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Harrisburg City Council Minutes August 27, 2024

Mayor: Robert Duncan, Presiding
Council President: Mike Caughey, Present
Councilors Present: Kimberly Downey, Randy Klemm, Charlotte Thomas and Youth Advisor Taylor Tatum
Councilors Absent: Robert Boese (Excused) and Cindy Knox (Excused)
Staff Present: City Administrator Michele Eldridge, Finance Officer/Deputy City Recorder Cathy Nelson (via Phone) and City Recorder/Municipal Court Clerk Lori Ross
Meeting Location: Harrisburg Municipal Center Located at 354 Smith St

Mayor Robert Duncan led the Pledge of Allegiance

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL by Mayor, Robert Duncan at the hour of 6:31pm

CONCERNED CITIZEN(S) IN THE AUDIENCE: All in attendance were there for items on the agenda.

[City Recorder notes the order of the minutes does not reflect the order of the agenda due to the late arrival of Sergeant Frambes with LCSO and Chief Larson with Coburg.]

THE MATTER OF REVIEWING THE 2ND QUARTER CRIME RESULTS FOR 2024 FOR THE CITY OF HARRISBURG: Eldridge reviewed the 2nd Quarter Crime Results. Some of the highlights included:

- Property crimes numbers are at the lowest in the last three years.
- A drop in traffic violations.
- Crime report now shows that Harrisburg has YTD crime rates that are now lower than both Mill City and Millersburg.

THE MATTER OF UPDATING HMC 8.05.060, BY APPROVING ORDINANCE NO. 1004, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HARRISBURG MUNICIPAL CODE 8.05.060”: Eldridge stated this amendment updates the two conflicting chapters of the Harrisburg Municipal Code to be 14 feet above the street which matches state code.

- **Klemm motioned to approve Ordinance No. 1004, “AN ORDINANCE AMENDING HARRISBURG MUNICIPAL CODE 8.05.060 and was seconded by Downey.**
 - Caughey commented that the heights of the code are unrealistic for all areas of town noting that semi-trucks rarely travel in residential areas. Caughey further added he’s not sure what the answer is but feels it needs to be addressed. He is okay with making a change now but would like to review it later with a more realistic view.
 - Eldridge suggested bringing it back for further discussion when Scholz is in attendance.
 - *The consensus from City Council was to bring back to a future meeting for discussion.*
- **With no vote, the motion died.**

THE MATTER OF MEETING WITH A REPRESENTATIVE FROM LCSO IF ONE IS AVAILABLE: Sergeant Frambes (Arrived at 6:42pm) reviewed the stats for both June and July 2024. Some of the highlights included:

- A death investigation from natural causes. Sergeant Frambes commented that death investigations take around 6-8 hours for deputies to process.
- A rash of car break-ins on July 1st and July 2nd. Most vehicles were left unlocked. No arrests have been made.
- Warrant arrests have increased due to Eagle Park encounters. Sergeant Frambes added that several people visiting the park are just hanging in vehicles and asked that if anyone sees someone doing something suspicious, to please call the non-emergency number so they can investigate.
- LCSO is currently investigating and searching for an individual who shot a firearm in the air on the 4th of July. Sergeant Frambes added the suspect is not from the Harrisburg area.
- Eldridge thanked Sergeant Frambes for LCSO’s hard work this last quarter as it is reflected in the crime report.
- Sergeant Frambes commented on the continual issue with commercial trucks parking in the middle of the highway to visit local convenience stores adding it’s a vision problem for drivers and can cause an accident. Mayor Duncan and Downey agreed.

THE MATTER OF A PRESENTATION FROM RYAN VOGT, EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR OF THE OREGON CASCADES WEST COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (OCWCOG): Ryan Vogt approached Council and referred to Exhibit A which highlighted their achievements for 2023. Vogt informed Council that some changes will be happening between OCWCOG and the Linn County Consortium with the retirement of Peggy McGuire. The two agencies will have a single Executive Director going forward and they will try to remove some barriers the community currently experiences and make it easier to receive services. Vogt introduced JacylN Disney, the Community Economic & Development Director for OCWCOG.

- Disney stated that the CE & D’s departments best use of time is providing direct services/planning and transportation planning to agencies by helping to identify grant resources that are available. Some of the other services include:
 - Member agencies grant writing services including assisting with grant matching for the Mainstreet Revitalization Grants Program.

- Ride Line programs for non-emergency Medicare eligible citizens.
- Cascade West Business Lending Program.
- Vogt informed Council of OCWCOG's IT Services and assistance with purchasing.
- Downey asked about case workers visiting senior's homes. Vogt replied if they are Medicare eligible, yes. Vogt further commented that eligibility can be checked by phone or in person at any agency.

THE MATTER OF MEETING WITH A MEMBER REPRESENTATIVE FROM THE COBURG POLICE DEPARTMENT IF ONE IS AVAILABLE: Chief Larson (Arrived at 7:10pm) reviewed the 2nd quarter stats as shown in Exhibit A. Thomas asked about the 4th of July. Chief Larson indicated that information will be on the next quarter report. Eldridge also thanked Chief Larson with Coburg's help in keeping crime down in Harrisburg.

THE MATTER OF AUTHORIZING CITY STAFF TO CREATE AND SEND OUT AN RFP FOR MUNICIPAL CENTER AUDIO/VIDEO UPGRADES: Eldridge reviewed the staff report noting the importance of upgrading the audio system at the Municipal Center. She informed Council that \$7,500 was put aside in this fiscal year's budget to make those upgrades, but the two quotes we received were around \$45,000 requiring a formal RFP process and that Nelson has indicated we do have the funds for this upgrade.

- Nelson stated the City did receive two quotes with only a difference of \$200.
- Eldridge commented that the upgrade will help us move forward with live video meetings in the future as well as ADA requirements.
- Downey thinks the cost is high and would like to get more information from other companies.
- Thomas didn't think there was a hearing issue in the room, and felt we didn't need both a drop-down screen and projectors if the projector can project on the two existing TV's. Eldridge agreed and thought that elimination should bring the cost down.
- Klemm would like to see an itemized quote as would Downey.
- Caughey suggested asking the OCWCOG about a system and a bid.
- Downey asked for Nelson to email Council the two bids.
- Eldridge to gather more cost information and bring back to another session.

THE MATTER OF REVIEWING THE THE LOC LEGISLATIVE VOTER GUIDE IN PREPARATION FOR THE CITY COUNCIL MEETING SCHEDULED FOR SEPTEMBER 10, 2024: Eldridge reviewed the staff report and referred to the voter's guide priorities starting on page 110 of Exhibit A and asked Council to review the ballot choices.

- Thomas commented that once again most are focused on larger cities, but the choices are better than last year.
- Eldridge would like to review our ballot choices in the month of September and for us to also indicate the choices we are opposed to.

THE MATTER OF APPROVING THE CONSENT LIST: No comments or concerns.

- Klemm **motioned to approve the consent list and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 4-0.** (Yes: Klemm, Downey, Caughey and Thomas. Tatum also voted in favor. No: None.) **A motion to approve the consent list approved the following:**
 - **Minutes from the June 25, 2024 City Council Meeting**
 - **The Payment Approval Report for July 2024**
 - **Out of State Travel Costs to Allow Cathy Nelson and Caleb Smith to Attend the Annual Caselle Conference in Salt Lake City, Utah**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR VERBAL REPORT:

- Eldridge informed Council of a new subdivision that was planting artificial turf grass in place of live grass as indicated on their site plan. *The consensus from Council was the builder needs to comply with what was indicated on their approved site plan.*
- Eldridge informed Council the Fall Citizens Academy with LCSO starts in September. Downey commented that it's a fantastic program and strongly recommends attending.
- Downey asked for an update on the water treatment plant. Eldridge stated that due to the location of the North Water Plant, Linn County is processing the permit, and she believes they are close to completion. Eldridge commented that that plant needs to be operational to have Well No. 9 active in order to take other wells offline. Eldridge to update social media with progress.
- Eldridge reminded Council of the Fentanyl Forum this Thursday at 5:30pm.
- Mayor Duncan asked about the alarm at the Fire Station. Caughey commented that a private citizen assisted with repairing it.

The City Council Meeting recessed at the hour of 7:56pm to prepare for the Executive Session.

Nelson left the meeting at the hour of 7:56pm.

The City Council Executive Session began at the hour of 7:58pm. Reporter Edie Moro was in attendance.

THE MATTER OF HOLDING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(2)(H) TO CONSULT WITH COUNSEL CONCERNING THE LEGAL RIGHTS AND DUTIES OF A PUBLIC BODY WITH REGARD TO CURRENT LITIGATION OR LITIGATION LIKELY TO BE FILED

The City Council exited the Executive Session at the hour of 8:36pm and resumed the City Council Meeting.

No recommendations or discussions on the matters discussed in the Executive Session.

OTHER ITEMS:

Thomas informed Council of Eagle Mania being held on Friday, September 6th at 5pm. This year local food trucks will be available for food purchases.

Ross informed Council of the upcoming Election on November 5th and thanked Mayor Duncan, Klemm and Caughey for once again being a certified candidate for City Council.

With no further discussion, the City Council Meeting adjourned at the hour of 8:39pm

Mayor

City Recorder