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City Council Regular Meeting Minutes

Monday, November 28, 2022
Zoom Community Auditorium

***Minutes are unofficial until approved by City Council.
Council approved minutes as presented January 23, 2023***

A. Call to Order:

Mayor Peter Truax called the regular City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. via in-person and Zoom Webinar Video Conference. The meeting was held in a “hybrid” format allowing the public to attend both virtually and in-person in the Community Auditorium. Members of the public could observe the meeting **LIVE** on **Zoom Webinar** or on television on Tualatin Valley Community Television (TVCTV) Government Access Programming.

1. **ROLL CALL: COUNCIL PRESENT:** Kristy Kottkey; Timothy Rippe; Mariana Valenzuela; Malynda Wenzl, Council President; Donna Gustafson; and Peter Truax, Mayor.

COUNCIL ABSENT: Elena Uhing.

2. **STAFF PRESENT:** Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager; Paul Downey, Assistant City Manager/Finance Director; Anne Lane, Parks and Recreation Director; Gregory Robertson, Engineering/Public Works Director; and Keith Hormann, Light and Power Director.

B. Public Comment:

1. CC11-28-2022 Written Public Comments received by 3:00 p.m. on the day of the meeting were published in the Council Packet.

Dale Feik, Forest Grove, stated he had sent an email to the Council, Katherine Harrington, Steve Halp, Steve Calloway, and County Commissioners. At the Mayor’s retirement event, Mayor Truax had requested a copy of the email as well. His daughter and granddaughters live in Hillsboro, so he was invested in both cities. The Council had attachments that he had given to the substitute recorder regarding “Plastic to Fuel: A Losing Proposition.” The Plastic and Petrol Chemicals Program Manager’s slideshow presentation was made under the auspices of the Center for Environmental Justice. He had been participating in their weekly trainings for many years and this was on chemical recycling, which is an issue nationwide and in Washington County, particularly in Tigard. Chemical recycling is not dangerous, but it is not what the industry claims it to be. Chemical recycling is a terrible use of fossil fuels, and the industry has put out lies. The Council will have to be careful when it starts making decisions about allowing chemical recycling in Forest Grove. The devil is in the details. That is the way by-laws work. He encouraged the Councilors to get informed about this particular issue. He had hoped that his nice words about the Mayor’s retirement at the last meeting would be recorded. However, his comments were not recorded, and he wanted to transcribe what the Mayor had said. He wanted the Mayor to say it again. He appreciated the Mayor’s public service and for looking out for the common good. He was chair of the City Sustainability

Commission and helped that Commission get started and he believed this should go to the current City Sustainability chair. He would forward this and any future recommendations to the City Sustainability Commission.

C. Consent Agenda:

1. Approve Public Arts Commission (PAC) Special Meeting Minutes of August 18, 2022.
2. Approve Community Forestry Commission Minutes of October 19, 2022.
3. Approve Community Policing Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes of September 15, 2022.
4. Approve Forest Grove Library Commission Meeting Minutes of October 11, 2022.

MOTION: Councilor Rippe moved, seconded by Councilor Gustafson, to approve the Consent Agenda. **VOICE VOTE:** AYES: Councilors Kottkey, Rippe, Valenzuela, Gustafson, Wenzl, and Mayor Truax. NOES: None. ABSENT: Councilor Uhing. **MOTION CARRIED 6-0.**

D. Additions/Deletions:

1. City Manager – none.
2. Proposed by Councilors – none.

E. Presentations:

1. Parks and Recreation Department Update – Lane presented an update on the Parks and Recreation Department's accomplishments over the last year, top priorities for the next year, and a progress report on City Council's objectives specific to the department. Sydney Russen Parks and Recreation General Operations Practicum Student provided an overview of her work on policy development for the department.
2. Public Works Department Update – Robertson presented the Public Works accomplishments achieved during the last year, their progress implementing the City Council's objectives, and what the department would be working on during the upcoming year. He also answered questions from Councilors about the Council Creek Trail project.
3. Light and Power Department Update – Hormann reported on the department's daily tasks, member services, regulatory work, completed projects, and upcoming projects. He also answered questions about the cost of supplies.

The Mayor and Councilors thanked Staff for the updates and their great work and contributions in helping the City in its partnerships and to grow and improve.

F. Public Hearings, Ordinances, and Resolutions:

1. **RESOLUTION NO. 2022-66 APPROVING CREATION OF YOUTH SUMMER RECREATION PROGRAM FOR 2023-2024 USING AMERICAN RESCUE PLAN ACT FUNDING; APPROVING THE ADDITION OF A 1.0 FTE RECREATION**

COORDINATOR FOR THE RECREATION PROGRAM WITHIN THE GENERAL FUND; AND APPROVING THE TRANSFER OF FUNDS WITHIN THE AMERICAN RESCUE FUND FOR A RECREATION INTEREST SURVEY FOR FISCAL YEAR 2022-23

Staff Report:

Downey presented the above-proposed resolution to create a youth summer recreation program, add the position of a full-time recreation coordinator and transfer ARPA funds for a recreation interest survey. Staff recommended approval of the proposed resolution.

MOTION: Councilor Wenzel moved, seconded by Council President Kottkey, to adopt Resolution No. 2022-66.

VanderZanden read Resolution No. 2022-66 by title.

Councilor Valenzuela said she wanted reassurance people of all backgrounds would be able to participate in the survey and asked who would be in charge of the survey. She believed \$20,000 seemed like a lot of money, but if that accomplished the goal and brought in the people who needed to be present, then the cost would be worth it. Downey responded that while \$20,000 was an estimate, Staff would try to get the survey out to everybody. The plan is to reach all groups in the community, but \$20,000 would go fast for this type of survey.

Councilor Valenzuela suggested that in addition to the survey, Staff also take feedback from the public at the farmers market and noted \$20,000 would pay for two focus groups. Downey explained that the City wanted to get the survey done before the farmers market started for the year, so Staff would have to come up with different methods of reaching people.

ROLL CALL VOTE: AYES: Councilors Kottkey, Rippe, Valenzuela, Gustafson, Wenzl, and Mayor Truax. NOES: None. ABSENT: Councilors Uhing. MOTION CARRIED 6-0.

G. Council Communications:

1. Councilor Reports

Gustafson reported on the Main Street Committee's field trip to the Atticus Hotel and downtown in McMinnville. She also reported on Holiday in the Grove, which was this weekend.

Valenzuela had no reports.

Rippe reported on the Chamber's board of directors meeting to discuss cashflow issues and the Council Creek Steering Committee meeting to approve the vision and goals for the regional trail. He would send out a summary of his visit to Kansas City sometime during the week.

Kottkey reported on her favorite moments during her time as a Councilor, noting that she was excited to start serving the City in a different capacity.

Wenzl reported on Parks and Recreation and the tree lighting. She also thanked Councilor

Kottkey and Mayor Truax for making Forest Grove a great place to live.

2. City Manager's Report

VanderZanden reported on the upcoming December 12th meeting, the Climate Friendly and Equitable Communities lawsuit, the City Council Retreat, the County's purchase of property on Elm Street, the Elected Officials workshop, and Ride Connection's grant application to purchase an electric bus.

3. Mayor's Report

Mayor Truax reported on the Department of Land Conservation and Development (DLCD) lawsuit, the Washington County Visitors Association board meeting, and the Chamber's funding issues. He also made parting comments, expressed his appreciation for each Councilor, and thanked the citizens for allowing him to serve as Councilor and Mayor for the last 22 years.

H. Adjournment:

Mayor Truax adjourned the regular Council meeting at 8:52 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anna D. Ruggles, CMC, City Recorder