

# HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

Regular Meeting

December 13, 2021

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

## **Recognition- John Perkins aka Mr. Santa**

Mayor Drotzmann and Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz presented John Perkins AKA Mr. Santa with a certificate and plaque recognizing him for all the joy he has brought to the region being Santa throughout the years.

Mr. Perkins thanked the City for allowing him to be a part of the community and wished everyone Happy Holidays.

## **Introduction and Presentation- Hermiston Chamber Director Val Hoxie**

Hermiston Chamber Director Val Hoxie introduced herself and her assistant Ami Little and spoke regarding: Dining Dollars Program, future work force development, the great exposure the Chamber is receiving in their new building on HWY 395, increasing membership, and more.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked Mrs. Hoxie for the Chambers continued partnership.

## **Presentation- Hermiston School District Updates**

Hermiston School District (HSD) Assistant Superintendent Jake Bacon gave information regarding:

- Construction updates
- Staffing update for Loma Vista Elementary School
- Realignment of school boundaries due to the new elementary school and rebuild of Rocky Heights Elementary School
- Winter sports and extracurricular activities, including Christmas Concerts
- Canned food drive for Christmas Express and Winter Break

After a brief update from Chief Edmiston regarding donations received, Mayor Drotzmann thanked the HSD and every organization and person who participated in and partnered with the Christmas Express Program to provide food and gifts.

## **Presentation - FY2021-22 Financial Audit: Barnett and Moro**

Mitchell Boylan from Barnett and Moro presented the Council with the FY ending June 30, 2021 Financial Audit Report (that can be found at: [https://www.hermiston.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/finance\\_amp\\_utility\\_billing/page/3941/acf\\_r\\_fy2021\\_-\\_city\\_of\\_hermiston.pdf](https://www.hermiston.or.us/sites/default/files/fileattachments/finance_amp_utility_billing/page/3941/acf_r_fy2021_-_city_of_hermiston.pdf)).

Finance Director Mark Krawczyk stated a motion to accept the report will be presented later in the meeting.

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

Andrew Kilgore- Asked that the Council consider changing the terms on the airport ground leases from 20-years to 40 or 50 years as established in neighboring airports. He has plans to build an enclosed hangar,

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however, does not believe the 20-year ground lease is long enough for the large financial investment on his part of about \$300,000.

Jackie Linton- Thanked the Council for the improvements at the Food Pod as it is looking great. Mrs. Linton stated she recently read an article that listed Hermiston as one of the worst cities to live in and included old pictures of the city and information that there is a lot of theft and not enough police force. This bothered her greatly as Hermiston has been and is a great place to live and retire and asked that the Council consider increasing the Police Department's (PD) budget to add another three officers in order for the PD to do their job efficiently and effectively as safety and schools are priorities.

## **Consent Agenda Items**

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-D, to include:

- A. Final Plat- Legacy Phases 3 & 4 4N2802BA Tax Lot 400 E Heather Ave E Rosa Ave NE 5th St
- B. Minutes of the November 22nd Regular City Council Meeting
- C. Recommendation to the Budget Committee: Position #8, David Hanson and Position #7, Brian Misner for 3-year terms from 01/01/2022 to 12/31/2024
- D. Liquor License Application for "Off-Premises", sales for East Side Market located at 582 E. Main Street

Motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution No. 2202- Master Fee Schedule Amendment**

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan gave information regarding updating the existing monthly rental rate for "Open T-Hangars" at the Airport from \$65 per month to \$100 per month in order to keep pace with inflation and as more people want enclosed hangars. The rental rate was last raised about 20-years ago.

After some discussion, Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Myers seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2202 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution No. 2203- Authorize Grant to build the Belt Park Greenway Trail**

City Manager Smith stated this resolution would authorize the acceptance of the Oregon Community Paths program by ODOT to build the Belt Park Greenway Trail from SW 7th St to the Buttercreek Apartments at the end of W Juniper Ave.

After some discussion, Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2203 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Resolution No. 2204- Participation in the National Opioid Settlement**

City Manager Smith stated nationwide settlements have been reached to resolve all opioids litigation brought by states and local political subdivisions against the largest pharmaceutical distributors which will provide funds for abatement of the Opioids epidemic. Approving the resolution will allow the City to participate in the settlement.

After some discussion, Councilor Spicerkuhn moved and Councilor Barron seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2204 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.

**Ordinance No. 2334- An Ordinance Amending Chapter 131 of the Hermiston Municipal Code, Entitled "Graffiti."** City Manager Smith stated updating this Ordinance is part of an ongoing effort to update the municipal code.

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After some discussion, Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Richard Tovey 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 Richard Tovey read the ordinance by title only, Councilor Duron moved and Councilor Primmer seconded that Ordinance No. 2334 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption by the City Council. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Motion to Accept FY2021-22 Financial Audit**

City Manager Smith stated the Financial Audit was presented earlier in the meeting. Accepting the Financial Audit signifies that the Council has been presented with the information.

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Duron seconded to accept the FY 2021-2022 Financial Audit as presented. Councilors Hardin, Peterson, Barron, Primmer, Davis, Duron, and Myers voted in favor; Councilor Spicerkuhn voted against, stating he did not have time to read and review the audit as it was given and presented during the meeting and not prior. Motion carried 7-1.

Finance Director Mark Krawczyk stated due to the pandemic and staff shortages at Barnette and Moro, it was not possible to have the report prior to the meeting, however, he will work to include documents prior to meetings whenever possible so Council has time to review them.

## **November Financial Report**

Councilor Davis moved and Councilor Spicerkuhn seconded to accept the November Financial Report as presented by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

## **Committee Reports**

Parks and Recreation Committee- Councilor Davis stated all members were present and introductions of new members were had, as well as updates of parks, EOTEC and Parks and Recreation partnerships, and future events.

Faith-Based Advisory Committee- Councilor Duron stated the Committee heard information and updates from Martha's House. Martha's House needs 12 Sponsored Rooms and mentors for their guests.

## **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- LOC spring planning meeting, New member orientation, and announced both he and City Manager Smith are executive committee members
- Oregon Business Summit information

## **Council Reports**

Councilor Duron thanked Victory Baptist Church for allowing the City to use its building during the tree lighting ceremony on Festival Street to hold the Hermiston 2040 Open House event. The open house had great participation. Councilor Duron also thanked the Parks and Recreation Department for addressing questions on their Facebook page so people know what's going on and why.

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Councilor Peterson gave information regarding the LOC Women's Caucus and their work creating an inclusive board and bylaws. The Board will be a great opportunity to gather resources and share networks, especially by representing the east side of the state.

Councilor Barron gave information regarding the LOC People of Color Caucus stating there is great representation at LOC from the Council, Mayor and City. Boards are becoming more diversified and that is great.

## **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith spoke regarding:

- About 500 people attended the tree lighting ceremony. There is a light show every day, every hour from 5pm to 9pm
- Temporary fences have been placed at the cook shack at McKenzie Park due to a fire being set in the cook shack kitchen sink. Permanent ways to protect the cook shack are being considered
- City Hall construction updates
- Hermiston 2040 Committee Open House update and the Committee and Council will be presented with the final draft report next month
- Christmas Express Work Party

## **Adjournment**

There was no other City business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the City Council meeting at 8:54pm wishing everyone happy holidays.

SIGNED:

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Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder