

City of Lowell, Oregon
Minutes of City Council Work Session Meeting
May 19, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 1:00 PM by Council President Judith Rennert

Members Present: Judith Rennert, Gary Reese, Melody Knokey

Members Absent: Steve Paulson, Jim Burford

Public Comment: None

Council Comments: None

New Business: 1:02 PM

1) Melissa Murphy - Infrastructure Finance Authority Regional Coordinator

CA Hamilton introduced Ms. Murphy to the council and community members in the audience. Ms. Murphy discussed the process to proceed forward in seeking financial help with improvements for the water/sewer plants and city infrastructure. She discussed grants/loans available through state, federal and the state lottery programs. She discussed how to work with other entities such as DEQ, OHA and RCAC. She recommended beginning with the Circuit Ryder - which gives 10 free hours from HBH Engineering, for formulating a priority list of needs. Then moving to a IFA One Stop, which she would coordinate in gathering all the entities together at one meeting to collaborate on what would be the best option for the City of Lowell. Ms. Murphy answered questions from the Council, CA and the audience.

Adjourn: 2:13 PM

Approved: _____


Judith Rennert - Council President

City of Lowell, Oregon
Minutes of City Council Work Session Meeting
May 14, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 12:02 PM by Mayor Paulson

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

Public Comment: None

Council Comments: None

New Business: 12:03 PM

1) Review of Economic Development Flyer

Pam Bryant gave an update on the progress of completion in regards to suggestions made by council. Discussion followed in selecting a heading for the 'values' column in flyer. Council selected three from the list provided.

2) Water and Sewer Facilities Needs

Public Comments: Idella Stinson voiced concern about the proposed exempt status for the posted superintendent position and concern about the possible rate increase for water/sewer service.

Council discussed how to get more applicants for the position. Council would like a survey of Cities with similar facilities and the salary they offer the position, also the employment status of exempt/non-exempt. CA Hamilton and Acting Superintendent Randy Cherry answered questions from the council. Council would like clarification on exempt status, and job description for the position being posted. Council also looked at proposed project list for the facilities. CA gave a brief review of the lists from last year and this current year's list. Discussion followed on how to prioritize the needs. SCADA system replacement was selected as priority now. Council would like quotes on the cost to replace or fix the generator by the next meeting. Councilor Rennert would like Randy Cherry to provide some suggestions on possible improvements that could be made to help make the water better smelling and tasting during the summer months of algae bloom. Councilor Rennert and Councilor Knokey provided some information from their RCAC seminar in Roseburg, Melissa Murphy the regional support person would like to meet on May 19, 2014 at 1 PM. Councilor Knokey will contact her and make arrangements.

Public Comments: Pam Bryant read a statement about her concerns on the hiring of a public works employee. Ken Larsen voiced concern on the exempt status for the new superintendent position. Andrea Larsen voiced concern on the compensation of the superintendent position, and condition of the Public Works Department.

Adjourn: 1:35 PM

Approved: _____

Stephen Paulson
Stephen Paulson, Mayor