

# HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

January 25, 2021

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Primmer, Barron, Spicerkuhn, and Duron. Councilors Davis and Myers were excused. In attendance were Municipal Court Judge Creasing, and City staff to include: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter, Recreation Supervisor Brandon Artz, Recreation Coordinator Kasia Robbins, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Mayor Drotzmann asked if there were any changes to the agenda.

City Manager Smith stated due to noticing requirements, the Council will be unable to make a motion on Resolution No. 2172 until the following City Council Meeting.

Mayor Drotzmann asked City Manager Smith to give an update during the agenda item.

## **Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items**

Jackie Linton, 111 W Beebe- Asked that the Council consider allowing a homeless shelter to be built on part of the land by Recycled Water Plant. The area would be good for this project as it is close to the community but farther away from parks and schools. Mrs. Linton also asked that the City not give away this property by the Recycled Water Plant for free for the proposed senior housing that will be built there, but instead, charge the developer what the City paid for that property.

## **Consent Agenda Items**

Councilor Primmer asked that item B be removed from the Consent Agenda. Councilor Spicerkuhn moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A, C-E to include:

- A. 2019-20 Urban Renewal Agency Annual Report
- C. Liquor License Application for "Off-Premises", sales for Desert Lanes Family Fun Center, located at 1545 N First Street
- D. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- E. Minutes of the January 11, City Council work session and regular meetings

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Items Removed from the Consent Agenda**

- B. Public Notice of Special Election on March 9th, 2021 of Ward IV Councilor (Candidate Listing)

Councilor Primmer stated he asked for this agenda topic to be removed as Councilor Spicerkuhn felt that it was a conflict of interest. After confirmation from City Attorney Luisi, Councilor Spicerkuhn recused himself and left the dais.

## **Public Comment**

Jackie Linton, Hermiston- Asked if the City could forgo the special election as there is only one person running for the Ward IV position. This would save tax payer money as well.

City Attorney Luisi stated the City must provide an opportunity for a write-in candidate.

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Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to approve Consent Agenda Item B. Councilors Hardin, Barron, Peterson, Primmer, and Duron voted in favor; Councilor Spicerkuhn abstained. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Ordinance No. 2318 Annexing 4N2815 Tax Lot 200, 14.8 acres-Newman 1307 SW 3rd St**

Councilor Primmer announced he had a conflict of interest as he is related to one of the applicants and recused himself.

City Manager Smith stated the Council held a public hearing and adopted the findings of fact regarding this annexation in August 2020, however, presentation of the Ordinance was placed on hold until the applicant returned with a final plat showing property lines so the City could include the legal description, from the plat, in the ordinance.

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. After City Attorney Gary Luisi read the ordinance by title only for the second reading. Councilor Barron moved and Councilor Duron seconded that Ordinance 2318 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption by the City Council. Councilors Hardin, Barron, Peterson, Spicerkuhn, and Duron voted in favor; Councilor Primmer abstained. Motion carried 5-0.

## **Resolution No. 2172 - City Hall Construction Contract Award**

City Manager Smith stated the project received five bids and was expecting to ask the Council to consider awarding the bid to Griffin Construction, the lowest qualified bidder. However, the City must wait 7 days from the date it has given notice to the other four bidders to allow them an opportunity to protest the decision before the City can award the bid. Noticing requirements will be satisfied by the next City Council meeting for a decision at that time.

## **December 2020 Financial Report**

Finance Director Mark Krawczyk gave information regarding new Financial Analyst, Tasha Harrell, who has been hired to replace Barb McMahon within his presentation of the December 2020 monthly financial report. Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Duron seconded to accept the December 2020 Financial Report as presented in the agenda packet by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

**Hispanic Advisory Committee (HAC)**- Councilor Duron stated although there were not many members from the public at the meeting, the Committee had a Funland Park update from Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter, and other presenters. Jose Garcia and Mark Gomolski were elected Chair & Vice Chair and also have updates regarding their work representing their work representing HAC this year, including frequently visiting farms and fields this year to disburse food, personal protective equipment, and other COVID information to farm workers, where they experienced hostility from some of the supervisors who did not want them there, despite having gotten permission from Administrators/owners. Councilor Duron thanked Jose and Mark for all the work they are doing.

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Faith-Based Advisory Committee- Councilor Hardin stated the January meeting moved to February 9<sup>th</sup>.

