



# CITY COUNCIL

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## Special Town Hall Meeting Minutes November 27, 2023

Mayor Drotzmann called the special town hall meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present were Councilors Primmer, Hardin, Peterson, Barron, Duron, Linton, McCarthy, and Myers. Municipal Court Judge Bendixsen was in attendance, as well as City Staff to include: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Chief Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz, Court Administrator Jillian Viles (arrived at 6:02pm), Library Director Mark Rose, Hermiston Energy Services General Manager Nate Rivera, IT Support Specialist Tony Ficenec, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. Youth Advisors Jeannine Heredia and Yaneisy Perez were also present.

Mayor Drotzmann announced, and Councilor Duron translated that Hispanic Advisory Committee members Jessica De La Cruz and Jesse Roa were stationed in Council Chambers and the foyer area for individuals who needed Spanish translation services.

Mayor Drotzmann thanked all those in attendance stating that the City is seeking public feedback and recommendations for the City's 2024 Budget that the City has been discussing for the last six months.

### **Updating the City's Budget for 2024**

City Manager Smith presented information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding: the budget gap including Measures 5 and 50, department operations, budget review and adoption process, public outreach efforts both in person and with online surveys regarding City services, possible budget changes, and more.

### **Public Input**

Deloris Veliz, Hermiston- Asked that the City consider sending the survey out in utility bills, asked for clarification on information presented about Amazon and Public Safety Fees, stated a \$5.00 increase on garbage fees would be ideal but other increases would be hard on people.

Troy White, 785 SE Opal Court- Stated he agrees with Councilor Barron's previous comments regarding allowing Marijuana sales in the City and a Business License Fee but does not support a sales tax to the general public as the City should focus on bringing more businesses into the City as property taxes are extremely high.

Clint Elliot, 1189 E Newport Ave- Stated he moved from the westside of the state and saw what happened when more police officers were hired but had their hands tied. Mr. Elliot stated he supports the work police officers do but feels that if the City is going to hire more officers it should untie their hands.

Brian Misner, 6 SW Sunrise Court- Stated City residents already voted no on Marijuana sales in the City, however the City should allow residents to vote on gas and sales tax. As a member of the Budget Committee, he finds it troubling that no warning signs about this budget issue were given and feels that the City Council should hold someone accountable for this issue. Mr. Misner stated he feels sorry for the Police Department and their frustration on getting the help they need.

David Hanson, 1737 W Alleluia Ave- Stated the Police Department has the worst employment ratio in the area and it would be better to hire six officers instead of three to help keep the community safer. As a Budget Committee member, he believes the Committee should meet quarterly and have more oversight as they did



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not know what was going on. These are hard decisions and freezing salaries should be considered, as well as holding someone responsible. Mr. Hanson stated he supports a TRT increase and a Public Safety Fee of \$9.00 instead of \$5.00 but asked that the City negotiate with Amazon to get more money for Public Safety Funds and gave the City praise for obtaining the grants they have received.

Josh Roberts, 1709 NE 6<sup>th</sup> Place- Stated these are difficult gut-wrenching decisions but he agrees with Mr. Misner that the City should be holding someone accountable for this failure and the public should be aware of this. The COPS grant is great as we need more police officers but we also need an increase that is well thought out, has everyone paying a fair share, and make sure this doesn't happen again. Mr. Roberts thanked the City for this public process.

Kena West, 690 W Sandpiper Ave- Stated residents should not have to pay additional fees or be responsible for the deficit. The City should make cuts everywhere as every penny matters. The additional fees will not fix the homelessness problems in the City that make it impossible go to the Library. Mrs. West stated she does not support any fees as there are no direct benefits.

Jose Garcia, 440 SW 11<sup>th</sup> St- Stated the City is losing revenue from the Latino Entertainment Business to Tri-Cities because the event prices at EOTEC are too high. High school graduations should be hosted in the City as the City is losing money to Tri-Cities when these events are held out of town. Mr. Garcia stated he has great respect for the Police Department and thinks each officer should give at least 10 citations per shift they work as he witnesses a lot of speeding.

Ann Minton- emailed comment attached.

Stacy Stanek, 330 SE Carter Drive- Stated Planning Fees should be tied to inflation and updated frequently, and although she does not want to pay additional fees, she will if this is what the City needs; however, the City should ask for a \$10.00 per month in Public Safety Fees instead of \$5.00 if that is what the City wants.

Kari Christiansen, 470 Christiansen Loop- Stated although she lives out of City limits she does own a business in City limits so this will impact her as well. Mrs. Christiansen stated the Police Department is great and does support additional fundings for them. The City should also reconsider the Gettman Road Project as it would be spending funds on something that is unnecessary and encouraged the Council to speak with her about this project.

Karyn Jones, 1010 W highland Ave- Asked if she could submit written public comment before a decision is reached in January and expressed support and gratitude to and for the Police Department.

Councilor McCarthy stated he received input from a member of the Downtown District who shared her concern regarding the proposed \$250.00 per year Business License Fee stating the City should reconsider this this fee as it could bring hardships to the Downtown Districts businesses who already pay fees to their organization, possible fees to the Chamber of Commerce if they are members, and would discourage businesses development in the City, as well as businesses possibly having to let go of staff. If a fee is required, the City should look into Business Fees that the City of Pendleton charges.



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## Special Town Hall Meeting Minutes November 27, 2023

City Manager Smith gave information regarding the online budget survey with results being gathered and shared at the January 8<sup>th</sup> meeting where the public can give additional comments and feedback to the Council before the Council is asked to make a budget decision.

After additional comments and questions from the Council, the Council thanked the public for attending and participating, encouraged the public to continue to participate stating all comments will be taken into consideration when making this very difficult decision.

### **Adjournment**

Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the Special Town Hall meeting at 6:59pm and stated the Council will take a short recess before starting the regular council meeting.



SIGNED: \_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Primmer, Council President

ATTEST:

\_\_\_\_\_  
Lilly Alarcon-Strong, CMC, City Recorder



## Why are we here?

- FY 2023-24 General Fund Budget Gap
- Gap has been building due to property tax limitations (Measures 5 (early 90's) and 50 (late 90's))
- Utilized One-Time Federal \$\$ (ARPA) to Delay This Discussion



## Why are we here?

- General Fund Departments
  - Administration
  - Finance
  - Police
  - Library
  - Parks and Recreation
  - Planning
  - Court
- Enterprise Funds
  - Water
  - Sewer
  - Streets
  - Electric
  - Information Technology
  - EOTEC



## Process

- Budget Adopted – June 2023
- Department/Revenue Review Started – June 2023
- Completed Review – November 2023
- Town Hall Discussion – November 27, 2023
  - Including an online survey
- Report to Council/Get Direction (January)



## Desired Service Levels

- Various Public Outreach Efforts
  - **2040 Vision Report**
  - **2019 Phone Survey**
  - **2023 Online Survey**
- All showed varied levels of satisfaction for current services
- One showed some willingness to pay for increased police services (ie. more officers)



## FY2023-24 Budget

### REVENUES

	Adopted FY24-B	Status Quo Budget*
Property Taxes	\$ 7,425,990	\$ 7,425,990
From Other Agencies	1,122,501	1,122,501
Service Charges	2,181,400	2,181,400
Trasf From	2,498,035	2,498,035
Lic & Franchises	1,468,300	1,468,300
Cash Fwd	951,685	951,685
Fines/Penalties	400,000	400,000
Misc Revenue	65,000	65,000
Interest	70,000	70,000
Non-Rev Receipts	723,000	50,000
	<b>\$ 16,905,911</b>	<b>\$ 16,232,911</b>

#### \*Changes from Adopted Budget

- Removes the Loan Proceeds (\$673,000)
- Restores Funding for PT Library Positions (\$100,000)
- Restores Funding for Recreation Coord. Position (\$96,000)
- Restores Council Budget (\$55,000)

### EXPENSES

Personnel Costs	\$ 11,299,862	\$ 11,550,352
Mat'ls/Svcs	3,520,428	3,520,428
Transfers	1,479,520	1,479,520
Debt Svc	460,825	460,825
Capital Outlay	92,000	71,500
Contingency	53,276	53,276
	<b>\$ 16,905,911</b>	<b>\$ 17,135,901</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>-902,990</b>

#### Possible Addition

- \$370,000 for Three New Officers



## Additional Cuts

- Cut Street Funding
- Various Materials and Services Cuts



## Possible Revenues

- Increase Transient Room Tax (TRT) Rate
- Utility Fees (Police, Parks and Recreation, etc.)
- Increase Planning and Zoning Fees
- Franchise Fee on Water/Sewer
- Business License Fee
- Local Sales Tax (exempting all food/prescription drug sales)



## Possible Revenues

- Local Fuel Tax
- Marijuana Tax
- Local Option Property Tax Levies
- Payroll Tax



## Recommendation

- Cuts
  - **Street Maintenance (+\$340,000)**
  - **Materials/Services (+\$150,000)**





## Recommendation

### • Revenues

- **Planning Department Fees (+\$80,000)**
- **Transient Room Tax 1% Increase (+\$100,000)**
- **Business License Fee (+\$100,000)**
- **Public Safety Fee (\$5/month) (+\$360,000)**
- **COPS Grant (+125,000)**



## Recommendation Impact

REVENUES	Adopted	Recommended
	FY24-B	Budget*
Property Taxes	\$ 7,425,990	\$ 7,425,990
From Other Agencies	1,122,501	1,247,501
Service Charges	2,181,400	2,821,400
Tranf From	2,498,035	2,498,035
Lic & Franchises	1,468,300	1,468,300
Cash Fwd	951,685	951,685
Fines/Penalties	400,000	400,000
Misc Revenue	65,000	65,000
Interest	70,000	70,000
Non-Rev Receipts	723,000	50,000
	<b>\$ 16,905,911</b>	<b>\$ 16,997,911</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Personnel Costs	\$ 11,299,862	\$ 11,729,862
Mat'ls/Svcs	3,520,428	3,372,154
Transfers	1,479,520	1,138,520
Debt Svc	460,825	460,825
Capital Outlay	92,000	71,500
Contingency	53,276	53,276
	<b>\$ 16,905,911</b>	<b>\$ 16,827,137</b>
	<b>0</b>	<b>170,774</b>

#### \*Changes from Adopted Budget

- Removes the Loan Proceeds (\$673,000)
- Restores Funding for PT Library Positions (\$100,000)
- Restores Funding for Recreation Coord. Position (\$96,000)
- Restores Council Budget (\$55,000)

#### \*Additional Recommended Changes

- Staff Recommended Cuts in Non-Staff Areas (\$150,000)
- Leave 90% of Franchise Fees in General Fund (\$340,000)
- Planning Dept. Fee Update (\$80,000)
- Transient Room Tax (TRT) 1% Increase (\$100,000)
- Business License Fee (\$250) -- (\$100,000)
- Public Safety Fee (\$5/month) -- (\$360,000)
- COPS Grant Funding (\$125,000)



# Forecast Assumptions

## \*Changes from Adopted Budget

- Removes the Loan Proceeds (\$673,000)
- Restores Funding for PT Library Positions (\$100,000)
- Restores Funding for Recreation Coord. Position (\$96,000)
- Restores Council Budget (\$55,000)
- Adds Funding for Three New Patrol Officer Positions (\$370,000)

## \*Additional Recommended Changes

- Staff Recommended Cuts in Non-Staff Areas (\$150,000)
- Leave 90% of Franchise Fees in General Fund (\$340,000)
- Planning Dept. Fee Update (\$80,000)
- Transient Room Tax (TRT) 1% Increase (\$100,000)
- Business License Fee (\$250) - (\$100,000)
- Public Safety Fee (\$5/month) - (\$360,000)
- COPS Grant Funding (\$125,000)

