

MINUTES  
STANFIELD CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, AUGUST 20, 2019  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
150 WEST COE AVENUE

CALL TO ORDER

The regular meeting of the Stanfield City Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Council President Don Tyrrell at the Stanfield City Council Chambers, located at 150 West Coe Avenue, Stanfield, Oregon.

ROLL CALL

Members present were Council President Don Tyrrell, Councilors Scott Challis (By phone), Del Manley, Susan Whelan, Jason Sperr, and Ralph Parrish. City Staff present were Finance Director Jerry Carlson, City Clerk Sandy Endicott, Police Chief Bryon Zumwalt, Public Works Director Scott Morris, and Library Director Cecili Longhorn. Mayor McCann was absent.

FLAG SALUTE

Council President Tyrrell led the audience and members of the Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM AUGUST 6, 2019

Minutes for the August 6, 2019 council meeting were unavailable for approval. They will be made available for the next council meeting.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Police/Court: Chief Zumwalt stated, as the written report shows, the department has been busy. Officer Walker will be back from medical leave at the end of August, putting the department back to full staff. The written court report was included in the council packet.

Questions or comments: None

Public Works/Building: Scott Morris reported that he got an updated price quote from Pittsburgh Tank to rehab the old water tower. The pricing is the same. We need to decide which items to do first, and let Pittsburgh Tank know. They will be in Washington in September, and they could come work on our tank at that time.

Councilor Sperr asked if Scott Morris could present a proposal at the next council meeting.

Scott said that most of the things we wanted to get started on are OSHA violations. One issue dealt with Eastern Oregon Telecom (EOT) putting cables on the ladder. We have contacted EOT and they are going to move them. This will save the city \$4,500.00. After reviewing with Jerry Carlson, Scott figures the renovations to cost \$53-\$54,000.00 which is within the budget.

Chief Zumwalt asked if we could look in to putting up remote controlled color changing lights on the tower that could be used for different holidays/occasions. Scott Morris said that we have looked in to this before, but didn't do it. Anything we put up there now will have to be taken down when we paint the tower. It just depends on how long it will take us to budget enough money to get it painted, as to whether we should put the lights on now. Since the crew will be up there working on it anyway, maybe we can go ahead and do it now. Councilor Whelan said even if it costs us a little bit of extra money to do this, she would support it. Scott Morris said that we may have enough left over from the original \$60,000.00 to cover the cost of the lights.

Finance/Administrative: Councilor Sperr reported that Councilor Challis went through the June bill list. Jerry Carlson stated that there were two extra voided checks, these are reflected on the revised copy that is attached.

Questions or comments: None.

Councilors Sperr and Parrish moved and seconded to approve the bill list for July 2019, and pay bills in the amount of \$147,461.29 as funds become available. Ayes: Challis, Manley, Sperr, Whelan, Parrish, and Tyrrell. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Councilors Sperr and Parrish moved and seconded to approve the June 2019 finance report. Ayes: Challis, Manley, Sperr, Whelan, Parrish, and Tyrrell. Nays: None. Motion carried.

Safety: None.

Library: Cecili Longhorn submitted a written report, which she recapped. It was a busy summer, the number of kids coming to summer lunch program is up by an average of 20 kids per day. The library offered 67 programs for the months of June and July, not including the summer lunch program. They had 1,800 kids participate in the programs. Ms. Longhorn reported that she received a grant to go to the Association for Small Rural Libraries conference the first week of September in Burlington Vermont. While she is gone the library will be open Tuesday – Thursday from 3-6 PM, and Friday from 10-6 PM due to staff shortage. Ms. Longhorn explained that they were planning to paint the library and redo the floors in December 2019, but full funding may not be available by then. That is now being put off until December 2020. Ms. Longhorn stated that she is already looking in to grants and fund raising ideas, as she estimates the cost to be \$30,000.00. Ms. Longhorn also reported that she has volunteered to help the City of Echo learn some new things and make some changes to their library. Sandy Endicott pointed out that Echo will be hiring a new librarian, so they will really appreciate the extra help.

Councilors Sperr and Parrish moved and seconded to approve all committee reports. Ayes: Challis, Manley, Sperr, Whelan, Parrish, and Tyrrell. Nays: None. Motion carried.

