

THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ECHO HELD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, OCTOBER 20, 2018 AT 4:00 P.M. AT THE OLD VFW HALL, 210 W. BRIDGE ST., ECHO, OREGON.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Jeanie Hampton, Janie Enright, Jerry Gaunt. Karl Jensen, Tammie Williams, Robert Harris

ABSENT: Gayle Yoder

STAFF/CITY CONTRACTORS PRESENT: Diane Berry, City Administrator-Recorder, Peggy Haines,

OTHERS PRESENT: Alvin Umphres, Vera Burres, Jessie Holben. Jason Sperr, Justin Morris, Elizabeth Shinpaugh, Michelle Conlay.

CALL TO ORDER: The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and the meeting was called to order at 4:02 p.m. The sign-in sheet was passed around for those attending to sign-in.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Tammie Williams requested that the word "certified" be added to the minutes in front of "letter" on the 4th line under Approval of Minutes in the September minutes. Williams moved to approve the minutes from the September meeting as corrected. Jerry Gaunt seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes.

Public Comments: Vera Burres stated that the town is looking worse and worse and she doesn't understand how it can be brought back to the way it was when she moved here. She talked about Thielsen Street contractors leaving garbage including leaving it at Paul Ramos' house.

Piercy Design/Old Echo Service Station: Diane Berry provided the council with copies in their packets of an application from Lloyd and Lois Piercy to add four studio apartments as a new second story on the old Echo Service Station Building on Main and Dupont with commercial space below. Berry said the city's Commercial Zone code allows 100% residential use on upper and basement levels and about 40% on the ground floor. It also requires the council to review the proposed design and decide if they want to require a hearing. Janie Enright asked about the fire code for residential and commercial mix. Berry said that would be part of the building permit and plan review and not the city's permit process. The city issues a zoning permit which he would provide to the state when applying for his building permits. Karl Jensen moved and Robert Harris seconded the motion to approve the Piercy Design for the old service station and approve issuance of the zoning permit. Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION #451-18: This resolution having been discussed at the last two meetings, posted and copies provided to the council was read by title only. The rate increase will go into effect with the November 1 billing. Robert Harris moved and Williams seconded the motion to adopt Resolution 451-18.

SYSTEM DEVELOPMENT CHARGES: Berry explained that before adopting the study and the charges, the city will need to hold a public hearing. The council will also need to adopt a resolution establishing the System Development charges (SDCs). The SDCs can be less than those in the study, but not more. This was discussed. Berry said some cities have adopted incentive programs to allow lower SDCs and she will look into this. She anticipates having the public hearing in November.

POLICE REPORT: The written report was reviewed.

GOLF COURSE: Berry reported they will be turning the water off soon after Darin Tuil returns next week.

PUBLIC WORKS: Trevor has been covering, checking pumps and lagoons while Tuil has been on vacation. We continue to pay him for these hours and his accumulated vacation hours.

Karl Jensen asked about the status of grant and loan applications for the sewer project. Berry said an application for DEQ Funding was submitted this week. She explained about the various components of the application packet such as loan forgiveness and the need for other sources of interim financing. She had discussed the interim financing with Lucas Wagner of Banner Bank. If DEQ provides interim financing, loan forgiveness would not be allowed. If terms of the DEQ package are not as favorable as we anticipate, the city can decide not to sign the loan agreement and seek funding from Business Oregon.

ADMINISTRATOR'S Report: Berry said she had looked up how many checks, receipts and other posting transactions the city made in the previous fiscal year. She said the auditor was waiting for comments from the city attorney before completing the audit.

NEW BUSINESS: The Mayor said she and Berry had met with Blair Larsen and Jason Sperr from the City of Stanfield about contracting, outsourcing or service sharing with Stanfield with the upcoming retirement of Berry. Jason Sperr, Stanfield City Council, said they are concerned about losing people to the county and other cities who can pay much more than they can. He hopes that by working

together it may help us keep good people. Jensen and Justin Morris were concerned about Echo being over taken by Stanfield. The Mayor said she was not working to turn the Cougars into Tigers (school mascots).

Williams said she still has people asking the council to form a committee to look at financing, growth and the direction of the city. Karl asked Berry when she was planning on leaving. She said that it would be beyond her original goal of December 31, but probably not the year the mayor has asked her to consider. Williams said we know it will be hard to replace Berry.

Williams said she had another issue for New Business. She read from a memo: *"An inappropriate conversation was held at Echo City Hall on Tuesday, October 16, 2018 about my role as a councilman and my reputation. I was not present at this conversation. Just for the record no personal names will be mentioned except my own and my name is Tammie Williams. My concern about this inappropriate conversation at Echo City Hall is not personal. I am not here to attack anyone. As a councilman I am here to represent the community in their best interest. In saying that, the Council Meeting and the Echo City Hall should be safe places. They should be safe places for the entire community, which includes the councilmen, the city employees, the residences, the non-profit organizations, and the businesses to be able to express their ideas and concerns."*

ADJOURNMENT: There being no further business before the council Williams moved and Jensen seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:42 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Eujeana Hampton/Mayor

Attest:

Diane Berry/City Administrator-Rec.