HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting August 23, 2021

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Barron, Primmer, Spicerkuhn, Davis, Duron, and Myers. Also in attendance was City staff to include: City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Gary Luisi, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, Planning Director Clint Spencer, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The meeting was streamed live on YouTube. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

Charles Clupny, 1225 NW Sjoren Lane- stated he has been involved in all three Funland Playground builds. He, as well as many others in the community, have donated money, time, and resources to the three playgrounds and would like the Council to consider a more structural fence, instead of a decorative sponsored one, to protect the playground.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked Mr. Clupny for his years of dedication to Funland Park and to the City as a whole and agreed that the park needs to be protected.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Spicerkuhn asked to remove item A as it is a conflict of interest. Councilor Duron moved and Councilor Primmer seconded to approve Consent Agenda items B & C, to include:

B. Minutes of the August 9, 2021 work session and regular meeting
C. Committee Vacancy Announcements

Motion carried unanimously.

Items Removed from the Consent Agenda

Prior to leaving the dais, Councilor Spicerkuhn stated he had a direct conflict of interest as the Nobles have been clients of his.

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Myers seconded to approve consent agenda item A:

A. Major Partition 4N2804D Tax Lot 1100 Nobles 1180 NW Sjoren Lane

Motion carried unanimously.

July 2021 Financial Report

Councilor Spicerkuhn moved and Councilor Hardin seconded to accept the July 2021 Financial Report as presented by Finance Director Mark Krawzyck. Motion carried unanimously.

MOU- New Umatilla River Bridge

City Manager Byron Smith stated with the city continuing to grow, it is important that additional evacuation routes are created and available. The MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) would combine funding from the City of Hermiston, the City of Umatilla, and Umatilla County to develop a preliminary engineering report from Anderson Perry and Associates for a new vehicle bridge over the Umatilla River. The report will identify a preferable bridge location, cost estimates, and designs. After which, the MOU participants will work toward securing large-scale State and/or Federal funding for construction which will most likely be sometime within the next 10-20 years.

After some questions from the Councilors regarding final costs and what percentage each MOU partner would be paying for the bridge construction, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated the MOU specifically limits commitment of the three parties to only the engineering analysis, no other costs have been discussed. Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Primmer seconded to approve the Mayor signing the presented MOU. Motion carried unanimously.

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Committee Reports

Hermiston 2040 Committee: Councilor Barron stated the Committee continues outreach to encourage participation in the 2040 survey which can also be found at www.hermiston2040.com . The Committee is hoping to work with Euvalcree to help with Latino outreach efforts as Hermiston has a 44% Latino population but only make up 16% of survey participants.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding the following:

- Thanked Fair and Rodeo Boards along with the hundreds of volunteers that help make the Umatilla County Fair and Rodeo such great events
- Hermiston's population is 19,354 with the west end of Umatilla County at 40,254. Our community and surrounding area continues to grow and become more diverse as 40% of the population is Latino

Council Reports

Councilor Primmer stated the Detective Studebaker Fundraiser and Deputy Jason Post's family-run were scheduled the same day and is happy they were both well attended. Councilor Primmer thanked all those who participated and donated funds.

Manager's Report

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- Saturday's Melon Fest was a good event that was well attended
- The City is waiting on FEMA approval to begin the reconstruction of Riverfront Park, which is expected in about 30-days
- Thanked Human Resources Specialist Crystal Inners for all of her work and for pulling double duty on the City Employee Picnic while City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong was out
- City Attorney interviews are on Friday. City staff will bring a recommendation to the Council at the next meeting for Council decision
- City Hall construction continues with the completion of the elevator shaft and will continue with backfilling of the north wall
- City Fest is this Saturday at Butte Park from 3:30pm-10:00pm. This is a positive community event with many community contributions and volunteers. There are lots of adult and kids activities planned with thousands of expected participants

Recess for Executive Session

At 7:50pm Mayor Drotzmann announced the City Council of the City of Hermiston will now meet in Executive Session in the Conference Center Rotary Room for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to the review and evaluation of the employment-related performance of the City Manager. The Executive Session is held pursuant ORS 192.660 (2) (i) which allows the Council to meet in Executive Session to review and evaluate, pursuant to standards, criteria and policy directives adopted by the governing body, the employment-related performance of the chief executive officer of any public body, a public officer, employee or staff member unless the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated requests an open hearing.

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are excluded. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No final decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the

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executive session, the council will return to open session which the audience may attend. The executive session will last approximately 20 mins.

Reconvene- Consider Approval of Changes to the City Manager's Employment Contract

Mayor Drotzmann reconvened the regular meeting at 8:24pm.

City Manager Smith asked that the Council consider a motion to extend his employment contract for an additional year, to August 24, 2023.

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve the contract extension of City Manager Byron Smith for an additional year as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked City Manager Smith for doing a good job taking care of city business, managing Council Goals, handling COVID, continuing to employ strong employees, and for having another successful year.

Adjournment

There was no other City business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:26pm.

SIGNED:

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Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder

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