## **Mayor Report**

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- Thanked City staff for their work at the Goal Setting session this weekend with the Council. Mayor Drotzmann explained that the Goal Setting meetings are an opportunity for the City Council and staff to look back at previous goals set by the Council and review the progress made on those goals, set additional goals based on public need, review items that the City is doing well and see where the City can improve in other aspects, as well as reviewed how COVID impacted the 2020 goals. Mayor Drotzmann thanked Sara Singer-Wilson who has been the meeting facilitator for the last six years.
- Asked that the Council and community communicate with their legislators to help give them guidance on what is important to our community.
- A letter (attached) to Governor Brown asked that she consider allowing limited in person dinner to help restaurants that are struggling.
- The City kicked off the Hermiston 2040 Community Vision project on Thursday. The goal is to combine a diverse group of people and engage them on how they feel Hermiston should inspire to be and have in the next 20 years. What they believe is important to and for the community so the City can direct resources to those items.

## **Council Reports**

Councilor Duron encouraged the City to continue efforts to provide reliable and affordable broadband to help with continued distance learning, and asked that prisoners be removed from total County COVID numbers to help Hermiston and other communities re-open.

City Manager Smith stated COVID numbers in the community and in prisons are tracked separately and prison COVID numbers do not go against the community. This is the information the state has relayed to the County which has been shared with the City.

Mayor Drotzmann stated that through League of Oregon Cities (LOC) policy process the Council was able to vote on those issues of concern to Hermiston. Some of those were comprehensive infrastructure issues, including broadband. LOC will then advocate and invest resources during the legislative session to get legislation passed to address those issues. Mayor Drotzmann also encouraged the Council to visit [orcities.org](http://orcities.org) as it is a great resource.

Councilor Hardin reminded the Council they can tune-in live, or view the recording later, of the weekly LOC report every Friday at 10:00am.

Councilor Barron encouraged the community to apply for committee vacancies and encouraged new Councilors to participate in LOC and NLC (National League of Cities) conferences, as well as Day at the Capitol to advocate for their community.

## **Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

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- The Goal Setting Session and 2040 Community Vision which are extremely valuable for the community
- The move from various offices to the Library's basement is planned for February 19<sup>th</sup>. The February 22<sup>nd</sup> City Council work session will feature a tour of this area.
- Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter gave updates (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding: Funland Park, Dog Park, River Front Park, program and participation challenges while complying with COVID restrictions and orders, providing programs that encourage the public to shop and dine local, the Teen Adventure Park and applications for two state grants to help fund this project. The City has already been awarded one grant, if awarded the second grant, the total awarded amount will be \$500,000.

Mayor Drotzmann and Councilor Duron thanked Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter for his updates, and the creative and engaging ways his department motivates the community to be engaged in recreation. Councilor Duron asked that the Parks and Recreation Department consider publishing all Facebook posts in Spanish as well.

## **Adjournment**

There was no other business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the meeting at 8:32pm.

SIGNED:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder



January 22, 2021

The Honorable Kate Brown  
Office of the Governor  
900 Court Street, Suite 254  
Salem, OR 97301-4047

Dear Governor Brown,

We, the collective leaders of Umatilla County, respectfully ask you to consider a limited opening of our vital restaurant industry. In spite of the closing of all inside dining, our COVID-19 numbers have continued to rise. Clearly our restaurants are not responsible for the County's increase in positive test rates, and we wonder if the lack of indoor dining choices might be driving our citizens to participate in more risky in-home social activities, which may be one reason why our infection numbers continue to rise.

Perhaps Umatilla County could be named as an experimental pilot project for the State's entire restaurant industry. If we could demonstrate over a four-to-six-month period that our restaurants could safely re-open at some reduced rate of service, we could serve as a model for the other counties.

When examining the Centers for Disease Control (CDC) data from two states with completely different restrictions on activities, we believe that locking down restaurants does greater economic harm than its value in controlling the spread of the virus. Recent statistics from the CDC show that California, with strict controls, is overtaking Florida, with restaurants open since June, in COVID-19 death rates over a seven-day average (California: 1.4 per 100,000 versus Florida: 0.8 per 100,000). The CDC also shows that California's COVID hospitalization rate was recently 56 per 100,000 versus Florida's hospitalization rate of 36 per 100,000. These numbers are surprising in light of Florida's much older population.

Umatilla County has a strong tourism industry in normal times, and this industry relies heavily on our numerous restaurants. If they are not allowed to reopen soon, many of them will shut their doors permanently. If allowed to re-open at half capacity, some will survive.

