

MONROE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

August 24, 2020

6:00 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 Allegiance: Mayor Canter asked Councilor Billings to lead the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call: Present was Mayor Paul Canter, Councilors: Floyd Billings, Cindi Canter, Jeanni Cuthbertson, Brian Greene, Lonnie Koroush, and Frank Thayer. Staff present: Steve Martinenko and Pat Depa, Associate Planner. Planning Commissioners: Tim Eastridge, Dan Sheets, and Fred Cuthbertson. Also, in the audience was Riley Holman, Tonya Wobbe, Todd Nystrom, Amy Nystrom, Lorrie O'Hare, Bobby Eastridge, Lisa Lindner, Nicholas Ritch, and Terry Koroush.

2. **PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

- 2.1. Terry Kororush – Spoke on behalf of City employee Steve Wyman and said that he worked with Steve Wyman for over a year without any issues, never saw any problems, and feels there is some kind of conspiracy to get rid of him.
- 2.2. Tonya Wobbe – 450 S. 10th, commented she just moved in and has noticed a lot of standing water under her house. She has talked to Patrick Depa but does not know how to address the issue. Steve Martinenko mentioned he replied to her email and will contact her.
- 2.3. Tom Goracke – talked about the property he owns north of the City lagoons and says the tight corner on the access road by the bridge prevents him from moving large equipment back to his property. He would like permission to widen the turn. Mayor Canter commented the Army Corp of engineers has the right away for that road and to work with Steve Martinenko for assistance.
- 2.4. Riley Holman, School Board Chair – Mentioned the High School project is almost done and ready to move staff back to school but not certain of students. The Board has been working with the City on Safe Routes to School. Commissioner Eastridge asked about the purpose of the fill rock in the retention pond for storm water drainage. Riley said it is to prevent drowning or submersion accidents. When asked whether an engineer was consulted about the rock fill, Riley commented yes and it would have the same capacity.

3. **STAFF REPORTS and Presentations:**

- 3.1. Police Report – Chief Morris was not in attendance.
- 3.2. Pat Depa, Associate Planner – Pat presented planning activities he has been working on with the City. Pat's projects include the Hard Time Distillery, Art Studio, Benny's Pizza, Coffee shop, and the City Park RV pad. Pat next commented the City has been audited for its FEMA requirements and needs intensive review to develop best practices for building in a flood plain and code enforcement. Pat then talked about the annexations in the old brick yard area that were not properly filed with the State. Pat is working with the Department of Revenue to write legal descriptions for this land so the

annexations can be completed. Last, Pat talked about the water issues in the Red Hill development and his overall concerns with how the development was approved given the only engineering oversight was for the roads and utilities from Branch Engineering. Pat would like better verification of the plans before he approves the permits but does not know how it would be managed. Councilor Cuthbertson asked what other cities have in place to check on these issues that Monroe does not. Pat replied that these cities have an engineering review fee in place to pay for review of the plans and also having an engineer onsite.

- 3.3. Steve Martinenko, Water Operator – discussed how Disinfectant By-Product (DBP) sampling techniques were changed to provide more consistent sampling along with identifying different sampling points. In addition, more hydrant flushing and tank level modification will be looked at to see if there is a reduction in DBP levels. Counselor Thayer asked if it was true the State mandated the test locations and the answer is yes. Staff added that the Filter #1 unit was repaired and returned to normal operation without having to buy new modules.

4. CONSENT AGENDA:

- 4.1. A Parks invoice was added to the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Counselor Greene and seconded by Counselor Canter to approve the Consent Calendar. Counselor Korosush asked about the fees paid to Taylor Evans and Mayor Canter replied it was for the Riverside District grant by agreement. Another question was asked regarding cleaning the library. Councilor Canter replied it is being done minimally because they are still open with limited access. Counselor Korosush also asked about why the truck was not being used for taking samples to Corvallis and the answer from staff is that both trucks were in use on those days. Counselor Billings asked about the park costs such as concrete, electrician, irrigation, and where the money was coming from. Mayor Canter replied from the General Fund. There was further discussion on approval of the expenditures and Mayor Canter said he would have to check his emails. Council voted unanimously to approve the consent agenda.
5. **Mayor Canter added Tom Cordier to the Council agenda.** Mr. Cordier introduced himself to the Council as running for Benton County Commissioner.
6. **Council entered Executive Session at 7:52 P.M. under ORS 192.660 (2)(b) to discuss the possible discipline of a public employee**
7. **Council resumed in open session at 8:12 P.M.**
 - 7.1. Mayor Canter called for a motion to deal with the issue discussed in Executive Session.
 - 7.2. Counselor Korosush moved to suspend Steve Wyman without pay until he can get his court matter settled. Counselor Billings seconded the motion. Mayor Canter called for the vote: Korosush –Y, Thayer –Y, Billings – Y, C.Canter – N, Cuthbertson – N, Greene – N. Mayor Canter broke the tie with a no vote; the motion did not carry.

- 7.3. Counselor Canter moved to terminate Steve Wyman for violation of City policy regarding zero tolerance for violence as admitted and witnessed. Counselor Cuthbertson seconded the motion. Mayor Canter called for the vote: Koroush –N, Thayer –N, Billings – N, C.Canter – Y, Cuthbertson –Y, Greene – N; the motion did not carry.
- 7.4. At 8:16 P.M. Mayor Canter went on record as resigning because he will not part of a group that is going to be liable for these actions. Councilor Canter then announced she is resigning as well. Both left Council Chambers.
- 7.5. Councilor Green moved to table the remaining items on the agenda and adjourn the meeting. Motion was seconded by Counselor Thayer. Acting Mayor Billings called for the vote: Koroush –Y, Thayer –Y, Cuthbertson –Y, Greene – Y; the motion passed unanimously.

8. **Adjourn.** Acting Mayor Billings adjourned the meeting at 8:19 P.M.

Approved by Council Action on October 26, 2020.

Acting Mayor Floyd Billings



Date 10-26-20

Attest:



Steve Martinenko, City Recorder