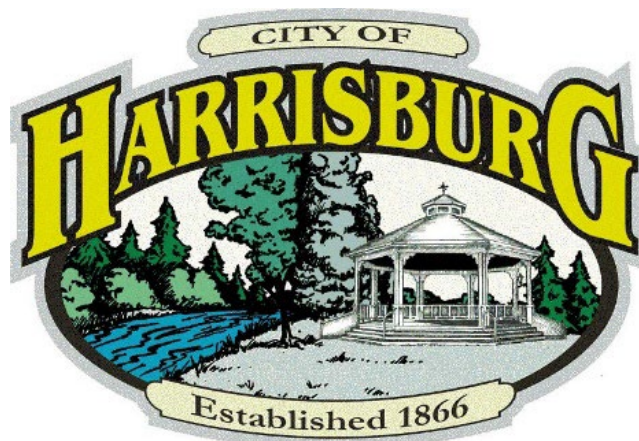


This document is supplemented by agenda packet materials, meeting materials distributed and audio recordings of the meeting and may be reviewed upon request to the City Recorder.



City Council Business Meeting Minutes January 09, 2024

Mayor: Robert Duncan, Presiding
Council President: Mike Caughey, Present
Councilors Present: Kimberly Downey, Robert Boese, Randy Klemm, and Cindy Knox
Councilors Absent: Charlotte Thomas (Excused)
Staff Present: City Administrator Michele Eldridge, Public Works Director Chuck Scholz, Finance Officer/Deputy City Recorder Cathy Nelson 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 6:32pm

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

THE MATTER OF INCREASING THE CURRENT SOLID WASTE FRANCHISE RATE FOR REPUBLIC SERVICES, TO REFLECT A 1% INCREASE TO CURRENT RATES, BASED ON THE RATE REFUSE INDEX, BY APPROVING RESOLUTION NO. 1286: Eldridge informed Council the details of this year's Clean-up Day have not been decided but mentioned the City was leaning on going with the \$6 fee, passed on to citizens, for the removal of junk.

- Downey asked for clarification of what this fee covers, and Eldridge stated the clean-up is free as usual for residents, and this additional fee would be for junk items not covered under the acceptable items list provided by Republic Services like furniture or mattresses.
- Caughey **motioned to approve Resolution No. 1286, 'A RESOLUTION APPROVING A 1% RATE INCREASE FOR SOLID WASTE MANAGEMENT SERVICES PROVIDED BY REPUBLIC SERVICES'** and was **seconded by Knox.**

- Downey asked for more information about the last meeting and was curious why it was brought back to Council.
- Knox stated that last year's request was significantly higher and 1% seemed reasonable.
- Caughey commented that things are getting better, however, there is still no consistency with pick up schedules.
- Klemm reminded Council that he voted against the increase because he feels families are getting hit hard with rising costs.
- Ken Larson, with Republic Services, gave a summary of last month's presentation. Larson noted that Harrisburg's rate increase is lower than Benton County including Corvallis and Monroe.
- **The motion passed by a vote of 3-2.** (Yes: Caughey, Knox and Downey. No: Klemm and Boese)

THE MATTER OF UPDATED INFORMATION IN RELATION TO CONTINUING THE WATER

BOND PROJECT: Eldridge reviewed the staff report which outlines the steps that have been taken this far for the continuation of the Water Bond Project. She noted that interest rates are down and with the City's A+ rating, we should be able to obtain a good loan rate if needed, commenting that Finance Officer Nelson has looked at the budget for next fiscal year and noted the budget can handle additional debt with a 3% rate increase for utilities.

Eldridge informed Council that due to the Engineer, who provided the original bid documents, no longer being employed, the City must have a new Engineer review and stamp. The City hopes to have it go to bid late spring and once we have that figure, the City can decide how to fund.

- Klemm asked if there were any prepayment penalties, and Nelson replied not for the first 10 years.
- Klemm also inquired if getting loans hinders our ability to obtain grants in the future. Nelson responded that it does not, with Eldridge adding that it is harder to obtain grant funds because the water is safe to drink and there are cities worse off than Harrisburg.
- Mayor Duncan asked about the interest rate and Nelson replied the rates are quarterly locked, but they could go up.
- Boese wanted to know what the timeline would be for starting the project after putting the project out to bid this spring. Scholz responded that the best-case scenario would be this summer.
- Klemm noted his disappointment with BABA (Build American, Buy American Act) funds and asked if we could sell the parts already purchased to qualify. Scholz commented the City could sell the parts, and repurchase American, but it would cost the City more in the end and the parts we've purchased are the best.
- Knox asked if going to bid again is costing the City more money and Scholz responded we are \$145,000 over what we have already paid but if we go with another firm, we would be looking at 20% of the total price of a project.

THE MATTER OF REVIEWING KEYWORDS IMPORTANT TO ADVOCACY FOR THE CITY OF

HARRISBURG: Eldridge referred to the keywords on page 10-11 of the agenda packet and asked if this was a complete list of words that represent our concerns.

- Scholz suggested adding City or Small City. Eldridge commented that the LOC Policy Committee only has three small cities participating and it's important for the smaller cities to step forward whenever they can.
- Downey and Klemm commented about the unhoused or homelessness.
- Mayor Duncan liked small rural cities instead of small cities.
- Klemm thought about farming and Boese liked parks or greenways.

- Caughey asked Eldridge if there was more information available on recreational immunity. Eldridge commented that it is still being reviewed in court.

THE MATTER OF APPROVING AN INTERGOVERNMENTAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN HARRISBURG SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF HARRISBURG: Eldridge stated the City has pledged to donate funds for the new playground and this agreement is to make certain the public can use the equipment. She noted section 2(c) was added to ensure the School District can add rule changes if needed. No further discussion or comments.

- **Caughey motioned to approve the IGA between the Harrisburg School District and the City of Harrisburg and was seconded by Downey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.** (Yes: Caughey, Downey, Boese, Klemm and Knox. No: None.)

THE MATTER OF REVIEWING THE TWO APPLICATION PACKETS FOR THE CITY ATTORNEY/MUNICIPAL PROSECUTION SERVICES: Eldridge informed Council the City received two proposals, one for City Prosecuting services only and one for both services. She referred to Exhibit A and B and asked Council members to submit the evaluation forms by January 17, 2024. Interviews will take place January 23rd. No further discussion or comments.

CONSENT LIST: The Consent List for December 2023 will be included in the January 23, 2024 agenda.

CITY ADMINISTRATOR VERBAL REPORT:

- Eldridge informed Council that portions of the development code will be reviewed by the Planning Commission next week and will then come to Council, January 23rd to approve the Ordinance. Changes made will assist Hayden Homes in meeting their objectives and will overall make more sense going forward.

The City Council Business Meeting recessed at the hour of 7:35pm for the HRA Board meeting.

The HRA Board meeting adjourned at the hour of 7:40pm, and City Council Business Meeting resumed at the hour of 7:41pm.

The City Council Business Meeting recessed at the hour of 7:42pm to begin the Executive Session. Reporter Edie Moro was in attendance.

THE MATTER OF HOLDING AN EXECUTIVE SESSION UNDER ORS 192.660(1)(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 and the City Council Business Meeting resumed at the hour of 7:55pm. No further discussion.

- **Downey motioned to table the Executive Session to February 13, 2024 and was seconded by Caughey. The motion passed unanimously by a vote of 5-0.** (Yes: Caughey, Downey, Klemm, Boese and Knox. No: None.)

With no further discussion, the City Council Meeting was Adjourned at the hour of 7:56pm.

Mayor

City Recorder