

**CITY OF UMATILLA
COUNCIL MEETING
AUGUST 1, 2011
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro-tem Fenton called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Pro-tem Fenton, Councilors Stokoe, Meade, Smith and Johnson.

STAFF: Manager Ward, Recorder Gettmann, Finance Director Glover and Police Chief Huxel.

MINUTES: Councilor Johnson moved to accept the minutes of the July 5, 2011 regular Council meeting as presented and was seconded by Councilor Stokoe. Roll call: Stokoe – aye; Meade – aye; Smith – aye Johnson – aye. Motion was approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Julie Picket, 1271 6th St. requested a change in the zoning code to allow them to live in their motor home at that address. They were renters and operated a marine repair center and a what not shop at the location since July 2010. They rented the property with the approval of the previous city manager but were recently advised that they were in violation of city code by using their motor home as living quarters. She claimed that the City approved a business license, building permit, water and sewer hoop-up, knowing the improvements were for a motor home. They requested a change in City policy in regard to living quarters at commercial addresses.

John Nichols reported that the lighting on South Hill was poor and he had done an inventory on the street lights that were not working. He asked that the street lights get fixed on south hill. He also commented on the 15% increase in water rates and claimed that he removed 15% of his sprinklers because he could no longer afford to water the strip of grass between Powerline Road and his property.

Karen Hutchinson-Talaski gave an update on the visitor center and announced the upcoming community activities.

Jack McWhinnie commented on the Code Improvement Board members who were not attending the meetings and noted that 2 new members were needed who would attend. Code changes were needed to improve the City. He also commented on the water rate increase. (It was noted that a certified letter would be sent to the 2 members who were not attending the meetings.)

Paul Pickett reported that before they rented the property at 1271 6th Street, the windows in the building were broken out. They were making improvements to the property and asked for consideration in changing the policy.

CONSENT AGENDA: Discussion items included the air conditioning unit replacement at the safety center, a tire storage rack that was billed to the wrong entity (city was reimbursed), paint for crosswalks, comprehensive & liability insurance, payment to Sanitary Disposal, a carpet replacement due to sewer damage and workers compensation insurance. Councilor Smith moved to approve the consent agenda which included the paid invoices and a liquor license application submitted by the new owners of Pik A Pop. Motion was seconded by Councilor Meade and unanimously approved. Roll call: Stokoe – aye; Meade – aye; Smith – aye Johnson – aye.

NEW BUSINESS: Salmon Walk 2011 Request for Funds – Manager Ward explained that the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR) requested financial support for their annual Salmon Walk. Past contributions have been \$500.00. Councilor Meade moved to approve a donation of \$500.00 to CTUIR’s annual Salmon Walk. Motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and unanimously approved. Roll call: Stokoe – aye; Meade – aye; Smith – aye Johnson – aye.

Right-of Way Issue – Bob Ward – Manager Ward explained that the home he and his wife purchased had a long standing encroachment on the Sage Street right-of-way. Encroachment included landscaping with an enclosed dog run, and sprinkler heads for the irrigation system along the edge of the grass parallel to the street. They have no plans for expansion of existing encroachment but may cut back the dog kennel, replace the wooden planter surrounded with stone and encourage the lilac bushes along the edge of the street. He asked permission from council to continue the encroachment. Councilor Smith moved to approve the request with no further extensions to be granted. Motion was seconded by Councilor Meade and unanimously approved. Roll call: Stokoe – aye; Meade – aye; Smith – aye Johnson – aye.

CORRESPONDENCE: U.S. Fish & Wildlife submitted a letter explaining their new management plans.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Mary Dedrick expressed her comments regarding Julie & Paul Pickett’s request to continue living in their motor home at 1271 6th Street. Her opinion was that if this one request was granted, it may set a precedence.

MAYOR’S MESSAGE: Mayor Pro-tem Fenton issued a reminder for the upcoming Umatilla County Fair and to vote in the September 20 election.

STAFF REPORT: Manager Ward gave an update on the Umatilla River Bridge repair plan submitted by ODOT, the community survey data, a grant application through Department of Land Conservation & Development (DLCD) for planning assistance to update the Comprehensive Plan, the Beach Access Road utilities for the Vadata project, IAMP future development of the site, participation with the Corps of Engineers for removal of vegetation in the Old Town site, attendance of Code Improvement Board members and the Chemical Depot closure.

Police Chief Huxel gave a reminder of the National Night Out celebration on Tuesday, August 2 and the Police Department’s recent LEDS audit revealed perfect compliance.

Finance Director Glover announced the date of this year’s annual audit.

COUNCIL INFORMATION & DISCUSSION: Discussion items included the Umatilla River Bridge project, the police report, traffic stops and criminal mischief.

ADJOURN: There being no further business discussion, the regular Council meeting was adjourned at 8:06 p.m.

GEORGE FENTON, MAYOR PRO-TEM

ATTEST:

Linda Gettmann, City Recorder