



CITY OF YACHATS
PUBLIC WORKS & STREETS COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES
October 8, 2024

The regular meeting of the Public Works & Streets 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: Co-Chair Don Groth, Commissioner Bob Bennett, Commissioner Kevin Erdahl, and Commissioner Don Phipps. Absent: Commissioner Jim Welch, and Alex Cox; Staff: Rick McClung, Water Lead, and Kimmie Jackson, Recorder
Audience: 14

Meeting Called to Order

Announcements & Correspondence –

The upcoming surplus sale was announced, mentioning the item list was online.

Citizens' Concerns - None

South Tank Annex, Fire Hydrants, and Assembly Area Access

The team decided against shifting the south tank annex due to map issues but considered establishing a road for better assembly area access. Public Works reported on successful projects like water service installations and playground equipment. Concerns were raised over fire hydrant adequacy on certain streets.

Concerns were raised about fire hydrant adequacy and forest fire risks. It was suggested to defer to the fire department for hydrant locations. The team agreed to form a committee to review the hydrant map with the fire department. It was discussed installing manholes on Hanley Road; Public Works provided an update on the road paving project, stating the contract is signed and they aim to complete it this fiscal year, focusing on areas like Radar Road and Green Hill. The team agreed to update the project list with final decisions and start a new list for the next fiscal year, carrying over unfinished projects.

Engineer of Record Selection

The commission discussed selecting an Engineer of Record to be the city's go-to company for most projects, suggesting a task force to review proposals and conduct interviews. It also mentioned retiring engineers and increasing their workload, necessitating additional staff. The commission also discussed an Oregon Health Authority project inventorying lead and copper pipes in older homes, expressing concerns about the timeline and potential staffing needs.

Project Progress and Infrastructure Improvements

1 The commission discussed the progress of a project involving extra city funds and
2 successful collaboration with the city manager, council, and South Lincoln's Board; and
3 highlighted the project's potential benefits, such as eliminating phases and incorporating
4 water from hotels into the city's water supply. It was also mentioned the need for a
5 crosswalk at a specific location, which would require engineering design and additional
6 safety features; acknowledged the high cost of installing crosswalks and suggested
7 discussing the installation of a crosswalk at Prospect with ODOT due to expected
8 increased pedestrian traffic; and emphasized the need to focus on one issue at a time
9 and improve current processes before considering additional measures. It was pointed
10 out the lack of proper sidewalk divisions and the need for drivers to slow down before
11 entering the commercial district.

12 13 **Reservoir Project and Affordable Housing Discussion**

14 The commission discussed a potential reservoir project cost on Yachats River Road with
15 no previous landslides and rock fragments at 10 feet depth; proposed giving the
16 community a month to consider the project, which could include affordable housing to
17 attract grants; also mentioned a "shovel ready" project involving a flashing crosswalk and
18 affordable housing subdivision, aligning with the mayor's initiatives. The project is within
19 city limits and is identified in the report.

20
21 The Commission discussed the need for seismic retrofitting of current tanks costing
22 around \$10 million and a potential transmission line from the existing reservoir funded by
23 grants. Undergrounding power on Ocean View Drive and public input were also
24 mentioned.

25 26 **Improving Boardwalk Lighting and Pedestrian Safety**

27 The Commission discussed the need for better lighting along boardwalks and streets,
28 suggesting uniform streetlights and possibly underground power lines; the potential for
29 colored lights along pathways, and the idea of underground lighting, noting the significant
30 cost of underground power lines but its potential protection during storms. also discussed
31 several ongoing projects, including the Stormwater Master Plan, Public Works Standards,
32 and the Adopt a Hydrant project; a new form will be created to reduce the city's workload
33 by having volunteers maintain fire hydrants; it needs to be finalized regarding the format
34 and decide on equipment and paint provision. Lastly, the issue of pedestrian safety,
35 mentions a potential solution involving flashing lights, though the cost was estimated to
36 be around 30,000 for the lighting system.

37
38 the discussion continued around the goals for the pedestrian network in Yachats,
39 emphasizing the importance of providing safe and seamless pedestrian access, reducing
40 traffic congestion, and increasing property value; it was highlighted successful
41 communication with key ODOT personnel and proposed four key areas for focus,
42 including lowering speed limits to 25 mph and providing a transitional speed zone;
43 outlined the process for requesting a speed zone investigation from ODOT, which could
44 take several years, and expressed their willingness to lobby city councilors for speed limit
45 reduction. The conversation ended with the understanding that the 25 mile an hour buffer
46 zone issue was still under consideration.



1 The discussion also covered sidewalk implementation in commercial areas north of the
2 bridge, with suggesting challenges due to the mixed-use nature. The project aligns with
3 the city's 2024 goals for safe access, and parts are already in progress.

4
5 The last item discussion was around the finance reports, it was reported high street
6 project activity funded by highway tax dollars and upcoming transfers to cover previous
7 expenses, and planned to review RFP responses within an identified timeframe.

8 9 10 **Next Steps**

- McClung to submit the form to ODOT requesting a speed zone investigation for reducing speed limits to 25 mph throughout Yachats.
- McClung to contact ODOT about requirements for applying for a permit to install speed monitoring devices.
- Phipps to follow up with the City Manager on the progress of submitting the 25-mph speed reduction request to ODOT.
- McClung to get cost estimates for crosswalk installation once the permit process is signed.
- McClung to look into grant opportunities for funding crosswalk and sidewalk projects.
- Finalize the format for the Adopt-a-Hydrant program.
- Commissioners to review current City Council goals and prepare recommendations for next year's goals for discussion at the November meeting.
- McClung to task the engineer for cost estimates on undergrounding power on Ocean View Drive.
- Explore options for lighting along the boardwalk area after undergrounding the power.
- McClung and Morphis to complete and resubmit the grant application for the Ocean View Drive project by the end of the year.
- Phipps to contact the City Manager about moving forward with the 25 mph speed limit request process.
- McClung to follow up on stormwater master plan comments with engineers.
- Coordinate with the Fire Department on identifying locations for new fire hydrants.
- Phipps to obtain Phase 2 and 3 documentation from ODOT regarding sidewalk plans.

11 **The meeting adjourned at 3:45 pm**

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13 **Kimmie Jackson, Recorder**