

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ECHO HELD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 20, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, 20 S. BONANZA, ECHO, OREGON.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Richard Winter, Jeanie Hampton, Pat Wood, Jerry Gaunt, Janie Enright, Gayle Yoder and Karl Jensen..

ABSENT: NONE

STAFF/CITY CONTRACTORS PRESENT: Diane Berry, City Administrator-Recorder; Darin Tuil, Public Works Director.

OTHERS PRESENT: Melvin Wagner.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Richard Winter called the meeting to order at 4:06 p.m. and lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: none

APPROVE MINUTES: Jeanie Hampton moved and Pat Wood seconded the motion to approve the minutes from the last council meeting. Vote: all ayes.

NUISANCES: Diane Berry said that it looks as though the William Pearce property on Bridge Street is abandoned and will end up going for back taxes. Echo's low income housing loan program has a lien against the property, but HUD has changed their rules so the property is under GEODC Board control not the cities. No heir has filed for probate and GEODC has decided not to pursue probate. The state also has lien, but verbally they say they won't pursue probate either. Since their isn't an heir of record, there is no one responsible for cleanup. We need to formally declare it a nuisance to be able to enter and cleanup the property. The vacant lot abutting the Pearce property is owned by Don Shockman. It is covered by weeds and weedy trees like Locust. Hampton moved and Jerry Gaunt seconded a motion to declare both properties a nuisance. Vote: all ayes.

RESOLUTION 430-15 SMALL CITY ALLOTMENT GRANT: This resolution having been provided to the council and posted was read by title only. Berry explained which streets were on the application for the Small City Allotment grant: Golf Course Road, part of Bonanza and part of Bridge streets. Hampton moved to approve Resolution 430-15 and Jensen seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes.

MARIJUANA: Berry said that she needed to know the direction the council wanted to go with recreational marijuana. The legislature allowed that any county and cities within that county can ban marijuana facilities if they do so by Dec. 27, 2015. However after that date the council could do a referendum and the voters would

approve or disapprove it but the city would have to pay for the election. The ordinance passed in June doesn't deal with Recreational marijuana, only medical marijuana facilities: dispensaries and growers. Berry said the cities around us and the county have placed a ban on both medical and recreational facilities. People can still grow their own per the ballot measure and can use marijuana within their homes. Berry stated that the ballot measure was defeated 52.1 to 47.9 %. The council discussed several options. Pat Wood suggested asking residents opinion via a straw ballot in the newsletter.

LIQUOR CONTROL ORDINANCE: Berry met with an OLCC representative and discussed whether or not the city can impose a fee on a temporary liquor license permit. If the city charges \$25 it can do so by just sending OLCC a note. If they want to charge more they can do so, but have to pass an ordinance. The council will think about option and discuss this further next month. Hampton moved and Yoder seconded a motion to approve the current licensees. Vote: all ayes.

POLICE REPORT: No Written Report.

GOLF COURSE: Golf Course revenues are down due to the extended hot weather, which lead to reduced play.

PUBLIC WORKS: Darin Tuil reported that there had been a great deal of tree loss this year and that they had just removed two more by the school

Income Survey Grant: Berry said that the income survey to try and prove the city qualified for a block grant has been approved along with the offer of a grant for 50% of the income survey up to \$5000. The balance will come from reserve funds. Hampton moved and Jensen seconded a motion to accept the grant. Vote: all ayes.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: a. Investments: No comments. **b. Public Works agreement:** Berry explained that this is an agreement we have had with the state for over 15 years. If there is a catastrophe in our area we will provide equipment/operators and will be reimbursed from a pool and in turn if we have a flood or catastrophe we can request help and pay a reduced fee or what insurance provides. Karl Jensen moved to renew the agreement and Jerry Gaunt seconded it.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business Yoder moved and Hampton seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:09 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard C. Winter, PhD/Mayor

Attest:

Diane Berry/City Administrator-Rec.