#### COMMENTS FROM THE AUDIENCE

The only audience member was Jonathan Lopez. He stated that he and his wife have a non-profit business in the area working with children with disabilities. Their learning center tutors people who need help with learning another language, learning music, or are falling behind in their education.

#### OTHER BUSINESS

Ms. Endicott reported that she informed Bryan Strasser from ODOT that we have elected to do the “road diet” as proposed during the highway 395 overlay project. Mr. Strasser forwarded that information to someone named Miriam to schedule a design meeting with the city.

Ms. Endicott also informed the council that Martha McClusky expressed her intent to petition to get the marijuana ban lifted in Stanfield. She intends to put this issue before the voters on the next election ballot. Ms. Endicott suggested that if it does go on the ballot we should have some laws in mind to regulate it, should the need arise. We don’t need to take action at this time, but at some point this might need to be addressed. Ms. Endicott stated that she just wanted the council to be aware that Ms. McClusky will be petitioning the local citizens for their support.

Jerry Carlson pointed out that some of the details for putting in a marijuana dispensary such as “must be 1,000 feet from a public facility” might be included in the ballot measure itself, supporters of the measure frequently do that to garner support.

Ms. Endicott stated that the Columbia Development Authority is going to be having a meeting on August 22<sup>nd</sup> at the Port of Umatilla. Councilor Whelan was chosen to represent the city at the meeting. Councilor Whelan stated that the last meeting was interesting, and she would recommend that our future City Manager remain involved with this group.

Jerry Carlson reported that we are in the negotiation phase of a police contract with Echo. Chief Zumwalt talked to Echo City Manager David Slaght, and he said that the agreement is on its way to being finalized. With the change in City Managers, the old agreement had expired July 1, 2019. Councilor Whelan asked if it will be renewed, Chief Zumwalt said that the contract rolls over automatically, but it will be good to have a signed updated agreement.

COMMENTS FROM THE COUNCIL

Councilor Sperr volunteered to update the city website if any of the council or employees find something that needs updated. He also stated that he would like to see us update our cover page which still reads “celebrating 100 years”.

Councilor Whelan asked Chief Zumwalt why we post criminals pictures, reports, and activities on Facebook. Is it a deterrent to crime? Chief Zumwalt stated that the only things that are posted are matters of public record. He pointed out that we use a disclaimer which states that everyone is innocent until proven guilty. Councilor Whelan said that her main concern is whether we are incurring any liability due to these postings. Chief Zumwalt stated that our website administrator was sent to social media training, so as not to create liability issues for the city.

Councilor Whelan stated that she would like to recommend removing all of the flowers and shrubbery from the highway 395 median, due to the amount of time and money required for their upkeep.

Scott Morris said the city currently spends around \$3,500.00 per year for maintaining the median, as well as the time the employees spend setting up and tearing down the cones and signs. Mr. Morris pointed out that we no longer pull the grass and weeds between the plants because the grass and weeds have gotten so thick. Now we just cut down the weeds and spray what we can. He stated that it does look good for about a month after it’s cleaned and all in bloom, but then the tumbleweeds and garbage start getting stuck in it again. We could just leave the rock and sterilize it to prevent weeds, if we choose to. Chief Zumwalt suggested that we might want to turn this over to the Public Works Committee.

Councilor Sperr recommended we do as Chief Zumwalt suggested. Have the Public Works Committee review the situation, then make a recommendation to the council. The Council concurred.

EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS §192.660 (2)(i): City Manager Recruitment

Council President Tyrrell recessed the regular meeting and opened an executive session as authorized by ORS 192.660 (2)(a) and (2) (h) to discuss City Manager recruitment, and matters relating to the 3D –Idapro lawsuit.

RECONVENE REGULAR MEETING

Council President Tyrrell re-opened the regular meeting.

Councilors Whelan and Manley motioned and seconded to offer the City Manager position to Benjamin Burgener with a salary of \$78,000.00 per year and a \$1,000.00 moving allowance, pending a background check. Ayes: Challis, Manley, Sperr, Whelan, Parrish, and Tyrrell. Nays: None. Motion carried.

ADJOURNMENT

With no other business to consider, Council President Tyrrell adjourned the regular meeting of August 20, 2019 at 7:02 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

\_\_\_\_\_  
Sandy Endicott, Interim City Manager/Recorder

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_  
Don Tyrrell, Council President

Date of Approval: \_\_\_\_\_