

**THE COMMON COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF ECHO HELD A REGULAR MEETING ON THURSDAY, NOVEMBER 15, 2018 AT 4:00 P.M. AT THE OLD VFW HALL, 210 W. BRIDGE ST., ECHO, OREGON.**

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**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Jeanie Hampton, Janie Enright, Jerry Gaunt, Tammie Williams, Gayle Yoder, Robert Harris.

**ABSENT:** Karl Jensen,

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

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Randy Sperr, Alvin Umphres, Dick Yoder, Vera Burres.

**CALL TO ORDER:** The Mayor led the Pledge of Allegiance and the meeting was called to order at 4:05 p.m. The sign-in sheet was passed around for those attending to sign-in.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Berry said that regarding a public comment made in October that the Thielsen Street contractors were placing garbage in Paul Ramos' garbage can and leaving garbage in his yard and along the street, Berry said that she had contacted Paul Ramos about this complaint by Vera Burres. Ramos said he didn't have this problem.

Minutes corrections: The word "her" was repeated in front of "Williams". A motion to adopt the minutes as amended was made by Janie Enright and was seconded by Robert Harris. Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

**Public Comments:** Vera Burres complained about looks of the community, which she feels is terrible, and about trees that had been cut back near well house #1 that have grown back. She feels the town is looking terrible. She also complained about school grass piles that she feels are encouraging raccoons. She complained about the river access path, graffiti under the bridge and rocks deposited (by the river) that hinder walking and about river vegetation. She was informed that the city doesn't have jurisdiction over or maintain the river.

**RESOLUTION #452-18:** This resolution increasing golf course fees, having been posted and copies provided the council was read by title only. The resolution included an old rate for trail fees that is less than the current rate. The resolution would decrease trail fees, but increases the cart shed rental fee to \$400 per year. Enright moved to approve to Resolution 452-18 as amended so that the annual trail fee will be left as the same as the current \$250 per year. Gayle Yoder seconded the motion. Vote: all ayes. Motion carried.

**POLICE REPORT:** The written report was reviewed. The reoccurring run away listing was discussed.

**GOLF COURSE:** Randy Sperr would like to extend his contract as golf course manager by 3 years. The only proposed changes are to have the city share credit card fees, to continue the annual 3% increase to the franchise compensation and extending the contract which would expire at the end of next year. Sperr reported on the amounts he pays for credit card payments. He is primarily concerned about payments for dues and cart sheds, but is looking at options for lowering fees.

Berry suggested he check with Blair Larsen with the City of Stanfield about the credit card service they use.

Robert Harris questioned some of the language of Rand Sperr's contract. He also said he had asked for the Addendum/attachment to the contract listing equipment and has never received it. He wanted the previous contract to compare with the proposed. The contract was provided earlier. Tammie Williams wants to look over the contract to make sure it's fair to the community. Harris moved to table the contract until we form a committee. Williams seconded the motion. Vote: Williams-aye, Harris-aye. Yoder-abstain. The mayor appointed Harris, Williams, Sperr and Peggy Haines to a committee to meet with Randy Sperr about the contract.

The need for a new mower was discussed. Berry provided copies of bids. Janie Enright suggested the city apply to the Echo Benefit Board for a grant for the mower. Randy prefers a diesel mower. Janie Enright said they have found that diesel mowers work better for the cemetery too.

**ADMINISTRATOR'S Report:** Berry said Darin Tuil is at school getting credits for his water and wastewater certification. Berry provided the council with information on a program with League of Oregon Cities providing 15 hours of free legal services. This was discussed briefly.

**Housing Grant Survey:** Berry had reported earlier about receipt of a grant for Echo, Stanfield and Umatilla to have a buildable land survey and housing needs study done. The three cities met last week to discuss the project and will meet with the LCDC contractor in December.

**Trail Grant:** Berry said she had reported earlier about the westend cities and the county getting a grant to plan for a trail system from Umatilla to Echo. It is in our and the county's transportation plan to develop such a trail. She said the three cities and the county will meet in December to start this project.

**NEW BUSINESS:** Harris suggesting encouraging Vera Burres to report her concerns to the Stanfield Police code enforcement officer.

Williams said she would like to see resource sharing with Stanfield.

The mayor said that instead of having Public Works staff deliver council packets, the council needs to start picking up their council packets after 10 am the Tuesday before the meeting. There will be a short December meeting followed by the annual council/staff Christmas party.

**OLD BUSINESS:** The mayor addressed the letter from Williams provided at the October meeting about a conversation at city hall. She said that council should go through channels, such as addressing the "accused" council member or staff before bringing it up in a council meeting to give the parties a chance to respond, particularly when the issue may be based on here say. Williams indicated her source was her daughter and she trusted her. Williams doesn't feel safe

The mayor said the council needs to review the Needs and Goals list that was provided a few months ago. It was decided to look at it again in January.

Gayle Yoder asked about getting an aerial of Echo in the council chambers.

**ADJOURNMENT:** There being no further business before the council Yoder moved and Williams seconded the motion to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 4:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

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Eujeana Hampton/Mayor

Attest:

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Diane Berry/City Administrator-Rec.