

**CITY OF UMATILLA  
WORKSHOP  
OCTOBER 17, 2017**

**1. MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:** Mayor Dufloth called the meeting to order at 6:17 p.m.

**2. ROLL CALL**

**PRESENT:** Councilors Ray, Roxbury, and Councilor TenEyck. For quorum purposes Mayor Dufloth declared himself a member of the body. Councilor Keith arrived at 6:24 p.m.

**ABSENT:** Councilors Torres – Medrano and Ribich.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Manager Pelleberg, Community Development Director Mabbott, and Recorder Sandoval.

**3. DISCUSSION ITEMS:**

3.1 Training – Recorder Sandoval presented “Council Decisions Part 2: Administrative Decisions” to the council. The video is part of a series of training videos from League of Oregon Cities.

3.2 Code Enforcement Updates – Mayor Dufloth asked about the Code Enforcement Board and whether it had appropriate direction. Mayor inquired about the scope of the Board and suggested the Board may be ‘scope creeping’ because they lacked specific guidelines and purpose. There are a number of concerns that has put the board in the predicament it is currently in. He hoped to see the board function in a different capacity.

Manager Pelleberg stated that he felt the Code Enforcement Board did not function well and should be phased out. He asked the present Council Members how long they were going to wait to see if the Code Board could function. He had been at the City for 5 years, and in all that time, he had yet to see it work. Pelleberg thought that the board could function as steering committee.

Community Development Director Mabbott made some observations about the Code Enforcement Board, notably that it was the only one of its kind in the state. She questioned why city would appoint a group of lay persons who were not properly trained and knew nothing about code enforcement laws would be directing our trained professional, Code Enforcement Officer. Officer Tisa Coffey has proper training and recently earned a Code Enforcement Professional certification and is qualified to write citations.

3.3 Open Discussion –

Councilor Keith brought up the City of Madras, which was at one point considered one of the ugliest cities in Oregon. He stated that city had turned the look of the city around and made a lot of their downtown green. He wanted something like that for Umatilla, the ability to change the feel and look of this small community.

Mayor Dufloth stated the need to educate people about how much time it takes to change the look of a town around. When City of Madras opened the prison, they had just begun working on their beautification project. Years later, their downtown is full of greenspaces.

Councilor TenEyck wanted to bring up the OSU Service District back for discussion. He stated that several board members from the OSU Extension Advisory Committee reached out to him and reported that Umatilla was the only community who did not give its citizens the right to vote

on the issue. He stated that our community was full of agricultural employees. The town alone had a bunch of agribusinesses operating within its city limits. Agriculture is the bread and butter of our community and he had heard at one point that 0.80¢ of each \$1.00 spent was driven because of agriculture in this region. He felt like this issue cannot be underestimated. Councilor Keith stated he loved the Extension. However, he had a problem with what they were asking for.

Councilor Roxbury stated that the only way to protect our community was to not give the voters the opportunity to see it on the ballots. Our voters would not be the deciding factor on this issue, the voters in Pendleton and Hermiston would be the ones to decide and it was not right to put that burden on our people. If someone had to decide for the voters of Umatilla, he preferred it would be this Council rather than the voters of Hermiston and Pendleton. That was the bottom line.

Mayor Dufloth stated that he likes having the right to vote and he would be concerned if someone were taking his right to vote away. Although, he didn't disagree with Councilor Roxbury.

Councilor Roxbury told Mayor Dufloth that council was not giving the voters the right to choose their own destiny. He was concerned that no matter how citizens in Umatilla voted, the voters in other cities would be making the final decision.

Councilor Dufloth challenged Councilor Roxbury to write a press release or editorial explaining the situation.

**4. ADJOURN:** Mayor Dufloth adjourned at 7:37 p.m.

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Daren Dufloth - Mayor

ATTEST:

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Nanci Sandoval – City Recorder