

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ECHO HELD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, AUGUST 18, 2016 AT 4:00 P.M. AT THE OLD VFW HALL, 210 W. BRIDGE, ECHO, OREGON.

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

ABSENT: Gayle Yoder

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Mike Jewett, Sanitary Disposal; Shelby Dawson, Wheat Barley Pub.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Winter called the meeting to order at 4:05 p.m. and lead the council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

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

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Shelby Dawson from the Wheat and Barley Pub, discussed their closing party that will be on the evening of August 19. They won't be asking to close Dupont Street, but will be setting up benches and chairs on the sidewalk in front of their business. They want to borrow benches from the park. Berry said they could do that, but needed to pick them up and return them. She agreed.

Kiwanis Club Octoberfest: The Carol Reese and Joe Ramos of the Kiwanis Club met with Berry and Jerry Gaunt to discuss the Octoberfest they are proposing for October 22. They were asking to close part of Dupont Street for the event and beer garden. Berry said she told them they needed to come to the council meeting to get this permission. Gaunt asked if anyone from the Kiwanis Club had contacted her and told her they are not going to have the Octoberfest downtown. Berry said no that is why it is on the agenda. The Kiwanis will be having it at Echo Ridge Winery.

RESOLUTION 437-16: Mike Jewett explained the proposal to increase in garbage rates. The rate increase is 7.8% which is roughly \$1.25 a month for larger and \$.75 for smaller ones. One factor is the increasing minimum wage. Most employees earn more than minimum wage, but these employees will want corresponding wage increases. He said they also have a union they have to deal with.

Resolution 437-16 has been provided to the council and posted, so it was read by title only. Pat Wood moved and Karl Jensen seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 437-16. Vote: all ayes.

NOTICE OF ELECTION: The notice of election has been posted as provided in the Charter.

POLICE REPORT: The June report was provided.

GOLF COURSE: Berry asked if any of the council had been contacted by Dick Yoder about the golf course trail fee. They have not. Yoder protested the fee during the county fair. Berry has personally never had any complaints about this fee for use of the course by carts. There was no further discussion.

VFD at the golf course burned out and has been replaced. It runs the golf course pump.

PUBLIC WORKS: Darin Tuil said they have had to have Power Pro Electric work on the Lift Station pumps and had to order a new transducer. The old one went out and is too old to repair without costing more than a new one. They are manually running the pumps. Well #5 is running fine. They did have to change the setting to get it up to 500 gpm setting to keep up water demand.

Fife: The council discussed whether to react to the Terry Fife memo [regarding the pipeline through the land he purchased from his mother's estate] that we recently received, or to ignore it. The council had directed Berry to ignore his previous memo. The council believes our sewer pipeline, since it has been in place for over 40 years, gives the city a prescriptive easement for the line. During that period it has had no impact on the use of the property, in fact Terry Fife's mother, the original owner used the property for pasture even though the railroad still owned it at the time. The matter was discussed with part of the council wanting to continue to ignore him and part wanting to at least let him know the council and attorney had reviewed it. Jeanne Hampton moved to send a letter acknowledging receipt and stating the attorney opinion and our belief that we have a prescriptive easement/right of use. Janie Enright seconded. Vote: all ayes.

Madison Proposal. The Council reviewed the proposal from Kent and Laura Madison for the development of the Corey property north of town and south of I-84 exit 188 and a proposal to grow trees irrigated with our wastewater. They also reviewed comments about of the proposal by the city engineer Brett Moore. Moore estimates that even if the drip irrigation part of the proposal could get DEQ approval for Level D wastewater treatment, the cost would be over \$4 million dollars which is not in any way affordable for the city. Right now DEQ is saying it

must be A Level, which is a sewer plant. The council does not see any purpose in meeting with the Madison's to discuss their sewer proposal.

As for zoning and the city water, these issues will be addressed after proper applications and application fees are received. Jensen moved to direct Diane Berry to let Kent and Laura Madison know that based on advice from the city engineer's report, this project is not feasible or affordable so the city will not be using its limited resources to pursue it. Hampton seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes.

ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: a. Investments: No comments.

NEW/OLD BUSINESS: The Kiwanis dues billing was discussed. The fact the city is already paying water, sewer, power, heat and cooling for the building for meetings and the Chet's pantry was also discussed. Since the addition of the two new commercial refrigerator/freezer units, the power bill has increased drastically (over \$100 in July) the last two months. Asking the Kiwanis to provide an honorary membership for the city, with Jerry Gaunt being our liaison was discussed. Berry will continue to monitor and the power use and Gaunt will see about raising the temperature on the freezer and discuss the dues with the Kiwanis at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business Jensen moved and Gaunt seconded the motion to adjourn the meeting at 5:24 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Richard Winter, PhD/Mayor

Attest:

Diane Berry/City Administrator-Rec.