

# HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

November 23, 2020

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Hardin, Gutierrez, Davis, Myers, Barron, and McCarthy. Councilor Primmer was excused. Councilor-Elect Spicerkuhn was present. City staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Gary Luisi, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, and Zoning Clerk Heather La Beau. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. The pledge of allegiance was given.

## **Presentations-Financial Audit Report for FY2020**

Rick Stoddard of Barnett & Moro, P.C. reviewed the results of the City's General Ledger audit and the City's Urban Renewal District General Ledger review. The results of the audit noted three over expenditures of the budget and no deficiencies or material weaknesses. The review of the Urban Renewal District found no modifications need to be made to the financial statements.

A previously identified concern with receipting from the City's General Ledger has been rectified.

One of the three over expenditures involved EOTEC and was personnel related. The budgeted personnel costs by the City was not the same as the amount spent by VenuWorks. City staff and VenuWorks continue to work on improving communication.

## **Consent Agenda Items**

Mayor Drotzmann queried the councilors for any concerns to take public comment on consent agenda items prior to calling for a motion of approval. There were no concerns and City Attorney Luisi confirmed its acceptability. There was no public comment. Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-F to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Recommendation to the Faith-Based Advisory Committee: Position #1, James Lafolette, term from 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2023 and Position #5, Kristi Atkins, term from 12/15/2020 to 12/31/2022
- C. Recommendation & Confirmation to the Library Board: Position #1, Jackie Linton, term from 11/24/2020 to 06/30/2024
- D. Confirmation to the Library Board: Position #2, Lisa Depew, term from 11/24/2020 to 06/30/2024
- E. Confirmation to the Recreation Projects Fund Advisory Committee: Position #3, Mike Frink, Representing the Parks and Recreation Committee, term from 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2023 and Position #4, James Whalley, Representing the Motel Operators, term from 01/01/2021 to 12/31/2023
- F. Minutes of the November 9th, City Council regular meeting

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Ordinance No. 2314 Amending Chapter 51 of the Code of Ordinance, Entitled "Sewers"**

City Manager Smith explained that the City is in the process of reviewing and updating ordinances to make them current with city practices, as well as state and federal law. This ordinance made changes to clarifying and modernizing the language. No policy changes were made.

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Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Gary Luisi read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. There was no opposition. After City Attorney Gary Luisi read the ordinance by title only for the second reading, Councilor Myers moved and Councilor Hardin seconded that Ordinance 2314 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption by the City Council. 6 votes for; none against. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution No. 2170- Greater Hermiston Enterprise Zone Fund Debt Service**

Finance Director Mark Krawczyk presented the staff report. This resolution allows appropriation authority to pay the City Hall bond debt service.

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Myers seconded to approve Resolution No. 2170 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

## **October 2020 Financial Report**

Councilor Hardin moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to accept the October Financial Report as presented in the agenda packet by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

**Parks & Recreation-** Councilor Davis stated the Parks & Rec Committee will meet in January.

**Public Infrastructure Committee-** Councilor McCarthy stated the primary discussion at tonight's PIC meeting was regarding streets and the potential impact of including a stormwater fee on utility bills. Mayor Drotzmann spoke to the importance of the City's stormwater management system. The committee plans further review prior to bringing to the council.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- The Governor's call included an introduction of a proposed risk assessment plan to apply to each county.
- Minimizing the spread of the Corona virus to avoid overwhelming the hospital systems and healthcare workers.
- Additional funds allocated for eastern Oregon businesses through Business Oregon.

## **Council Reports**

Councilor Barron encouraged everyone to follow health guidelines. Councilor Barron shared information from a League of Oregon Cities call regarding shelter housing. Project Turnkey is a public-private partnership where the state uses funds to buy old hotels for cities and counties to use as housing. Operational expenses are the responsibility of the cities and counties.

Councilor McCarthy gave information about Umatilla County Health office's No Cost Drive-Thru School Vaccination Clinics for students K-12 scheduled for December 10<sup>th</sup> and 11<sup>th</sup> at 1pm at the Hermiston Community Center. Pre-registration is required. More information is available at <http://bit.ly/vaccinationclinic> or <http://bit.ly/clinicavacunacion>

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Councilor Gutierrez spoke of his concern about the President's actions surrounding the pandemic.

## **Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- Registration for LOC Elected Essential workshops is open.
- The Downtown Festival Street tree lighting will be live-streamed. The tree lighting is Dec 3.

## **Adjournment**

There was no other business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the meeting at 8:02pm, wishing everyone a Happy Thanksgiving.

SIGNED:

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Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Heather La Beau, Zoning Clerk