CITY OF YACHATS

CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

March 1, 2017

Minutes

Mayor Gerald Stanley called the March 1, 2017 work session of the City Council to order at 9:30 am in Room 1 of the Yachats Commons. Council members present: Mayor Gerald Stanley, Barbara Frye, Jim Tooke, Greg Scott and Max Glenn. Staff present: City Manager Joan Davies, Water Treatment Facility Manager Rick McClung, Wastewater Facility Manger Dave Buckwald, Commons Facility Manager Leon Sterner. Audience: 28.

I. Announcements

1. March 8, 2017 regular meeting time is changed from 2:00 pm to 12:30 pm.
2. The City Council meeting structure has changed so that there is a voting session at the end of work sessions.
3. Mayor Stanley welcomed reporter Gloria Tucker from the Newport News paper.

A. Presentation: Ken Gagne on beach safety awareness project

Gagne reported:

3 lives have been lost since he started working on this project.
He has created a sign to post in State Parks.
He has met with Dennis Comfort from the State Parks Department and Brian Ho from the US Forrest Service.
The parks service has changed signage from "Watch for Sneaker Waves" to a warning sign.
He has received over 100 letters and emails from interested parties telling their stories of ocean dangers. Gagne read three letters.
His work has gotten exposure on area tv stations
He found 30 people had died in the past 10 years, two-thirds of those were under age 20, 27 occurred between November to April, and 27 were from noncoastal areas.

Mayor Stanley asked councilors for their input. Councilor Glenn noted the interest in Thor's Well of people coming to the Visitors Center. Councilor Frye asked about the fate of his sign. Councilor Tooke agreed this topic is important. Mayor Stanley stated the city will ascertain some structure with which this topic can be supported asked Gagne to return to the regular Council meeting if he had to more to say. Linda Hetzler noted Gagne can proceed with his work regardless of council action.

B. Presentation: Jim Adler/Andrea Scharf on Evans/Betz project

Mike Evans and Jerry Betz, owners of 28 acres on the south side of Yachats River Road, approached him a year ago about selling the property. Adler stated their intention is to raise the money from grants and funding organizations to purchase the parcel and donate it to the city. Adler and Scharf previously asked View the Future to partner with them in their applications. Adler and Scharf would like the city to join the effort by including their name in funding applications. Adler outlined a scenario in which the city could potentially benefit from additional water storage and could avert a cut off of water supply should something interrupt the supply line going across the bridge.

McClung supported access road idea and additional raw water storage and sedimentation basin. Manager Davies noted the project would not cost the city money and would add a park, a trail, better access to city property, and a sedimentation basin. View the Future representative Jerry added they have interest is in preserving the Marbled Murrelet habitat. View the Future has secured funding from the county for appraisals and surveys through the Lincoln County Land Legacy program.

Councilor Scott disclosed he and Nan Scott had approached the property owner about purchasing the property a year ago but no transaction was made.

Mayor Stanley stated he would like to incorporate this project into city structure so the project remains alive. Tom Lauritzen reported the Finance Committee has already included this project in future CIPs.

C. Presentation: Linda Hetzler on Visitors Center issues

1. Hetzler wanted assurance that the city will fund Robert Rubin's marketing position with the city for three years, noting that this type of work requires time to show results.
2. Hetzler wanted to bring an ongoing renewable energy symposium to Yachats both for residents and tourists. She anticipated a trial event in September 2017 with an electric car show.
3. Hetzler stated there are limitations on bringing events to Yachats because of smaller venues. She argued as the 501 Building is not adequate for larger seating, proposing instead to expand the multi-purpose room to incorporated Sterner's office and the rooms on the north side. She believed there is grant funding for this type of project. Hetzler noted current seating limitation do not allow for adequate proceeds from ticket sales to support more popular events. Hetzler also noted they could add events during the work week.

Mayor Stanley agreed there needs to be more marketing of city event venues and supported multi-year financial commitment to promotion. He argued the ending on June 30, 2017 of use of the 501 Building as an event venue is appropriate as the city wishes to explore selling the building while retaining the parking. Hetzler argued it will be difficult to sell the 501 Building for a profit and the facility could be better used for city purposes.

Frye stated the idea of having the commons be marketed as an events center needs further deliberation. Frye wanted more information on what Rubin is doing separate from Polly Plumb Productions. Glenn asked for clarification that Hetzler was posing that the 501 Building was not a good option for hosting events. Hetzler stated the building would need improvements and a multi-year commitment to be useful for events. Glenn liked the energy symposium idea. Tooke argued the design of the 501 building is not suitable for events. He noted there is urgency to make a decision about the use of the 501 as it is not generating revenues. Scott stated the current council body has not made any decisions on the building. Scott was in favor of the city getting more involved in the marketing project through Rubin. Frye saw a difference between the commons as an event center and a multi-use facility.

Council recessed for 5 minute break at 10:40

II. Work Session Discussion Topics

A. Housing development proposal – Fistera Gardens/Layne Morrill

The council discussed the handling of systems development charges for the Fistera Gardens housing project.

B. State of the City topics, participants and plans

Mayor Stanley stated he will present a general assessment followed by a statement to get residents involved with the committee process. Specific items included:

- The continued importance of the Highway 101 project (Frye)
- Water issues (Frye)
- Money-saving actions such as restructuring loans and implementing new systems (Frye)
- Review previous meeting minutes (Scott)
- Presence from the commissions (Glenn)
- Recognize commission volunteers (Frye)
- Water reservoir south of the bridge (Glenn)
- Street projects (Glenn)
- Continued negotiations with State Parks (Bob Langley)
- Care and condition of Ocean View Road (Stanley)
- Pot holes and street roughness is not a city issue and complaints should be sent to Lincoln County (McClung)
- The orange safety fence is falling at cliff (Bette Perman)
- Yachats health care clinic (Frye)
- Fistera project to be addressed by Manager Davies (Stanley)
- Housing (Glenn)
- Transportation (Perman)
- Long term water storage (Lauritzen) – Scott believed not appropriate for this meeting Frye

C. County Commissioners joint meeting on March 15 topics and plans

Not sure what part of your notes apply to this topic (bottom page 11?) – I may have put some of the items in the above list.

D. Memo of Understanding showing support for health care project

Manager Davies read the Memo of Understand into the record. The councilors discussed jurisdictional issues. Glenn stated his appreciation of the time Frye has invested in the project and believed the project would make a big difference in ensuring needs are met.

E. Measure 21-177 – Prohibits Aerial Pesticide Spraying

Peggy Speer (293 W. 3rd St.) summarized the work to get the ban of aerial pesticide spraying on the ballot and stressed the dangers of the drift from aerial spraying. She asked the Council to endorse the measure. Scott noted the city's watershed is owned by a timber company who currently have the right to spray on their property. Frye, Glenn, and Tooke supported the endorsement. Tooke suggested including the issue in the April and May newsletters. Mayor Stanley was reticent to have the city take a position.

F. Energy Project (Burkles)

Scott summarized the benefits of supporting the EiP proposed by Burkles and concluded the project should be included in a city CIP. Glenn argued this project is fits with the council's goals. Mayor Stanley stated that the council will vote on adding the EiP project to a CIP at the next council meeting.

G. Solar Eclipse – City responsibilities and participation

Scott reported he was asked by Manager Davies to attend a government meeting in Waldport with state and city representatives. The council discussed safety issues raised by having a large influx of visitors. Glenn reported the Lions Club has been approached to sell viewing glasses.

H. Council Shepherding Goals

Topic deferred to next meeting

I. Approve agenda for March 8, 2017 City Council meeting

The council approved the agenda for the March 8, 2017 meeting.

REGUALR MEETING

A. Commission and Committee Appointments

1. James Kerti, Planning Commission: Kerti stated he has lived in Yachats for 3 years and wants to be more involved. He noted his experience as a freelance web designer and basketball scout. Tooke made motion to appoint Kerti to the Planning Commission: Aye – 5; No – 0.
2. Michael Hempen, Parks and Commons Commission: Hempen stated he has lived in Yachats for 2 years but has been visiting for 10, has worked with YIPS and the Trails group, and now wants to get more involved. He noted his Bachelor's Degree is in Business. It was noted Hempen lives on Evergreen outside of the city limits, but Parks and Commons Commission allows for one non-city resident. Tooke moved to appoint Hempen to the Parks and Commons Commission: Aye – 5; No – 0.
3. Don Groth, Finance Committee: Glenn moved to appoint Don Groth to the Finance Committee: Aye – 5; No – 0.

B. Approval of Minutes

Scott moved to approve the January 9, 2017 and January 12, 2017 minutes of the City Council: Aye – 5; No – 0.

C. Friends of the Commons Insurance Coverage and Rental Income

Scott moved to approve the Friends of the Commons to keep cash income from rentals to apply to insurance coverage: Aye – 5; No – 0.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:35 pm.

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GERALD F. STANLEY, Mayor

ATTEST:

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Joan Davies, City Manager Date