## †Projection Assumptions

### Revenues

- Property Taxes - 5.5% annual growth based on past five years
- From Other Agencies - 1% annual growth
- Service Charges - 4.5% annual growth based on past five years
- Transfers From - 3% annual growth
- Licenses and Franchises - 3% plus projected Amazon Growth
- Cash Forward - Decreasing as needed
- Fines and Penalties - Best estimate on returning of A Misd. and full PD staffing with 1% growth
- Misc. Revenue - Conservative estimate, Historically no pattern
- Interest - Conservative estimate with unknown interest rate climate
- Non-Revenue Receipts - Conservative, Historically no pattern

### Expenses

- Personnel Costs - 5% annual growth
- Materials and Services - 5% annual growth
- Transfers - 3% annual growth
- Debt Service - Steady
- Capital Outlay - Small growth
- Contingency - Steady



# Recommendation + Forecast

REVENUES	Adopted FY24-B	Recommended Budget†	FY25-P	FY26-P	Projected† FY27-P	FY28-P	FY29-P
Property Taxes	\$ 7,425,990	\$ 7,425,990	\$ 7,894,419	\$ 8,265,313	\$ 8,719,905	\$ 9,199,499	\$ 9,705,472
From Other Agencies	1,122,501	1,247,501	1,259,976	1,272,576	1,160,302	1,171,905	1,183,624
Service Charges	2,181,400	2,721,400	2,843,863	2,971,837	3,105,569	3,245,320	3,391,360
Transf From	2,498,035	2,598,035	2,675,976	2,756,255	2,838,943	2,924,111	3,011,835
Lic & Franchises	1,468,300	1,808,300	1,962,549	2,241,051	2,830,693	3,593,921	4,487,678
Cash Fwd	951,685	951,685	600,000	415,000	200,000	-	-
Fines/Penalties	400,000	275,000	350,000	353,500	357,035	360,605	364,211
Misc Revenue	65,000	65,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000	100,000
Interest	70,000	70,000	70,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
Non-Rev Receipts	723,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000	50,000
	\$ 16,905,911	\$ 17,212,911	\$ 17,746,784	\$ 18,475,531	\$ 19,412,447	\$ 20,695,361	\$ 22,344,179
EXPENSES							
Personnel Costs	\$ 11,299,862	\$ 11,729,862	\$ 12,316,355	\$ 12,932,173	\$ 13,578,781	\$ 14,257,721	\$ 14,970,607
Matls/Svcs	3,520,428	3,372,154	3,540,782	3,717,600	3,903,690	4,098,874	4,303,818
Transfers	1,479,520	1,138,520	1,173,706	1,208,917	1,245,184	1,282,540	1,321,016
Debt Svc	460,825	460,825	460,825	460,825	460,825	460,825	460,825
Capital Outlay	92,000	71,500	100,000	100,000	125,000	125,000	125,000
Contingency	53,276	266,776	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000	55,000
	\$ 16,905,911	\$ 17,042,137	\$ 17,846,647	\$ 18,474,714	\$ 19,368,481	\$ 20,279,960	\$ 21,236,266
		170,774	100,136	817	43,964	415,402	1,107,913





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# Comments/ Questions?

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*Where Life is Sweet™*

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**From:** Ann Minton <annm1405@gmail.com >  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2023 5:38 PM  
**To:** City of Hermiston Meetings  
**Subject:** Hermiston City Townhall meeting - question

You don't often get email from annm1405@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] - STOP and VERIFY - This message came from outside of the City of Hermiston**

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Ann Minton

895 SW 7<sup>th</sup> Street Hermiston,

Below are my concerns about the addition of a safety fee for Hermiston. I do not support this

- How is this fee assessed? Monthly bill?
- Shouldn't the public vote on a new tax. Or because you labeled it a fee it doesn't fall under the same laws as a new tax.
- If we don't get to vote on it, then what prevents the city from arbitrarily raising it five dollars this year \$10 next year in three years were up to \$50 safety fee
- What additional value can you provide for me as a citizen to back the justification of a safety fee?
- What other counties have initiated the safety fee? I see that Thurston county. Washington initiated a safety tax, but that was brought to the public as a vote .
- The City is like a business. There are costs, bills, etc that need to be paid. Why are The City's poor spending choices suddenly my problem. \$1 million in the red is a significant amount. Were there not any warning flags along the way? As a citizen if I start to run in the red, do I get to reach out to the general population and ask for a fee or a tax to get me through?

Sent from [Mail](#) for Windows



# CITY COUNCIL

## Regular Meeting Minutes November 27, 2023

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:04pm. Present were Councilors Primmer, Hardin, Peterson, Barron, Duron, Linton, McCarthy, and Myers. City Staff in attendance included: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Finance Director Mark Krawczyk, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Chief Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Parks and Recreation Director Brandon Artz, Court Administrator Jillian Viles, Hermiston Energy Services General Manager Nate Rivera, IT Support Specialist Tony Ficene, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. Youth Advisors Jeannine Heredia and Yaneisy Perez were also present. The pledge of allegiance was given.

### **Presentation- H2OEO Water for Eastern Oregon**

Michael Graham gave information (PowerPoint Presentation attached) regarding groundwater contamination in our region. H2OEO is a group formed by businesses and individuals in the area concerned with addressing the groundwater quality in our region.

### **Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items**

Kenzie Maloy, 1348 E Main St- Stated she is a longtime City resident, graduating from Hermiston High School, and a health and wellness provider in Hermiston and presented information (handout attached) regarding health impacts from 5G towers.

Jill Litzsinger- emailed comment attached.

Troy White, 785 SE Opal Court- Asked that the City give other business owners tax breaks, like they do with Amazon, to develop in the Urban Growth Boundaries.

### **Consent Agenda Items**

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-E to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Committee Appointment Confirmation of Nicole Westing for: Airport Advisory Committee Position #2- term ending 10/31/2026
- C. Committee Appointment confirmation of Jesse McCormach for: Airport Advisory Committee Position #5- remaining term ending 10/31/2025
- D. Minutes of the November 13th City Council Work Session and Regular Meeting
- E. Initiate annexation and comprehensive plan map amendment proceedings 4N2813 TL 200 & 500 - 1295 SE 10th St

Motion carried unanimously.

### **October 2023 Financial Report**

Councilor McCarthy moved and Councilor Myers seconded to accept the October Financial Report as presented by Finance Director Mark Krawczyk. Motion carried unanimously.

### **Committee Reports**

Hispanic Advisory Committee- Councilor Duron stated the Committee heard many presentations including one from City Manager Smith regarding the Budget and asked that Committee members consider translating for tonight's meeting, Energy Trust, and more. There were questions regarding EOTEC's rates which were answered by displaying the rate schedule found on the City's website.



# CITY COUNCIL

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## Regular Meeting Minutes November 27, 2023

Stepping Stones Alliance/PATH Project (not a City Committee)- Mayor Drotzmann gave information regarding Stepping Stones Open House on December 7<sup>th</sup>, Board Member changes, Marlette Homes building accessible units for those with disabilities, and thanked those involved in these resources to provide for those in need.

Councilor Duron also encouraged the public to visit Stepping Stones Alliance's website for more information.

### **Mayor's Report**

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- Thanked Council President Primmer for running the last meeting in his absence and for covering the upcoming meeting as he will be attending the Oregon Business Summit.
- His participation in the Community Thanksgiving Fellowship Dinner where he and many other volunteers delivered and served meals to those in need or those who just didn't want to be alone. This is a great organization who will also be providing a meal on Christmas.

### **Council Reports**

Councilor Primmer thanked EOTEC staff as he received many great compliments regarding the EOTEC facility and staff from the organizers and attendees of the Oregon State Interoperability Council who meet annually with different government agencies and private communication businesses to coordinate statewide emergency communication planning. Agencies from Umatilla and Morrow Counties were in attendance, as well as the FBI, National Guard, cell phone companies, and more.

Councilor McCarthy spoke regarding Thursday's Tree Lighting and Festival of Trees events.

Mayor Drotzmann encouraged the community to shop local this holiday season and throughout the year.

### **Youth Advisory Report**

Yaneisy Perez stated she and others will be volunteering at the Festival of Trees.

