

City Council Minutes
March 25, 2013

Mayor Thayer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present: Councilors Paul Canter, Harry Myers, and Lonnie Koroush. Councilors Brandy Rainey and Carol McGlasson were excused. Councilor elect Dave Ballard was absent.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Frank Walker, representing Dan Werner, was present to discuss Mr. Werner's issues with the water and sewer system he installed for his development on the east side of Territorial Hwy. Mr. Walker did not have time to fully learn about the issues, and hoped to be present at the next meeting.

Tim Eastridge opined that the Council should: budget for new ventilation and fire suppression for the proposed stoves the South Benton Nutrition Program hoped to install in the Legion Hall; fixing the potholes in all the city streets, and improving the drainage ditch east of N. 7th/8th Street. Councilor Myers noted that SBNP had stated they preferred not to have others use the new stoves; maybe more discussion was warranted. Mayor Thayer noted you would fill the potholes but they reappeared shortly after the first hard rain or freeze. The Mayor also noted the City's limited ability to work on private property on drainage issues; the question of a possible easement would be researched.

STAFF REPORTS and UPDATES

Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard reported that the second month of court had gone well; and the new judge was working well with the plaintiff's and staff. Engineer Staehlin continued to evaluate the raw water pump problems, but had little to report; OMI was looking into sending the rented pump back. Minard was proceeding with grant work for storm and waste water master plans. The Planning Commission had decided not to support the proposed Aquatic Zone Overlay for local oversight of wetlands and riparian corridors; Minard was researching with other agencies as the next step. Two additional contractors, out of several contacted, had looked at the Legion Hall doors and the possibility of replacing only the hardware on the east door. The library group had requested information on our propane supplier and the Council should be contemplating a request to take over the operational expenses for this building.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Minutes (February 25th and March 11th) and Bills. There were comments on the minutes and they were pulled from the consent agenda. Minard noted that an additional bill had come in given an overpayment by garbage company on the City's franchise fee (County fees were included with the City payment). Councilor Myers moved to withdraw the minutes of February 25th and approve the consent calendar. The motion was seconded by Councilor Koroush and approved 3-0.

The minutes of February 25th were amended to note Councilor Myers was excused from the February meeting. Under other business – Councilor McGlasson's comments on the "Fiddlers Camp" should be amended to read "McGlasson reported that the Council would hope to combine the Fiddler's Camp with the Monroe Fest."

1 **NEW BUSINESS:**

2 Renewal of Contract with Benton County Sheriff's Office. This item was pulled from the
3 agenda by Mayor Thayer for consideration of the full Council in April.
4

5 2013 Draft Goal Implementation Plan: There were no changes to the proposed
6 implementation plan. Councilor Canter moved to accept the 2013 Draft Goal Implementation
7 Plan as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Myers and approved 3-0.
8

9 Declaration of surplus copiers: Councilor Koroush moved to declare the two gifted and the
10 old city copier as surplus and directed the C.O.O. to dispose of in the manner best benefitting
11 the City. The motion was seconded by Councilor Myers and approved 3-0.
12

13 Daily Office Closure: Minard noted it had been suggested that closing the office one day a
14 week would greatly enhance staff efficiency with the recent reductions in staffing; Fridays
15 were suggested as the best. Councilor Koroush asked if opening one hour on such a day or
16 a different day would work. Mayor Thayer noted that other alternatives had been discussed.
17 Councilor Canter felt the public would adapt once a closure was put into place. Minard noted
18 that water shut offs would not occur on Thursday or Friday with such a closure. Canter
19 moved to close the city offices to the general public on Fridays, effective March 29th.
20 Koroush seconded the motion, which passed 3-0.
21

22 Long Branch Liquor License: Joe Gibson was present to discuss the transition in operators
23 at the Long Branch Saloon, now called the Long Branch Bar and Grill. Koroush asked about
24 music or karaoke. Mr. Gibson was unsure. Koroush moved to recommend approval of the
25 liquor license, which was seconded by Canter and approved 3-0.
26

27 **OLD BUSINESS:**

28 Mission Statement: It was determined that this would be discussed at the April meeting.
29

30 **OTHER BUSINESS:**

31
32 Councilor Comments and Committee Reports: Councilor Koroush raised concerns with the
33 failure of Councilor elect Ballard to attend any of the recent Council meetings. Mayor Thayer
34 mentioned he had tried to meet with Ballard after this issue was raised at the prior meeting,
35 but Ballard was still out of town. Councilor Koroush moved to have Councilor elect Dave
36 Ballard's position declared vacant if found to be within the parameters of the City Charter.
37 The motion was seconded by Councilor Myers and approved 3-0.
38

39 Councilor Myers moved to appoint Councilor Rainey as the City's representative to the
40 Cascades West Council of Governments. The motion was seconded by Councilor Koroush
41 and approved 3-0.
42

43 **ADJOURN:**

44 There being no further business Mayor Thayer adjourned the meeting at 7:22 PM.
45

46 Signed: _____
47 Mayor Frank Thayer
48

49 Attest: _____
50 Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard