

MINUTES
STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
TUESDAY, OCTOBER 2, 2018
STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS
150 W. COE AVENUE

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Stanfield City Council was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Tom McCann at the Stanfield City Council Chambers, located at 150 West Coe Avenue, Stanfield, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Mayor Tom McCann, Councilors Jack Huxoll, Jason Sperr, Del Manley, and Don Tyrrell, and Student Representative Madison Poulson. Councilors Ralph Parrish and Susan Whelan were absent. City Staff present were City Manager Blair Larsen, Police Chief Bryon Zumwalt, Public Works Director Scott Morris, Finance Director Jerry Carlson and Librarian Cecili Longhorn.

FLAG SALUTE

Mayor McCann led the audience and members of the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM SEPTEMBER 18, 2018

Mayor McCann approved the minutes for the September 18, 2018 council meeting as presented.

STANFIELD SCHOOL DISTRICT PROPOSED BOND PRESENTATION

Beth Burton, Superintendent of School District gave a presentation on a proposed school bond that will be on the ballot in May, 2019. The School District is currently paying on a bond that was passed in 1999, and will expire in June, 2019. If passed, this bond would become effective after the current bond expires. She said that the bond would pay for facilities improvements that are detailed in a needs assessment that was performed last year. She explained the School's facility needs, and the improvements that the bond would pay for. She said that the impact on property taxes would actually be less than the rate for the current bond.

The Council, Staff, and audience discussed the School District's needs and the proposed bond.

Councilors Sperr and Tyrrell moved and seconded to draft a resolution in support of the School District's proposed bond. Ayes: Huxoll, Sperr, Manley, and Tyrrell. Nays: None. Motion carried.

DISCUSSION REGARDING AN OPINION SURVEY OF CITY RESIDENTS

Mr. Larsen asked for the Council's views on a draft survey of city residents that he created to go out included in the November utility bills. He said that he had also found an inexpensive way to send out surveys via the internet for those citizens who don't use their paper utility bills.

Councilor Sperr said that the survey seemed long to him, and some questions should be removed. Cecili Longhorn suggested that a resident should be able to complete it in 5 minutes. The Council and Staff discussed surveys and survey questions.

COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

None.

OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. Larsen asked Councilors views on changing the first meeting of the month to a council work session where the Council can meet more informally, face each other rather than the audience, and discuss items of concern. Councilor Sperr said he liked the idea. Mayor McCann said it may

be more beneficial to have a work session once a quarter. Councilor Sperr said that work sessions could help the Council review goals and discuss them more often.

Councilor Tyrrell said that he was the one who instigated the second meeting, because when Pilot was coming in, it was important to get decisions made and not have to wait thirty days for the next meeting.

The Council and Staff discussed how work sessions would be conducted.

Councilors Sperr and Manley moved and seconded to make the first meeting of the month a Council work session if there is insufficient business to justify a Council meeting. Ayes: Huxoll, Sperr, and Manley. Nays: Tyrrell. Motion carried.

Mr. Larsen informed that council that the City received an economic development grant from Umatilla County to pay for the land surveying required for the Urban Growth Boundary adjustment the City is working on. He also said that he has a meeting scheduled with a group that is interested in the land that the City is working to bring in to the Urban Growth Area.

Mr. Larsen said he is looking into options for offering employees direct deposit of their payroll checks, and he asked if the Council had any concerns about that change. The consensus of the Council was that such a change would be a good idea.

Mr. Larsen said that a student at the secondary school is proposing a “tiger pantry,” a permanent box placed in Bard Park that would contain free non-perishable food items and other household supplies. Cecili Longhorn said there is something similar in Milton-Freewater. Mr. Larsen said he would check with other cities to see how these have been handled.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Tyrrell said work started on the Stage Gulch Trail.

Councilor Sperr said that the fall festival and haunted house is October 20th. He said he talked to the mayor and city administrator of Echo about more opportunities for cooperation, in order to feel out possibilities with them for sharing more staff, equipment and services. He said that Echo seemed receptive, and he would like to talk more about that as a council. He said he thinks that the tiger pantry is good idea.

Councilor Huxoll asked about the public works storage building. Mr. Morris said it is going slow, and the contractor has sixty days to get it completed. Councilor Huxoll asked when the trail is supposed to be done. Mr. Morris said November 1st is the scheduled completion date.

Councilor Sperr said he is concerned about losing Mr. Morris and Mr. Larsen. He said he thinks that joining with Echo could help keep personnel. He said he appreciates Mr. Morris’ experience and service to the community, and he wants Mr. Morris to have a raise.

Mayor McCann suggested convening the administrative committee to look at raises. He also said that he is retiring from the Sherriff’s office after 23 years.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider, Mayor Tom McCann adjourned the regular meeting of October 2, 2018 at 8:15 p.m. The next meeting was scheduled for October 16, 2018.

Respectfully Submitted,

W. Blair Larsen, City Manager/Recorder

Attest: _____
Mayor

Date of Approval: _____