Jeannine Heredia gave information regarding the High School canned food drive and Posada Celebration on December 8<sup>th</sup>.

### **City Manager's Report**

City Manager Smith stated he had nothing new to share that hasn't already been mentioned besides stating that participation at the Festival of Lights is by donation.

### **Recess for Executive Session**

At 8:21pm Council President Primmer announced the City Council of the City of Hermiston will now meet in Executive Session in the Executive Session Room for the purpose of discussing matters pertaining to negotiating real property transactions. The Executive Session is held pursuant ORS 192.660 (2) (e) which allows the Council to meet in Executive Session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the Council to negotiate real property transactions.



*Where Life is Sweet*

## CITY COUNCIL

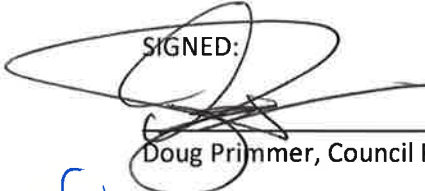
Regular Meeting Minutes  
November 27, 2023

Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are excluded. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No final decision may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, the council will return to open session which the audience may attend. The executive session will last approximately 30 mins.

### Reconvene and Adjournment

Mayor Drotzmann reconvened and adjourned the City Council meeting at 9:02pm as there was no other City business.



SIGNED:  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Doug Primmer, Council President

ATTEST:

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Lilly Alarcon-Stroug, CMC, City Recorder



WATER FOR EASTERN OREGON

## What's the Problem?

- Some domestic wells have elevated levels of nitrates
  - OHA found about 20% of tests on 1,000 wells returned over 10 mg/L
  - Estimated 3,500-4,500 domestic wells in LUBGWMA
- Solutions are complex
  - Nitrate sources include agriculture, livestock, water reuse, failing septic tanks, shallow wells, etc.
  - Geology and hydrology of Basin are not well understood
- Unclear chain of responsibility
  - Lack of coordination over 30 years to study and address nitrates
  - State and federal regulations do not apply to individual wells, and owners are ultimately responsible for their own wells



## Who's Who in Lower Umatilla Basin



- **LUBGWMA:** Groundwater quality restoration
- **OREGON DEQ:** Environmental rules and monitoring
- **Oregon Health Authority:** Impact on human health
- **EPA:** Federal oversight
- **Counties:** Water use and environmental health

## Timeline of Major Water Events



## Direct Support: 2022-2023

- Before OHA began its outreach, direct testing for **300 wells** and testing support for another **200 wells**
- Assisted local officials with drinking water distribution, with the donation of loading dock space, storage, and **1,000 water jugs**
- Provided **1,200+ information packets** (in English and Spanish)
- Created [www.H2OEO.org](http://www.H2OEO.org) website for information and updates
- Partnered with **30+ local businesses and organizations**
- Coordinating with local, state, and federal government

## Why H2OEO?

As local employers and community organizations we can:

- **Amplify local voices** where decisions are being made and speak for our community.
- **Fight misinformation** by sharing reliable facts.
- **Support** OHA and county health department efforts.
- **Move swiftly** to meet emerging needs and fill gaps.
- **Help** our employees and their families access resources.

## The Path Forward

- Continue to meet immediate needs (well testing, filtration systems, water deliveries, information)
- Increase awareness of individual responsibility for well testing and maintenance
- Identify regional roles and responsibilities to conduct research and make tangible progress on clean water
- Follow the science and secure necessary funding to enact locally-led solutions

Med Pr. 2020 Jan 20;71(1):105-113. doi: 10.13075/mp.5893.00867.  
Epub 2019 Nov 29.

[Protection of the population health from electromagnetic hazards-  
challenges resulting from the implementation of the 5G network  
planned in Poland].

Zmysłony M(1), Bieńkowski P(2), Bortkiewicz A(3), Karpowicz J(4),  
Kieliszek J(5), Politański P(1), Rydzyński K(6).

“the research evidence is strong enough for the World Health  
Organization to classify EMF as an environmental factor potentially  
carcinogenic to humans.”

“due to the fact that there are data indicating the existence of  
biophysical mechanisms of the EMF influence that may lead to adverse  
health effects, it seems necessary to use the precautionary principle and  
the ALARA principle when creating environmental requirements for the  
construction and exploitation of the infrastructure of the planned 5G  
system”

<https://www.cdc.gov/nceh/radiation/alara.html>

The guiding principle of radiation safety is “ALARA”. ALARA stands for “as  
low as reasonably achievable”. ALARA means avoiding exposure to  
radiation that does not have a direct benefit to you, even if the dose is  
small.

Toxicol Lett. 2020 May 1:323:35-40.

doi: 10.1016/j.toxlet.2020.01.020. Epub 2020 Jan 25.

Adverse health effects of 5G mobile networking technology under real-  
life conditions

Ronald N Kostoff<sup>1</sup>, Paul Heroux<sup>2</sup>, Michael Aschner<sup>3</sup>, Aristides Tsatsakis<sup>4</sup>

#### Affiliations

- <sup>1</sup>Research Affiliate, School of Public Policy, Georgia Institute of  
Technology, Georgia, United States. Electronic address:  
rkostoff@gmail.com.
- <sup>2</sup>Toxicology and Health Effects of Electromagnetism, McGill  
University, Canada.
- <sup>3</sup>Molecular Pharmacology, Einstein Center of Toxicology, Albert  
Einstein College of Medicine, United States.
- <sup>4</sup>Laboratory of Toxicology, Medical School, University of Crete,  
Voutes, 71409 Heraklion, Crete, Greece; Department of Analytical,  
Toxicology, Pharmaceutical Chemistry and Pharmacognosy,  
Sechenov University, 119991 Moscow, Russia. Electronic address:  
toxlab.uoc@gmail.com.
- PMID: 31991167
- DOI: [10.1016/j.toxlet.2020.01.020](https://doi.org/10.1016/j.toxlet.2020.01.020)

“Wireless radiation offers the promise of improved remote sensing,  
improved communications and data transfer, and improved connectivity.  
Unfortunately, there is a large body of data from laboratory and  
epidemiological studies showing that previous and present generations  
of wireless networking technology have significant adverse health  
impacts.”

J Epidemiol Community Health. 2021 Jan 19;jech-2019-213595. doi: 10.1136/jech-2019-213595

Electromagnetic fields, 5G and health: what about the precautionary principle?

Frank JW(1).

Author information: (1)Usher Institute, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh, UK [john.frank@ed.ac.uk](mailto:john.frank@ed.ac.uk).

“Several recent reviews by independent scientists, however, suggest that there is significant uncertainty on this question, with rapidly emerging evidence of potentially harmful biological effects from radio frequency electromagnetic field (RF-EMF) exposures, at the levels 5G roll-out will entail. This essay identifies four relevant sources of scientific uncertainty and concern: (1) lack of clarity about precisely what technology is included in 5G; (2) a rapidly accumulating body of laboratory studies documenting disruptive in vitro and in vivo effects of RF-EMFs-but one with many gaps in it; (3) an almost total lack (as yet) of high-quality epidemiological studies of adverse human health effects from 5G EMF exposure specifically, but rapidly emerging epidemiological evidence of such effects from past generations of RF-EMF exposure; (4) persistent allegations that some national telecommunications regulatory authorities do not base their RF-EMF safety policies on the latest science, related to unmanaged conflicts of interest. The author, an experienced epidemiologist, concludes that one cannot dismiss the growing health concerns about RF-EMFs, especially in an era when higher population levels of exposure are occurring widely, due to the spatially dense transmitters which 5G systems require. Based on the precautionary principle, the author echoes the calls of others for a moratorium on the further roll-out of 5G systems globally, pending more conclusive research on their safety.”

Int J Hyg Environ Health. 2018 Apr;221(3):367-375.

doi: 10.1016/j.ijheh.2018.01.011. Epub 2018 Feb 2.

Towards 5G communication systems: Are there health implications?

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“Evidences about the biological properties of RF-EMF are progressively accumulating and, although they are in some case still preliminary or controversial, clearly point to the existence of multi-level interactions between high-frequency EMF and biological systems, and to the possibility of oncologic and non-oncologic (mainly reproductive, metabolic, neurologic, microbiologic) effects.”

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**From:** Jill Litzinger <jilllitzinger@gmail.com >  
**Sent:** Monday, November 27, 2023 7:26 PM  
**To:** City of Hermiston Meetings  
**Subject:** Meeting November 27th

You don't often get email from jilllitzinger@gmail.com. [Learn why this is important](#)

**[EXTERNAL EMAIL] - STOP and VERIFY - This message came from outside of the City of Hermiston**

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\$900,000 is owed. \$375,000 police grant was given. \$525,000 is left. But you're wanting to add 16,997,000 in new taxes plus Amazon owes \$20million for cold water work that's being done. Payback from the 2 loans taken 1.36M and 675K is just over 2M so why is almost 17M needed?

So Pendleton is getting all the revenue from the cannabis tax I feel that we need to open a cannabis shop in Hermiston. Let a business work for the citizens.

I understand we have (I do not know technical terms) Incentives for new businesses for 0 taxes Up to 10 years or 15 I'm not sure. That needs to be limited to the first company in each county all others should be subject to taxes. We have been railroaded by Amazon And there mass amounts of buildings. They are bringing people to the area yet they are not being held accountable for taxes to assist in the county's they are in. And that's with all aspects construction and Jobs both local and out of state. This is a multi million dollar business. We need to figure out how to change this tax free Incentive because it's not an incentive to the community in which they are residing. And when they're lease of 10 years or 15 years comes up are these buildings going to still be worth anything or are they going to shut these buildings down and want to build new? Or are they just going to leave the area completely because they've outused all the resources that we have? And then we're stuck with empty ugly buildings. I want Amazon held accountable also. So you might want to find somebody else that is better at negotiating with Amazon. To have them start paying their share of expenses that they are bringing to our community. 10 to 15 years is way too long to have to wait and put that Burden on the people of this community.

Because once you taxes you won't take that tax away regardless if Amazon does pay in 10 to 15 years. You will use that as extra revenue without giving any kickbacks to the citizens of Hermiston.

As for taxing the citizens COVID already did a number on a lot of Citizens, businesses that they are already hurting and you want to implement more taxes but not hold the people responsible for this disaster accountable? The citizens were forced To shut down their businesses by the city who listened to the governor. Yet allowed Safeway and Walmart to run openly and free.

Where did that \$30.9 million dollars that you guys used for big projects In the last budget come from? Was that COVID money that should of went to the citizens of those businesses? Why wasn't that money split up between small business owners And just handed to them? Why did the city feel the need to take that covid money and use it for their own benefit instead of helping their citizens? There are so many un answered questions I would like to see a print out or an email of all the COVID money that Hermiston and umatilla county received And exactly where that Money was implemented! Transparency

Our \$30.9 million bigger than normal budget.

<https://northeastoregonnow.com/capital-investments-behind-hermistons-bigger-2023-24-budget/?fbclid=IwAR3nHywsWVQd4vK-qVsYpHwDzWoQxlnjCNkHMT-g2cDJJQs-WnrPdC6Izoc>

Police grant \$375,000 is this for each year for 3 years?

<https://elkhornmediagroup.com/hermiston-receives-cops-grant/?fbclid=IwAR2E5eh4ruuwjSinXLgxQh2cggUBVsc-XE1RPjvrl7Qx8TqZai9SXjMcXc#:~:text=HERMISTON%20%E2%80%93%20Police%20Chief%20Jason%20Edmiston,year%20grant%20has%20been%20approved.>

This is the added taxes! I say open up a cannabis shop and allow those taxes pay for any needed expenses. But we shouldn't have ANY if Amazon owes \$20,000,000!!!!

[https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story\\_fbid=7097556793643679&id=100001682857927&mibextid=Nif5oz](https://m.facebook.com/story.php?story_fbid=7097556793643679&id=100001682857927&mibextid=Nif5oz)

<https://facebook.com/events/s/hermiston-city-council/3528434244073399/>

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& Vice-President  
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