Our neighbors at the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation have demonstrated that they can safely operate their casino, which has hundreds of visitors daily. Our larger retail stores like Safeway and Walmart have shown themselves capable of handling large volumes of people safely each day. Please allow our local restaurants to demonstrate, with a much smaller volume of customers, that they can also act in a safe and responsible manner.

Respectfully,

County Commissioner George Murdock,

and

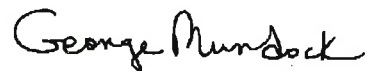
Milton-Freewater, Mayor Lewis Key

Pendleton, Mayor John H. Turner

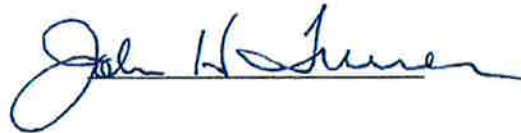
Hermiston, Mayor Dr. David Drotzmann

District 29 Senator, Bill Hansell

Rep. Bobby Levy HD58

















# PARKS & RECREATION

Council Meeting 1-25-2021





# PROS Plan Adoption

## Proposed Park System

MAP ES.1

### LEGEND

Urban Growth Boundary

City Limits

#### EXISTING FACILITIES

Bureau of Reclamation

Bureau of Land Management

School District Facility

Park and Recreation Facility

Private Facility

Trail

#### PROPOSED FACILITIES

Recreation Facility

Park Facility

Park Acquisition and Development Area

Trail Development

Umatilla Regional Trail

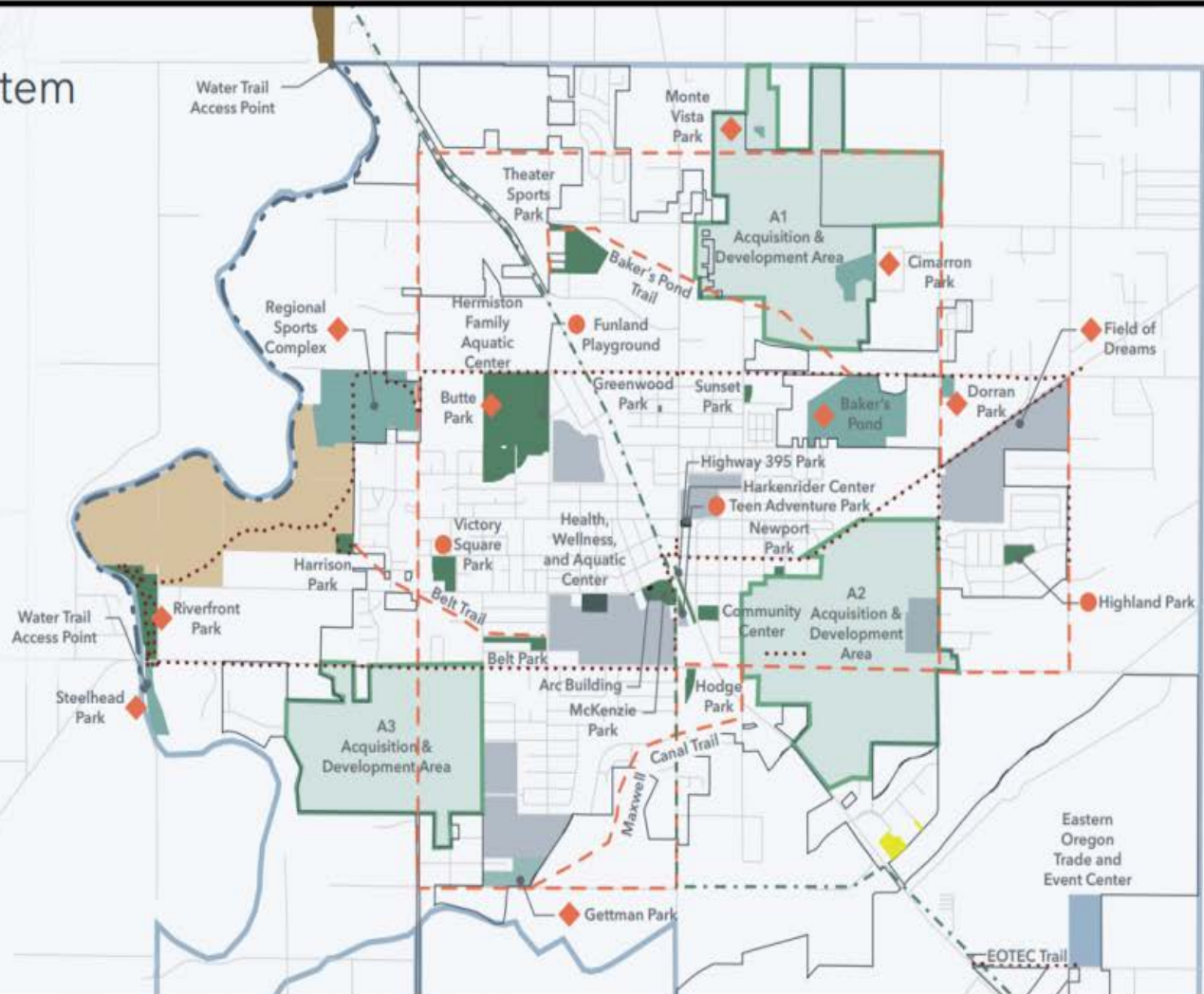
Water Trail

Park Facility Improvement

Park Facility Development



Parks & Recreation



HERMISTON PARKS, RECREATION AND OPEN SPACE MASTER PLAN DRAFT





# Dog Park

- Fe
- M
- Op







# Riverfront





# Riverfront Park







# Events & P

- Our Town Christmas
- Mayors Shop and Dine Local Challenge







# Events & Programs

## Distance Learning Day Camp

**Monday – Friday | 7:30am – 4:30pm**

**\$90 per week | Grades K-6<sup>th</sup> (Ages 5-12)**

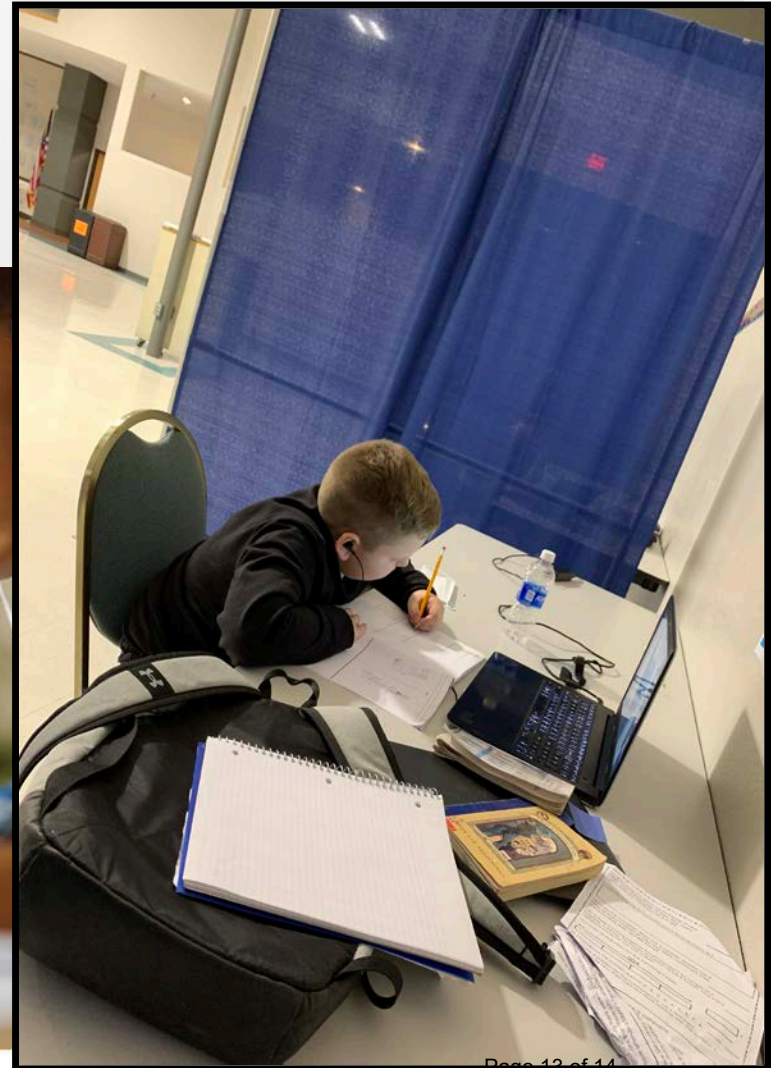
**Supervised Distance Learning with  
Structured Supplemental Activities**

**Very Limited Space**  
\*Following all OHA Guidelines

**Register Weekly by Thursday Before**

**More Information at: [www.hermistonrecreation.com](http://www.hermistonrecreation.com)**

**Sign Up Bonus: \$40 in Movie Tickets!**





# Funland

