

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ECHO HELD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 19, 2015 AT 4:00 P.M. AT CITY HALL, 20 S. BONANZA, ECHO, OREGON.**

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

**ABSENT:** Karl Jensen

**STAFF/CITY CONTRACTORS PRESENT:** Diane Berry, City Administrator-Recorder & Darin Tuil.

**OTHERS PRESENT:** No one.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Richard Winter called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m. and lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:** none.

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

**NUISANCES:** None.

**POLICE REPORT:** Berry was directed to send a letter to Bill Elfering, Byron Zumwalt and W. Blair Larsen about the proposed county dispatch fee and the city's opposition to it especially with the county giving money to the proposed Hermiston event center. The city continues to believe the dispatch fee is double taxation as residents in towns are paying the same tax rate as those in unincorporated areas.

**ORDINANCE 372-15:** This ordinance adopts rules for Recreational Marijuana facilities and amends Ordinance 371-15 Regulating Medical Marijuana. The ordinance has been posted and copies provided to the council so it was read by title only. An error on page 2, was discussed and corrected. The second sentence should read personal use not commercial regulation. Pat Wood moved to approve the ordinance as corrected. The motion was seconded by Jeanie Hampton. Vote: all ayes.

**GOLF COURSE:** Berry and Darin Tuil reported that the mower deck on the John Deere 1435 mower is shot. A bid was provided from RDO/John Deere. Bonneys Ag Center doesn't have large enough units for our purpose Tuil reported. The new mower decks will work on our current tractor, and will also work on new tractors. As a result we can buy a new deck now and get the tractor later and transfer the deck to the new tractor. The council decided to purchase only the new deck at this

time. Wood moved to approve the purchase of the new John Deere mower deck for the John Deere 1435. The deck is \$3,787.00. Hampton seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes.

**PUBLIC WORKS:** Tuil reported there are no problems with the sewer right now and they plan to start pumping to the river in January or February. Everything has been winterized.

The LDS Work day was discussed. They accomplished a great deal. A letter of thanks and flowers were sent to them.

**INCOME SURVEY:** The proposals from Portland State University and Washington State to conduct an income survey to see if we can qualify for a Block Grant were discussed. PSU has lots of experience, is located in the state and the price will be more reasonable. Hampton moved and Jerry Gaunt seconded the motion to offer the contract to PSU. Vote: all ayes;

**Pump/Motor Well #5:** Following the power outage from the wind storm on November 17, Well #5 won't run. Power Pro Electric and PP & L did checks, but the problem wasn't with incoming power or our power service. Purswell Pump was called in to pull the pump. Purswell will report what the problem is as soon as they find out. This has been turned into the insurance company.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: a. Investments:** No comments. VFW donation: Berry reported that a title search wasn't necessary. Pioneer Title said that a "seller's packet" which includes a copy of the deed would work and they sent that to the city. The city is providing the deed and \$1 to secure the building. **Christmas:** in Echo; Businesses, the city and civic groups are working together on Christmas in Echo for the 2<sup>nd</sup> year. It will include Bazaars, two concerts and businesses will offer sales and some refreshments. The Reception will be at the winery. **City Party:** Dec. 23 at 6pm; Berry was directed to ask the museum board to attend. This can serve as the annual meeting for the All Star Historical Program. **Christmas Baskets: The City, Boosters and Kiwanis are working together again this year.** Deliveries Dec. 22 10 am. The PTA is hosting **Read-a-thon.** Hampton suggested getting results to post.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business Yoder moved Wood and seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:56 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Richard C. Winter, PhD, Mayor

Attest:

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Diane Berry/City Administrator-Rec.