

City Council Minutes
August 26, 2013

Mayor Thayer called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present: Councilors Paul Canter, Harry Myers, Carol McGlasson, Donna Dillard, and Lonnie Koroush; and Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard. Councilor Brandy Rainey was absent.

Resignation of Councilors McGlasson and Rainey: Mayor Thayer noted the resignation letters of Councilors Carol McGlasson and Brandy Rainey. Councilor Myers moved to accept the letters of resignation of Rainey, effective immediately, and McGlasson, effective after the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Koroush and approved 5-0-1 (McGlasson abstained).

Mayor Thayer noted that former Councilor Ron Thexton had offered to serve on the Council. Councilor Myers and Canter moved and seconded, respectively, to accept the nomination of Ron Thexton to fill the unexpired term of Councilor Rainey, which was unanimously approved.

Mayor Thayer noted the letter of interest from Edward Cooley to serve on the Council. It was determined to advertise the pending Council vacancy (McGlasson) and consider this vacancy at the next meeting.

Intergovernmental Agreement for computer consulting services with Cascades West Council of Governments (COG). Mayor Thayer called on Steve Martinenko, Technical Supervisor for COG to review the pending contract for services and the proposed upgrade of our computer system. Martinenko provided the Council with a background on the proposed new computer hardware, software and costs. He noted that the COG did not impose any additional charges for profit or overhead on the products. The overall cost of the new components was approximately \$4400.

Councilor Thexton asked if the system would be able to accept on-line utility payments. Martinenko responded there were several options available to do so, but each system would likely cost the City.

Martinenko informed the Council that the proposed contract was the same as the past several contracts and reflected only the new personnel rate increases and the multi-year nature of the contract. Martinenko noted the Council should adopt an "acceptable use policy" on computer usage. Myers moved, and Canter seconded to approve the contract as presented; the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Laurie Eastridge requested the Council look into installing crosswalks to the new library on Highway 99W ; preferably demand activated, or at least painted stripes and signage. Minard was directed to contact ODOT about having this done.

Tim Eastridge asked if the City was preparing for the winter rains by cleaning the storm water system. Minard noted the staff would address this on public property. Eastridge asked about installing new windows that were efficient. There was no action on that matter. He also noted that the hydrant at the easterly terminus of Commercial Street might not be working.

Minard noted we had received interest from a local resident to rent the old library and offering to pay \$200 per month and 1/3 the utilities. The Council directed him to contact the parties and report back next month.

STAFF REPORTS and UPDATES

Minard noted the OMI report had come in late and been emailed to the Council that day. He noted that the report indicated the unaccounted water loss was at 17% and that OMI had responded to two main leaks on 8th Street last Saturday evening. Based on the fact it appeared the pipe had been leaking for some time he had requested American Leak Detection come out again to survey the system. He also informed the Council that he had ordered 20 new meters to begin replacing the older water meters.

Minard also noted:

- ✓ Applications for the Sheriff's Citizen Academy were available if anyone wanted to sign up.
- ✓ The City received a \$500 grant from the Benton County Foundation for the trail and picnic facilities for the park at the top of Commercial Street.
- ✓ Ramjack had looked at the cracking in the walls at the Legion Hall. The cost to install 7 support piers would be \$11,100 with another \$1500 estimated for engineering and permits.
- ✓ The Monroe Fest parade permits had been secured; the Sheriff's office would have two deputies down for traffic control, but we needed to have additional personnel available in the event the deputies got called away.
- ✓ The un-muffled air brake signs were working through the process at ODOT.
- ✓ The city's insurance company notified us that we have a grant of several hundred dollars to address risk management issues; he suggested we use it to repair the sidewalk in front of City Hall.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilor Myers moved to approve the consent agenda, excluding the Monroe Telephone charges, which was seconded by Councilor McGlasson and approved unanimously.

Councilor Myers moved to approve the payments to Monroe Telephone, which was seconded by Koroush and approved 5-0-1 (Dillard abstained due to an actual conflict of interest).

RESOLUTION 2013 – 04: Establishing Utility Rates and Setting New Rates for Storm Water.

Minard noted this is a second year we have budgeted to set up a Storm Water Fund to begin addressing our localized flooding issues. However, we have not actually implemented any funding for this program fund; the proposed resolution would generate revenues for this fund as anticipated in the approved budget. The fee structure is as based on a formula of a flat rate of \$2 for single-family residential and \$3 per month for all other non-single family residential (multi-family, commercial and public or semi-public) customers. This higher fee is based on the fact that most of these facilities have a far greater percentage of impervious surface, when compared to single-family homes.

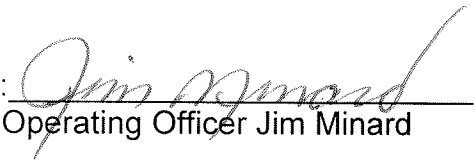
This fee will prove insufficient to make any real improvements over the next several years. What it will do is develop some resources for future Councils and the community to begin to address the drainage problems that we face in those years when we have significant rain and flood events. It is hoped that the fund will serve as "seed money" to develop a Stormwater Master Plan to evaluate what we have and what we need to do to get storm water off our

properties in the safest, quickest, and an environmentally friendly manner as required by the DEQ.

There were a number of questions from the Council on this matter and the proposed resolution adopting the rate structure, mostly on how water rates were assessed on the amounts over the base minimum. Given this question, Thexton moved to table this matter to the next month, which was seconded by Koroush and unanimously approved.

Adjourn: There being no further business Mayor Thayer adjourned the meeting at 8:04 PM.

Signed: 
Mayor Frank Thayer

Attest: 
Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard