



CITY OF YACHATS
PUBLIC WORKS & STREETS COMMISSION
SUMMARY MINUTES
November 12, 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, Commissioner Don Phipps, and Commissioner Jim Welch. Absent: Alex Cox
Staff: Rick McClung, Water Lead, Neal Morphis and Kimmie Jackson, Recorder
Audience: 12

Announcements & Correspondence – None

Citizens' Concerns - None

The Chair led the Public Works and Streets Commission meeting, with Don Phipps renewing his term for the next for years and himself Linn West continuing on the commission. They discussed the need for decisions on three seats due at the end of the year, with Jim Welch's participation still pending. Also mentioned was the difficulty in finding a representative from the fire department for the emergency preparedness committee. The commission is working on the contents of the Conex's and considering additional locations for assembly areas; also mentioned a plan to ask individuals with vacant lots to identify them as potential assembly areas.

Reports

Wastewater Lead Buckwald gave a brief public works report; and reported on the progress of the electricians at the main pump station, where they are installing pumps; discussed the work done by the public works department, highlighting the fire hydrant inventory, training with South Lincoln, and the completion of the lead and copper inventory; mentioned the ongoing work on the valid shelter and the removal of the escallonia wall; In the CIPs, it was noted the progress on the generator project and the issues with the control panel. Don Phipps expressed his appreciation for the tour of the wastewater and water treatment facilities. It was also mentioned that the Utility Billing Clerk would be taking over the speed situation project.

Water Lead McClung discussed the challenges of getting engineers to respond promptly and the need for additional engineers due to the high demand for projects; confirmed that they had received some responses and were considering multiple proposals; then discussed the potential site for a 1 million gallon reservoir, highlighting its positives such as height, land availability, and potential for trading. It was emphasized the site's resilience during major disasters and added that it could enable additional portable

1 housing, addressing a high need in the city. It was suggested to involve the Public Works
2 Commission and the state representative to discuss potential funding opportunities.

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4 Discussion continued around the idea of negotiating with landowners to include
5 workforce housing in their developments.

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7 The motion was made by the commission to instruct McClung to consult the city
8 manager to move forward to consult with the city manager. The vote was called and
9 passed unanimously.

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11 The commission discussed the adoption of fire hydrants, suggesting volunteers could
12 paint them. It was suggested considering the placement of fire hydrants in
13 neighborhoods and potentially creating ones to protect the city from forest fires. The
14 chair will discuss this with the fire department. Lastly, there is the need for a volunteer
15 form for liability purposes.

16 17 **Adopting Two Roads: Challenges and Consideration**

18 McClung discussed the potential challenges and considerations of adopting two roads,
19 Horizon Hill Road and Lori Lane, which are currently county-owned; highlighted the
20 drainage issues, the increased wear and tear from heavy traffic, and the need for
21 different maintenance standards. Also raised questions about the ownership of the road,
22 the maintenance of the striping, and the need for overlays. Commission members
23 agreed with their concerns and suggested that the county should continue to manage
24 the roads, as their intersection with Highway 101 would require significant engineering
25 work.

26 **Next steps**

- McClung to consult with the city manager about approaching the property owner regarding the feasibility of the 1-million-gallon reservoir site project.
- Organize a tour for Representative Gomberg and his Cabinet to discuss the potential new water facility location and funding opportunities.
- Fine-tune the Adopt a Hydrant program details and provide information to Kimmie for the e-newsletter and website.
- Buckwald to provide a map of hydrant locations for the Adopt a Hydrant program.
- Discuss potential new fire hydrant locations with the fire department chief and assistant chief.
- To further evaluate the implications of adopting Yachats River Road and Lori Lane from the county.

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

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30 **Kimmie Jackson, Recorder**