

City of Lowell, Oregon
Minutes of City Council Work Session and Meeting
July 7, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 10:00 AM by Mayor Paulson

Members Present: Judith Rennert, Gary Reese, Melody Knokey, Jim Burford, Mayor Paulson

Work Session: CH2M Hill update on Public Works Operations

Scott Laroque presented to the council an update on their findings so far. A few items noted were the lack of record keeping, numerous OSHA safety violations, SCADA system not being used to its full potential, also recommended extra programming at water plant. Scott responded to questions from the council, also Gary Young the Regional Director of Operations for CH2M Hill responded to the difficult staffing conditions and stated the CH2M Hill could assist the City with one more month of coverage. CH2M Hill will do a formal presentation at the July 15th CC meeting.

Recess: 10:24 AM

Back in Session: 10:37 AM

Public Comment: Andrea Larsen commented on the lack of infrastructure and the need to raise water/sewer rates. Hall O'Regan voiced concern about the new CA being influenced by individuals, and that he will be watching. Bob Burr questioned where has the money for repairs gone for Public Works? He also stated he felt the CA position should be full time. Pam Bryant commented she saw members of GLO-PAC in CA's office when she came into the office, and she feels increasing the time of the CA is unnecessary. She stated the money for repairs is still in the budget, it was not spent because of lack of time on the employees part to accomplish tasks.

New Business: 10:47 AM

1) Pro Tem City Administrator Position – Mr. William (Bill) Lee gave a brief introduction and responded to questions from the council. Discussion followed.

Councilor Reese made a motion that we enter into discussions with Mr. Lee as to whether he wishes to apply for the position of CA Pro Tem, and enter into negotiations for a contract.

Seconded by Mayor Paulson.

PASS 5:0

Mr. Lee voiced interest in the position. Employment Agreement was reviewed and discussed.

Recess: 12:22 PM

Back in Session 1:21 PM

Mayor Paulson relayed information received from the City Attorney during break. Additional changes to employment agreement made.

Mayor Paulson moved that we direct the Mayor to execute the contract with Mr. Lee, subject 1) to review by the City Attorney 2) the Mayor's determination that any changes suggested by the CA are not substantive. Seconded by Councilor Rennert.

PASS 5:0

2) Administrative Continuity Issues – Mayor Paulson moved that we authorize Joyce Donnell and Thom VonFlatern to have City Credit Cards, seconded by Councilor Reese.

PASS 5:0

Mayor Paulson moved that we direct the Mayor and Council President to review any payments needing to be made prior to next council meeting, on their approval sign them. Seconded by Councilor Reese.

PASS 5:0

Mayor Paulson move to direct the Mayor to execute the CH2M Hill contract for one more month, seconded by Councilor Knokey.

PASS 5:0

Other Business:

Councilor Burford requested to have CH2M Hill possibly take care of OSHA and DEQ problems and give an idea of cost. Mayor Paulson will discuss with them.

Adjourn: 1:50 PM

Approved: _____
Mayor Stephen Paulson