

**City of Lowell, Oregon
Minutes of the City Council Meeting
April 15, 2014**

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Paulson

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

Public Comments: General 7:01 PM

Ken Larsen would like to suggest that the council promote Randy Cherry into Willy Hartwig's position in Public Works Dept.

Council Comments: 7:03 PM

Mayor Paulson explained the chain of command for the City of Lowell per code and law. He also stated the reaction from a couple of the public at the last council meeting as being inappropriate. Councilor Knokey offered to meet with the public and get to know each other.

Approval of Minutes: 7:09 PM

- **April 1, 2014 minutes are approved by consensus with minor changes.**

Approval of Expenditures: 7:11 PM

- CA Hamilton explained the new voucher directory for the Trust and Agency account and responded to questions from the council.

Councilor Reese moved to approve expenditures for April 15, 2014, Mayor Paulson seconded motion.

PASSED 5:0

Old Business: 7:19 PM

- **Ordinance No. 285 Declaring a Moratorium on Medical Marijuana Facilities, and Declaring an Emergency**

Mayor Paulson gave a brief overview of process for tonight's meeting. CA explained how this ordinance came to be, and changes still required to proceed. Mayor Paulson proceeded with the full reading of Ordinance 285. An ordinance declaring a moratorium on medical marijuana facilities, and declaring an emergency.

Mayor called a recess for City Council Meeting 7:30 PM

Public Hearing Open 7:30 PM

Public Comments: Andrea Larsen asked the Mayor if he had checked with the School District, and asked their opinion on this matter? Dan Koozer, Little Fall Creek Rd., Fall Creek, recommended the council follow the lead of surrounding cities and do nothing with the moratorium. Ken Larsen voiced concern about the effect of long term use of marijuana on the brain, as was stated in a news report today from a university study. Also concern with the need for increased security.

Public Hearing Closed 7:37 PM

City Council Meeting Reconvened 7:37 PM

- **Councilor Reese moved to take Ordinance 285 to a second reading, on a date to be determined, seconded by Councilor Rennert.**
Discussion/comments followed by councilors.
PASS 4:1, Mayor Paulson opposed
Second reading scheduled for April 22, 2014 at 6 PM
- **Economic Development/Enterprise Zone Committee Presentation Follow-Up**
Jerry Valencia, Chair of committee presented to council the pricing for Eco-Flyers and Tri-Fold pamphlets. He is requesting funds to be ear marked for Eco-Flyers and pamphlets, including hardware, at this time for \$1,600. A draft of pamphlet flyer will be sent to council and CA prior to ordering. Council suggests obtaining additional price quotes.
Public Comments: Bob Burr questioned how they will measure effectiveness and what would be advertised on the flyers? Mr. Valencia responded to questions from public and council. Council discussion followed and it was agreed that the CA has the authority to authorize money providing the prototype is approved and additional quotes are obtained. Money would come from the tourism fund.
- **Budget Calendar Amendment**
CA explained the Fire Hall will not be available for the May 21, 2014 budget meeting. Discussion followed and it will remain on May 21, 2014, to be held here at City Hall or the local Grange possibly. CA will present the employee pay and fee resolution at a later date when he has completed a draft of the budget.

New Business: 8:26 PM

- **SDC charges and water fees for out of service properties**
Councilor Reese read a statement in regards to a specific property that has been out of service for a long period of time. He would like to encourage the council to forgo/or reduce the amount of fees charged to hook water service back up to that property. He would like to encourage new buyers to make improvements in our town. He also declared a potential conflict of interest since he lives on that street. He stated that even though he could legally vote on this matter since it does not appear to be an 'Actual Conflict of Interest' he does not want there to be even a perception of impropriety on his part, and therefore he wishes to hold himself to a higher standard, and he will not participate in any decision making, nor will he vote on, this issue.
Public Comment: Jerry Valencia would like to see more flexibility to encourage improvement to property in Lowell. Mike Galvin question whether prior SDC fee's were paid?
Council discussion followed.

Reports: 8:43 PM

- **Police Report** - Oakridge PD Lowell Patrol Log provided in council packet.
- **Planning Commission Minutes for March 25, 2014** draft provided in council packet. Councilor Rennert would like the link for land use that CA was to send to all members, to be sent to councilors also.
- **Parks Committee Minutes for April 3, 2014** draft provided in council packet. Park clean up scheduled for May 3, 2014.

- **Metropolitan Planning Commission Minutes for March 6, 2014** provided in council packet.
- **Lane Area Commission on Transportation Minutes for March 12, 2014** provided in council packet.

Recess

Reconvened 8:56 PM

- **Quarterly Financial Report** - CA gave introduction to reports: Account Balances, Employee Accruals, Revenue and Expenditures. Discussion and questions for the CA from council followed.

Staff Reports: 9:16 PM


- **Picnic Shelter** - CA reported a group of volunteers have been working on the picnic shelter in Paul Fisher Park.
- **Fix Asset Report** - Council requests CA to place report in mailbox.
- **Spring Cleanup** - date set for May 3, 2014.
- **Audit Report Follow Up** - CA commented that suggestions are being implemented.
- **Public Work Staffing** - CA reported there has been no interest in the Utility Worker I position to date, with advertising in multiple places.
- **Interim City Attorney Contract** - CA stated a signed contract has been done with LCOG. Council would like CA to check on a few other attorney's fees to compare.
- **City Website** - Mayor Paulson and Councilor Knokey will be meeting tomorrow to discuss the website. CA noted Maggie Osgood will be receiving through a donation, 5 updated computers for the library.

Other Business: 9:29 PM

- Councilor Reese inquired if CA is having trouble with receiving emails again? Councilor Reese also questioned if volunteers go through a background check? CA stated at this time, no background checks are being done. CA did mention he may have locks put on the doors in the backroom that have city records that need to be secured.

Adjourn: 9:36 PM

Approved: _____


Stephen Paulson, Mayor