring it to the Council's attention. Sergeant Olson explained, in Oregon, it was a criminal charge resulting in an arrest, which could cause somebody to lose their job. So, although it was a crime, he admitted it was a low priority and for several reasons - higher level crimes to deal with, availability of deputy, etc, but added they focused on the threat/danger to life or property no matter what. He suggested a City ordinance, so a deputy could cite into the local municipal court instead of facing criminal charges.

Councilor Rossiter understood they were illegal; however, he enjoyed watching them from his back yard every 4<sup>th</sup> of July. Councilor Vickery agreed, adding that it was usually the few complaining that were the vocal ones and he would hate for a few to ruin the enjoyment for everybody else when it was something that only happened a couple times a year.

Mayor Myers encouraged the new Councilors to meet with staff and asked existing Councilors to offer any helpful pointers. Councilor Hutley commented on the time commitment and Councilor Kellogg noted he had been on Council for 2 years and felt like he was just now getting the hang of things. Councilor Rossiter encouraged them to utilize the staff and get to know them and what they do. Councilor Watkins agreed, and said learning was key. Last, Mayor Myers advised they allocate their time carefully, making sure not to neglect their families, while setting aside dedicated time to review materials and come to the meetings prepared. Other resources available to them included the LOC website, COG, networking with other Councilors from small cities, etc.

**VI. ADJOURNMENT** – Councilor Rossiter moved to adjourn; seconded by Councilor Watkins. All were in favor and the meeting adjourned at 7:35pm.

**MINUTES APPROVED** this 26<sup>th</sup> day of January, 2023.

  
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Michael D. Myers, Mayor

**ATTEST:**

  
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Sarah Cook, City Manager/Recorder