

City Council Minutes
September 22, 2014

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

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Librarian Lori Pelkey updated the Council on the library activities. She noted that the Monroe Library was featured in a national library magazine for its reuse of the old train depot. She also reported on the successful summertime reading programs for youth and adults. She informed the Council that library had been awarded an Early Literacy Grant to help young families and children under the age of five learn about the public library.

It was noted that there were items still remaining to be finalized with the new library or warranty concerns. Now that the City owned the building Minard was directed to follow up with the County and prime contractor.

STAFF REPORTS:

Public Works Superintendent Dave Claborn gave the public works report; which was sent to the Council electronically. He noted several high points that included repairing a major leak in the alley north of 8th Street; air compressor issues at the water treatment plant; and research he was working on given the raw water pump had failed again. There was considerable discussion on Dave's preliminary research; Council directed Dave to continue his research and report back as soon as he had more information.

C.O.O Minard gave his report noting:

- ✓ The Red Hills Subdivision would not be meeting its schedule of work given delays in the wetland permitting process. Councilor Myers moved to grant another extension to April 1, 2015; which was seconded by Councilor Koroush and approved 5-0.
- ✓ Staff was recommending a wage increase for our Utility Worker; Minard will bring a written report to the Council meeting next month.
- ✓ He had completed the technical interviews with the prospective Finance Officer applicants; which was conducted with the assistance of the City's long-time Auditor Tom Glogou and the Joan Swanson, Philomath Finance Director. The technical review committee had unanimous recommendations and Minard asked how the Council would like to proceed. It was determined the Employee/Finance Committee would meet with the top two candidates; though other elected officials were welcome to observe. Koroush moved to have C. Canter sit in on behalf of Councilor Dillard – should she be unable to attend. The motion was seconded by Myers and approved 5-0.
- ✓ Our website administrator was out of town, but would be updating the site upon his return.
- ✓ Republic Garbage service was requesting a rate increase of 2.6%, beginning January 1, 2015. This equates to a \$0.35 and \$0.45 increase for 20- or 35 gallon carts, respectively. Minard asked if the Council wanted Republic to send representatives to the next Council meeting; Minard was directed to simply prepare a resolution with the new fees for the Council's consideration.

- ✓ He noted our City Engineers had sent the draft Master Plan RFQ's (Request for Proposals) the funding agencies and that should be advertised within the next few weeks.
- ✓ The design work on the School (lighted) crossing was still making its way through ODOT. The City Engineers were working with them on the final design work – given some concerns with freight traffic and travel lane widths.
- ✓ We had received the final payment for the City Park improvements (and received an extension to the fall of 2015 for the Reservoir Heights Park which would help balance out the work load).

Mayor Thayer was called away from the meeting and Council President Canter assumed control of the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Minard noted three additions to the bills that had arrived after the Council packets had been delivered. C. Canter moved to accept the consent agenda as amended, which was seconded by Koroush and approved 4-0. (Paul Canter did not vote as the Mayor Pro-tem).

NEW BUSINESS: None

Resolution 2014-04: A Resolution Extending Workers' Compensation Coverage To Volunteers of the City Of Monroe. Minard noted this resolution was a model prepared by the City's insurance company and needed to be updated since it was last adopted several years ago. It provides for nominal compensation to volunteers working under the City's direction. C. Canter moved to the adopt this resolution, which was seconded by Koroush and approved 4-0.

OLD BUSINESS:

Legion Hall Income and Expenses: It was decided to hold a work session on this matter on Wednesday, September 24th at 5:30.

OTHER BUSINESS:

Councilor Comments and Committee Reports:

City Park Track Path Update: C. Canter updated the Council on the proposed track around the sewer lagoon that the local track team wants to build. There were questions about high water east of the access road. Myers expressed concern with bridging this water and liability. Cindy would work with the group to get a rough map or design to show the track and improvements.

C. Canter noted questions on the paving project and the streets that had been overlaid. She moved to have future Council meeting electronically recorded, which was seconded by Councilor Thexton and approved 4-0.

Legion Hall Security Cameras Update (H. Myers): Myers noted he had several options available, but had been unable to locate and retrieve his research. This would be discussed further at the Wednesday work session on the Legion Hall.

Koroush noted that the "No Parking" signs had yet to be installed on 7th Street, north of Kelly. Minard noted he could not find any record of the Council voting to do so. Myers moved to


install "No Parking" signs on 7th Street, from Kelly to 8th. Koroush seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. Koroush would meet with Dave or Jim to review details.

Mayor Pro-tem Canter noted the need to reactivate the Beautification Committee. Myers moved to appoint C. Canter as the Chair of this Committee and responsible for member recruitment (subject to Council approval) and organization. Koroush seconded the motion, which passed 4-0. He also noted ODOT's plans for chip sealing Hwy. 99W through Monroe, which we could accept or disagree with. It was decided to wait and see what communication ODOT would formally provide.

ADJOURN:

There being no further business Mayor Pro-tem Canter adjourned the meeting at 8:43 PM.

Signed: 
Mayor Frank Thayer

Attest: 
Chief Operating Officer Jim Minard