



CITY OF YACHATS
PUBLIC WORKS & STREETS COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES
September 10, 2024

The regular meeting of the Parks and Commons Commission was called to order by Chair Linn West at 2:00 p.m. in the Civic Meeting Room of the Yachats Commons. Members present: Chair Linn West, Co-Chair Don Groth, Commissioner Bob Bennett, Commissioner Kevin Erdahl, Commissioner Don Phipps, and Commissioner Jim Welch; Staff: Rick McClung, Water Lead and Kimmie Jackson, Recorder
Audience: thirteen

Meeting Called to Order

Announcements & Correspondence; ODOT Project Discussion

The city manager had a conversation with an ODOT area representative and mentioned our desire to continue phase two and phase three on Highway 101, and also mentioned the desire for a crosswalk at Lori Lane, and the engineer responded back, that it was a positive thing to move forward on, and that we should take measures to contact the permits department and get the process started on an agreement. It was proposed to have a crosswalk at the corner of Prospect and the future boardwalk for pedestrian safety.

Citizens' Concerns
None.

Emergency Preparedness Committee Fair

The commission discussed the Emergency Preparedness Committee fair and correspondence with the city manager regarding phases 2 and 3 of the ODOT project on Highway 101. The commission discusses extending the 804 trail and the need for an Emergency Preparedness Committee representative at fire department meetings, which Bob supports. She highlights the public works report, noting above-average rainfall requiring strong drainage. Kimmie mentions training a new water treatment staff member, starting meter maintenance, investigating links, and refurbishing stone pump stations. She notes the importance of adequate staffing and permanently repairing an oil tank issue, as well as replacing soil and paving an area.

Battery Repair Costs, Solar Improvements, and Seismic Retrofitting

The commission discussed the high cost of battery repairs, which cost around \$15,000 each, and the improvement in solar energy components. also mentioned ongoing engineering work for East Second Street and the potential for a \$250,000 grant application. concerns were expressed about the seismic retrofitting of Rosewood and Cassia, and the possibility of rebuilding in a different location due to unstable ground;

1 also discussed the need for further exploration on ground stabilization and the potential
2 for a property deal. It was mentioned that an upcoming exercise with a team, which
3 would involve a training session on reservoir water management; and highlighted the
4 need for a list of capital improvements to enhance the side of the pipe, which would be
5 manually operated initially. This list would be used for long-term planning and to provide
6 the city with an idea of the infrastructure needed for their site.
7

8 **Project Bids, Prioritization, and Funding Discussion**

9 The commission discussed the bids for a project, mentioning that they received 40,000
10 from ODOT and a bid under 75,000; and that they might need to approach the city
11 manager for additional funds; and discussed the prioritization of street populations, with
12 37,000 needing to be covered. She mentioned that the construction on 9th Street was
13 ongoing, which is why it was listed as the lowest priority. As for the Transportation
14 System Plan grant, it was mentioned that it would be competitive this year. Lastly,
15 mentioned that they were not declaring a level one due to an alternate respect added
16 into their subscribed plan.
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18 **Implementing Tiered Rates for Utility Companies**

19 McClung proposed implementing tiered rates for utility companies, suggesting it could
20 generate significant revenue, particularly from large users. She also mentioned the
21 current system, managed by finance, has not been generating enough revenue. Kimmie
22 suggested period-based rates as a logical next step and encouraged the team to share
23 their thoughts with relevant parties. She expressed concerns about the effectiveness of
24 tiered pricing in encouraging conservation and suggested adjusting the heavy reliance
25 on base revenue to achieve a more balanced split with consumption revenue. The team
26 will continue discussions on structuring tiered pricing to meet their revenue and
27 conservation objectives.
28

29 McClung proposed a tiered rate system to raise additional revenue, including
30 eliminating free water usage for non-residents. The team discussed rate increases for
31 vacation rentals and adjusting rates for a large customer. They agreed to present tiered
32 rate options to the city manager and address utility rate concerns.
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34 **Finance Report and Street Paving Projects**

35 The team discussed the finance report, noting that it was too early to draw significant
36 conclusions due to the time of year. They also discussed the impact of annual insurance
37 payments and personnel expenses. The team agreed to review the report in more detail
38 in the next month, when beginning balances would be included. The focus for the
39 coming months was on street paving and construction projects, with the possibility of
40 additional projects in the future; discussed the process of widening a bank's entrance,
41 which would involve using a backhoe to prepare the base for the pavement, installing
42 radiators bolted into the pavement, and possibly involving a large crew. She estimated
43 the timeframe for this project to be around 3 to 4 weeks, depending on the efficiency of
44 the crew.
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Stormwater Master Plan, Public Works Standards, and Speed Enforcement

An update on the stormwater master plan review process, noting that the engineer's comments have been received and need to be addressed; discussed the progress of the public works standards, which are nearing completion and will include water retention requirements for residential and commercial properties; further discussed research into speed enforcement cameras and devices, highlighting potential revenue generation through speeding citations. Concerns were raised about the applicability of the state's statute on camera enforcement to state highways and questioned the differentiation between red light running and speed-related crashes in a traffic manual. also mentioned a trailer-based warning light system used by Junction City on a state highway, which does not issue tickets but flashes red and blue lights to indicate a violation. planned to investigate whether ODOT had approved this system's use on the highway.

Automated Systems and Traffic Control Discussion

The city's potential for implementing automated systems to capture data on speeding incidents, which could help reduce speeding in the community. also suggested the possibility of installing radar-enforced signs at the entrances to the town to psychologically slow down drivers. It was mentioned that the city had already seen a decrease in traffic due to the presence of a law enforcement officer. Bob brought up the idea of planting shrubs or trees along the flower beds to slow down traffic, which the group agreed could be a good idea but would require a budget item for the next year. Kimmie also confirmed that the police officer patrols within the city limits, including the forty mile an hour zone.

Adopting and Maintaining Fire Hydrants Project

A proposed idea of adopting a fire hydrant, a project that was previously suggested but didn't gain much traction; suggested that an individual or group could volunteer to take care of a fire hydrant, clean it up, and repaint it; also mentioned that the fire department would need to be involved in the project, particularly in terms of color coding the top of the hydrant for pressure. Bennett clarified that the idea came from South Lincoln, not the fire department, and that the responsibility would be on the owner of the hydrant. McClung to reach out to Central Lincoln to see if they had any success with the project; also mentioned that they would be starting a new newsletter and social media pages, which could be used to promote the project.

Next steps

- McClung to contact ODOT regarding approval for crosswalk at Lori Lane and rectangular rapid flashing beacon installation.
- Ekdorn to run McClung's tiered rate scenarios through the financial model and check the numbers.
- City Manager to post beginning balances in the financial reports for September.
- Public Works to proceed with street paving projects this fall.

- Phipps to continue researching speed enforcement cameras and devices, including contacting Junction City about their trailer-based warning system.
- Public Works Commission to include tree/shrub planting along streets as a CIP request for next year's budget.
- McClung to ask Central/Southwest Lincoln about the success of their "Adopt a Fire Hydrant" program.
- Public Works to provide a map of fire hydrant locations to the Commission.
- Chair/City Manager to prepare an email about the "Adopt a Fire Hydrant" project for Commission review.
- create an order sheet for merchandise with the new city logo.

1 **Meeting adjourned at 3:45pm**

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3 **Kimmie Jackson, Recorder**