

City Council Minutes
September 23, 2013

Council President Paul Canter called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM. Present: Councilors Harry Myers, Ron Thexton, Donna Dillard, and Lonnie Koroush; and Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard. Mayor Thayer was excused.

City Council Vacancy: Canter addressed the issue of the Council vacancy and asked Minard to update the Council. He explained the resignation of Councilor McGlasson created a vacancy. He had sent emails noting the vacancy to past candidates and none were interested at this time. He noted Mayor Thayer had contacted Joann McMackin who also indicated she was not interested at this time. Two candidates had submitted letters of interest: Edward Cooley and Cindy Canter. Councilor Dillard asked if Ms. Canter is related to Council President Canter, who replied she is his wife.

Canter called for a vote on the candidates. Thexton and Myers voted for Cindy Canter. Dillard and Koroush voted for Ed Cooley. Since there was a tie vote, Council President Canter voted for Cindy Canter, who was elected 3-2. Council President Paul Canter issued the oath of office to Cindy Canter as the replacement to fill the remaining term of Carol McGlasson.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tim Eastridge asked how things were progressing on cleaning the storm drain system. Minard noted he met with OMI, which had been cleaning catch basins and would be cleaning the ditches in the City rights-of-way.

David Prowse commented on the poor turning radius at the intersecting streets with Orchard and the pot hole in Commercial Street. Minard noted Orchard Street is a County Road. He would contact Benton County about what improvements could be made; hopefully while it was looking into Oak Street.

STAFF REPORTS and UPDATES

Mr. Minard informed the Council that:

- ✓ The water system had been evaluated for leaks, with only two hydrants leaking.
- ✓ He was working on grants for developing Storm Water and Wastewater Master Plans.
- ✓ The un-muffled air brake signs were installed.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Councilor Myers moved to approve the consent agenda, excluding the Monroe Telephone Company payments. The motion was seconded by Councilor Dillard and approved 4-1 (Koroush – NO). Councilor Koroush moved to pay the bills to Monroe Telephone Company, which was seconded by Councilor Myers and approved 4-0-1 (Dillard abstained)

NEW BUSINESS:

Reconsideration of Pet Ban in the Legion Hall: Arlene Looney presented her case for a waiver for her dog “Rosie” to be allowed in the Legion Hall, while she conducted her monthly blood pressure tests at the senior lunches. She noted the calm demeanor of her dog, that it was a companion dog, that it was well received by all the seniors, that it had all its shots, that she could keep the dog in her car during the lunches, that it was never in the kitchen or on

the tables, and that it was appreciated at the lunches. Several persons commented on how well the dog was received at the senior meals. Myers moved, based on the testimony and support, to provide a waiver to Ms. Looney to have her dog "Rosie" in the Legion Hall during the monthly blood pressure testing. The motion was seconded by Dillard and approved 4-1 (Koroush – NO).

Boy Scouts Use of City Park: Minard referenced the letter from the Boy Scout requesting to use the City Park for a one day recruiting event, which included a range for archery and BB guns. The ranges would be supervised by persons meeting training and certification requirements of the Boy Scouts. No specific location had been determined, but Council approval would be needed for the ranges. Koroush moved to allow the use of the City Park for the recruiting effort and archery and BB gun ranges. Thexton seconded the motion that was passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION 2013 – 04: Establishing Utility Rates and Setting New Rates for Storm Water. Cantor called on Minard to brief the Council on the proposed resolution. Minard responded to questions from the last meeting, stating the water overage charges were prorated. This resolution incorporated the lower water minimum rate that would lower all single-family homes by two dollars, with corresponding increase of two dollars to fund the Storm Water Fund. All other utility customers would see a three dollar increase to fund the Storm Water Fund. The three dollar increase would be imposed on meter accounts. For example a duplex with only one meter would see an increase of only three dollars. It was anticipated that these funds would allow for the City to maintain the storm water system and provide some seed money for the Storm Water Master Plan. He explained that the dates of adoption and implementation would need to be addressed by the Council.

Dillard noted there should be some advance notice to those accounts seeing an increase. Myers moved to accept this resolution with an approval date of September 23, 2013 and an implementation date of November 1, 2013. The motion was seconded by Thexton and approved 4-1 (Koroush – No).

Clean Water Revolving Fund Loan Agreement. Minard informed the Council the City had been approved for a loan of \$100,800 from the Oregon DEQ; \$30,000 which was in the form a "principal forgiveness" or grant. He advised the Council he was still working on additional grant funding of approximately \$50,000 to help reduce the loan amount. The City's current financial situation, however, would not allow for repaying the DEQ loan within the specified five-year term of the loan. Minard recommended taking no action on this matter until the additional grant funding was decided. Thexton moved to table the matter to next month to see if there was any new information. The motion was seconded by Dillard and unanimously approved.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business Council President Canter adjourned the meeting at 7:10 PM.

Signed: _____
Mayor Frank Thayer

Attest: _____
Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard