

MONROE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

May 18, 2020 6 PM City Hall Meeting Room

1. CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Paul Canter called the City Council meeting to order at 6:00 P.M.

Pledge of Alliance: Mayor Canter asked Councilor Thayer to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present was Mayor Canter, Council President Billings, Councilors Canter, Cuthbertson, Greene, Koroush, and Thayer. Staff present was interim City Recorder Tracy Floyd, and Office Administrative Assistant Laurie Eastridge. In the audience was Planning Commissioners Tim Eastridge, Dan Sheets, Fred Cuthbertson and John Greydanus. Also, in the audience was Bob Eastridge, Todd Nystrom, Amy Nystrom, Lorri O'Hare, Terry Koroush and Chuck Scholz.

2. PUBLIC COMMENTS: Todd Nystrom rose to speak regarding the plans for the HardTimes building turning into an art studio. He stated that he has been working with our associate planner Pat Depa and understands there are planning codes to follow. He is looking at replacing the building down the road, maybe 4-5 years, and doesn't want to invest in paving the entire parking lot, that maybe paving a few parking spaces and letting the storm drain into the gravel would be sufficient. He will continue working with Depa to develop a plan that works.

Lorri O'Hare rose to speak regarding the Haunted House and their insurance policy is set to renew in June. With the restrictions in place regarding the COVID-19 pandemic, the Haunted House won't happen this year to recoup the \$1300 cost for the insurance premium. She said she would love to continue doing things at the property but can't see renewing the insurance at this time. She also stated that the rental agreement expired in February and she would like to have it renewed. Council directed Ms. O'Hare to not take any action yet on the insurance and city staff will do research on our end regarding the insurance. Council would like this to be added to the June Council Agenda for further review.

3. STAFF REPORTS:

3.1 Chief Bob Morris: Not Present

3.2 City Finance Officer, Tracy Floyd: FO Floyd presented her written report which was in the council packet. Highlighting the utility bills status and the financial audit is scheduled for July 20.

3.3 Mayor Canter asked for Chuck Scholz to speak regarding the Water Treatment Plant: Scholz spoke about the status of the sanitary survey and that currently the city is in violation and if the violation doesn't get addressed immediately it will go to enforcement and the city will be fined for a willful violation. He also spoke about the disinfection by product (DBP) status and the violations

there. He stated that the City could potentially see fines if these items on the sanitary survey and the DBP's aren't corrected immediately. He said he has been in contact with our representative from the Oregon Health Authority and has asked for an extension on these state deadlines and was granted a short extension. Councilor Thayer asked if there was an immediate danger to the citizens of Monroe. Mr. Scholz said there is no danger at this time, but could potential be an issue in the future. Mr. Koroush asked who was monetarily responsible for the violations/issues. Mr. Scholz stated the owner of the system is responsible. Council deliberated on why the issues where not brought to their attention in 2019. Mayor Canter asked how long it would take Mr. Scholz to assess the situation and come up with a plan to address the corrections and recommendations in the Sanitary Survey as well as the DBP issues. Mr. Scholz stated he has a plan but it changes daily. Mr. Scholz stated he will share his information on the Sanitary Survey with the council.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

Bills and Minutes: Councilor Thayer questioned the bill for T. Evans and using SDC money to pay this expense. FO Floyd stated this for the Riverside District Master Plan which the council previously approved. FO Floyd will provide follow up information on the status of the grant and what has previously been approved. Councilor Thayer moved to accept the consent agenda and Councilor Billings seconded. All Ayes.

5. NEW BUSINESS:

5.1 Adopting Resolution 2020-07: A resolution authorizing the engagement of services for the annual municipal audit and authorizing Mayor Paul Canter to sign the letter of engagement on behalf of the City of Monroe. Councilor Billings made a motion to adopt the resolution as written Councilor Thayer seconded. All Ayes.

5.2 Personnel and Finance Committee Recommendation on Water Treatment Plant Operator: Councilor Canter stated the PFC met before the council meeting and is making the recommendation to hire Steve Martinenko and he would work under the license or Direct Responsible Charge (DRC) of Chuck Scholz from Harrisburg. She recommended that the City enter into an agreement with Harrisburg to provide the DRC and support for the water plant system and at a fee of \$500.00 per month. Council deliberated on hours and job duties of the operator. Councilor Thayer made a motion to accept the recommendation of the Personnel and Finance Committee, Councilor Canter seconded. Councilor Koroush inquired about Steve Martinenko's role and knowledge of the violations in 2019. It was discussed about Martinenko's employment with SOWT at the time. Councilor Canter stated the wages for Steve Martinenko would be \$55,000 per year. Mr. Scholz commented on Mr. Martinenko's plan to obtain his level one certification and the plan to further his training and education to obtain his level two certification as well as to cross train Steve Wyman in the water plant and get both operators certified. Mayor Canter called for a vote. Greene, Cuthbertson, Canter, Billings, Thayer, Ayes. Koroush, No.

5.3 Update on Park Host RV Pad at the City Park: Councilor Greene handed out a map of where the proposed location of the RV Pad would go at the city park and he doesn't have an estimation on cost yet because more research on what is required to get this project done needs to occur. Councilor Billings made a motion for Councilor Greene to move forward with this project and contact county and the City's Associate Planner to gather more information. Councilor Koroush seconded. All Ayes.

6. OLD BUSINESS: None

7. OTHER BUSINESS:

7.1 Committee Reports:

Councilor Canter gave an update on the toddler park and the idea to hold a small ceremony when the park can be reopened and inviting all of the people that work hard to make this happen.

Festival Committee Chair Dan Sheets gave an update on the Monroe Festival and the committee's decision to cancel due to the Governor's guidelines on restrictions on large gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic. He stated that refunds will need to be given out to all vendors and festival sponsors. Todd Nystrom, owner of the Long Timber Brew Pub, stated the committee can roll over their sponsorship to the next year.

Councilor Billings would like the Planning Commission to take a look at the SDC Methodology.

Councilor Thayer would like to have the comments and corrections for the codification update sent to him as soon as possible.

7.2 Councilor Comments: Councilor Koroush thanked Laurie and Tracy for the smaller council packets. Councilor Greene stated that the streetlight at the City Park is very dim and he would like to see a brighter light installed there and he mentioned some of the lights on the outside of the water plant need to be replaced as they are burnt out. Mr. Scholz said he would put that on Martinenko's to do list.

Councilor Canter gave an update on the High School Senior Flags.

Tim Eastridge inquired about the status of the Main Street Project and Councilor Greene stated he will hold a public works and safety meeting soon to discuss this project.

7.3 Mayor's Comments: Mayor Canter expressed his concern with the water treatment plant and his appreciation for Mr. Scholz and his willingness to get involved to improve the City's water.

8. ADJOURN: Mayor Canter adjourned the City Council meeting at 7:20 PM.

Approved by Council Action on June 24, 2020.

Paul Canter 6-24-2020

Mayor Paul Canter

DATE:

Attest:

Tracy Floyd
Tracy Floyd, Interim City Recorder

6/25/2020