

**CITY OF UMATILLA
PUBLIC HEARING AND COUNCIL MEETING
DECEMBER 6, 2011
COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Lafferty called the regular Council meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Mayor Lafferty, Councilors Dedrick, Meade, Fenton, Smith and Johnson
ABSENT: Councilor Stokoe
STAFF: Manager Ward, Recorder Gettmann, Finance Director Glover, Police Chief Huxel, Public Works Director Frances and Planner Lunden

MINUTES: Councilor Fenton moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2011 regular Council meeting as presented and was seconded by Councilor Smith. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

AUDIT PRESENTATION: Krisie Shasteen of Barnett & Moro presented the annual audit report for FY 2010-2011. In conclusion, she noted that no deficiencies or non-compliance issues were found.

OPEN PUBLIC HEARING: Mayor Lafferty opened the public hearing at 7:12 to hear public testimony regarding Ordinance #766 to adopt the Inter Area Management Plan (IAMP).

Matt Hughart of Kittleson & Associates gave a presentation on the development of the I-82/US Highway 730 IAMP. He also noted a couple of minor changes to the plan document. Figure 7-6 of the plan document was amended to include long-term driveway closures. On page 116 of the document the first paragraph under IAMP Review Triggers, the following text is amended to read: Plan map and zone changes within the IAMP Management Area that have a “significant affect” pursuant to the Transportation Planning Rule (TPR), Section -0060 and impact the I-82/US 730 Interchange, or proposed actions that meet the Traffic Impact Analysis conditions within the I-82/US 730 Interchange Overlay Zone. An additional paragraph is added to read: Designation of any proposed Multi-Modal Mixed Use Area (MMA) as defined in the TRP, Section -006 that is located within the IAMP Management Area. These changes were in response to concerns raised from Al Koppamy, owner of the Crossroads Truck Stop.

Jack McWhinnie questioned trucks bypassing the Port of Entry. Response was that ancillary weigh stations would be placed on Highway 730 to help alleviate the problem.

Karen Steen thanked Matt Hughart and Teresa Penninger for the IAMP presentation.

Hasmukh Mistry commented on the excellent presentation and recommended approval.

Blake Harnes of Windwave, Inc. asked that the fiber optic utilities be considered along Highway 730, Brownell Boulevard and Munger Lane with the proposed changes.

CLOSE PUBLIC HEARING: At 8:10 p.m. the public hearing was closed and the regular Council meeting was called to order immediately thereafter.

PUBLIC COMMENT: Libby Bovent wished everyone happy holidays & thanked everyone for their patience.

Hasmukh Mistry spoke on behalf of Chamber of Commerce and asked the City to not waste money on medians.

John Nichols commented on manipulation of funding for employee health insurance, upcoming taxes and to consider the community’s financial status. He also asked the City to show recognition of shining businesses.

Karen Steen expressed her opinion that an audit meant very little and only indicates that the record keeping for the City was accurate but does not indicate whether the money was being spent on what it was supposed to be spent on.

She pointed out that over \$2,000 was being spent on coveralls which to her was a misuse of City funds and she was sure there were other expenditures that the Council should watch for. She also supported Mr. Nichols comment regarding employee health insurance benefits. The City may be saving in one area but may be spending more elsewhere. Her opinion was that the Council needed to start asking questions.

CONSENT AGENDA: Discussion items include towing of abandoned vehicles, costs of a new phone system provider and network systems, replacement of PLC batteries and labor for changing the batteries to prevent loss of programming and providing protective winter wear for public works employees, Councilor Johnson moved to accept the consent agenda which included the paid invoices and court report. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fenton and unanimously approved. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

COMMITTEE REPORTS: Transient Room Tax Committee – Mel Ray of the Transient Room Tax Committee stated that the committee has found some problems in how funds could be distributed, specifically funding for the Chamber of Commerce. The new funding guidelines don't allow the Chamber to qualify for funding of programs that do not promote tourism. He requested to have a workshop with council to help resolve the problems.

NEW BUSINESS: Resolution #06-2012 – Continuation of Hartford Deferred Compensation Program. Manager Ward explained that this was to maintain the existing optional deferred compensation program with Hartford and recommended adoption. Councilor Smith moved to adopt Resolution #06-2012 and was seconded by Councilor Dedrick. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously.

Ordinance #766 – Adoption of Inter Area Management Plan. Manager Ward reported that this plan would relocate the Port of Entry to the south while still maintaining it within the Umatilla city limits and would make the current POE site available for limited commercial development which requires updates to the Comprehensive Plan, Transportation System Plan, zoning ordinance and zoning map. Councilor Johnson moved for the first reading of Ordinance #766 to be by title only and was seconded by Councilor Smith. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously. After the first reading, Councilor Johnson moved for the second reading of Ordinance 766 by title only and was seconded by Councilor Meade. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried unanimously. After the second reading, Councilor Smith moved to adopt Ordinance #766 with the amendment noted by Matt Hughart of Kittleson & Associates. Motion was seconded by Councilor Fenton and unanimously approved. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye.

Museum Transient Room Tax Funding Request – Manager Ward explained that the Transient Room Tax committee reviewed the request and recommended approval of the requested \$1,500. Councilor Fenton moved to approve the museum's request for \$1,500 from the Transient Room Tax fund and was seconded by Councilor Smith. Roll call: Dedrick – aye; Meade – aye; Fenton – aye; Smith – aye; Johnson – aye. Motion carried by unanimous vote.

Credit Card/Debit Card Payment Options – The City had been receiving continual requests for the City to accept credit card/debit card payments for utility bills, court fines and other fees. After a brief discussion, the Council requested a report on the costs of providing the service.

PUBLIC COMMENT: John Nichols announced that December 7 was Pearl Harbor Day and asked everyone to fly their flags.

Larry Nelson expressed the museum's gratitude for granting their requested \$1,500.

Libby Bivent from the Chamber of Commerce/Visitor's center commented on the Transient Room Tax funds.

Ron Honey asked about the convenience of setting up automatic payments for utility bills. Response was that it could be set up through his bank.

Hasmukh Mistry commented on the Chamber of Commerce and the museum as being non-profit agencies and appealed to everyone to get involved by giving your ideas and suggestions to better the community. He also commented on the museum's grant request, the visitor's center and a meeting at the county courthouse for a Umatilla County fair and event center presentation.

Matt Hughart thanked everyone for the help in putting together and approving the IAMP.

Kipp Barron, a wastewater treatment plant employee read his statement regarding the wastewater treatment plant. He announced that he had no wastewater certification but reported what he considered malfunctions of the wastewater system which could cost the City more money. He thought it was the public's right to know.

MAYOR'S MESSAGE: Mayor Lafferty reported that he wanted to get a Neighborhood Watch program going, there were available funds for a bike path on Powerline Road but there was no funding available for gang prevention. He also urged everyone to buy their Christmas tree from the Umatilla Fire Department.

STAFF REPORT: Manager Ward announced vacancies on the Parks & Recreation Committee and Transient Room Tax Committee and staggering terms for the Planning Commission. He also reported on the completion of the playground equipment and planning for the sesquicentennial celebration.

COUNCIL INFORMATION & DISCUSSION: Discussion items included the Christmas tree lighting ceremony and limiting development of the Port of Entry property.

ADJOURN: With no further business discussion, the regular Council meeting was adjourned at 9:32 p.m.

PAT LAFFERTY, MAYOR

ATTEST:

Linda Gettmann, City Recorder