



CITY COUNCIL

Work Session Meeting Minutes August 12, 2024

Mayor Drotzmann called the regular work session meeting to order at 6:00pm. Present were Councilors McCarthy, Linton, Barron, Primmer, Myers, Peterson, and Duron. Councilor Hardin was excused. Staff in attendance included City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Chief Edmiston, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

City Council Rules Review

City Manager Byron Smith reviewed the Council Rules document as presented at the previous work session meetings and included in the agenda packet detailing the proposed revisions and answering council questions.

City Manager Smith and the Council discussed:

- Rosenberg's Rules of Order with suggested changes
- Changing meeting dates from the second and fourth Mondays to the first and third Mondays or a different day altogether to accommodate Hermiston School District Meetings and Council members who work for the school district. It was decided this item would be revisited once the new council is elected and in office, in 2025
- Notification by text messaging
- Council quorums at non-meetings- Community Events
- Two different "Cancellation of Meetings" was presented, the Council chose to keep the language in the original Rules
- Reviewing added language regarding submitting written comments and parameters on when written comments can be received
- Public Hearings and Defining ExParte Contact and Conflicts
- Defining who should investigate possible Council misconduct investigations, as well as adding language and procedures
- Adjournment of meetings when order is unable to be maintained
- Council requested that proposed wording be removed in "Elected Officials' Involvement with Staff" specifically related to elected officials being able to meet with department heads without the City Manager, with the exceptions of the exemptions listed in sections 1-4
- Clarifying sections in "Committees" updating the amount an individual can receive as a city contractor from \$7,500 to \$20,000 while still being permitted to be a committee member; and leaving language not allowing full-time city employees to be committee members

Councilor Primmer suggested these proposed changes be presented for possible adoption at a future 2025 meeting when the new elected officials are in office. The Council spoke regarding the time and effort city staff have devoted to updating this document, per the direction of the City Council, and possible adoption should continue to move forward.

City Manager Smith completed the review with the Council and stated their comments and suggestions would be considered and added to the City Council Rules working draft and presented to the Council for final review and adoption at the next meeting.

Tour New IT Department Area in City Hall & Adjournment

Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the work session meeting at 6:46pm and stated the Council will tour the new IT Department area in City Hall and then convene for their regular council meeting at 7:00pm.



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Mayor Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00pm. Present were Councilors Barron, Duron, Myers, Primmer, Linton, Peterson, and McCarthy. Councilor Hardin was excused. Also in attendance was City Staff to included: City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, City Attorney Rich Tovey, Finance Director Ignacio Palacios, Chief Edmiston, Planning Director Clint Spencer, Parks and Recreation Brandon Artz, and City Recorder Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Presentation- Hermiston School District (HSD) Updates

Assistant Superintendent Jake Bacon gave HSD updates to include: over 30 individuals have been hired for the 2024-25 school year; free sport physicals from Good Shephard Health Care have been offered to all students; HSD continues to enroll students; Open House information for elementary, middle and high school; first day of school is Wednesday, August 28th; Summer activities offered to students; and Umatilla County Health Department will be providing health care in the High School instead of Health Associates.

Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

None given.

Consent Agenda Items

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Duron seconded to approve Consent Agenda items A-D, to include:

- A. Committee Vacancy Announcements
- B. Confirm Appointment of Steve Wallace to the Eastern Oregon Trade & Event Center Advisory Committee: Position #1- Representing the Umatilla County Fair Board, beginning August 13, 2024 through June 30, 2027.
- C. Initiate annexation proceedings Zamudio 4N2802BC Tax Lot 1500 - 309 E Theater Lane
- D. Minutes of the July 22 City Council Work Session and Regular Meetings

Motion carried unanimously.

Resolution No. 2334 – Initiate vacation proceedings for frontage road easement parallel to E Elm Ave

City Planner Clint Spencer spoke regarding the need to initiate vacation proceedings to be able to increase the overall buildable area of six industrial lots. The current easement, which was established in the 1980's, is not necessary and entirely undeveloped.

After additional discussion, Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to adopt Resolution No. 2334 and lay upon the record. Motion carried unanimously.



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Ordinance No. 2360 - Comprehensive Plan Map Amendment - Mayra & Felipe Reyes 4N2812C Tax Lot 308 - 1088 E Newport Ave- City Planner Clint Spencer spoke regarding the information and public hearing procedure that was presented at the previous City Council meeting.

Councilor Linton stated many individuals testified that they did not want this annexation and the Council is going against what those individuals want.

Councilor Primmer stated the Council does not represent those individuals that spoke at the last meeting as they are County residents, not City residents, and they are able to reach out to the County Commissioners who do represent them.

City Planner Spencer stated all individuals who speak during public testimony are given appeal rights information.

Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only.

After City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only for the second reading:

- Council McCarthy moved and Councilor Myers seconded to adopt findings of fact in support of the ordinances as listed in Exhibit A. Councilors McCarthy, Barron, Primmer, Myers, Duron, and Peterson voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.
- Councilor Myers moved and Councilor McCarthy seconded to adopt conditions of approval as listed in Exhibit B. Councilors McCarthy, Barron, Primmer, Myers, Duron, and Peterson voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.
- Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Myers seconded that Ordinance No. 2360 be adopted and become effective 30-days after co-adoption by the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners. Councilors McCarthy, Barron, Primmer, Myers, Duron, and Peterson voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.

Ordinance No. 2361 - Annexation Mayra & Felipe Reyes 4N2812C Tax lot 308 - 1088 E Newport Ave

City Planner Clint Spencer stated this Ordinance is in conjunction with Ordinance No. 2360 as presented earlier in the meeting.

Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. After City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only for the second reading, Council McCarthy moved and Councilor Barron seconded that Ordinance No. 2361 be adopted and become effective 30-days after co-adoption by the Umatilla County Board of Commissioners. Councilors McCarthy, Barron, Primmer, Myers, Duron, and Peterson voted in favor; Councilor Linton voted against. Motion carried 6-1.



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Ordinance No. 2362 – Updating requirements for parade permits and right of way closure permits

City Manager Byron Smith presented updates for the proposed ordinance as previously presented at the Council meetings of May 28th and July 22nd.

Mayor Drotzmann requested that the first reading be by title only. Hearing no opposition, City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only. Mayor Drotzmann requested that the ordinance be put on for final adoption at this meeting and that the second reading be by title only. After City Attorney Tovey read the ordinance by title only for the second reading, Council Myers moved and Councilor Primmer seconded that Ordinance No. 2362 be adopted and become effective 30-days after adoption. Motion carried unanimously.

Proposed Amendments to Chapter 116 Regulating Mobile Food Vending

City Manager Byron Smith, City Planner Clint Spencer, and City Attorney Rich Tovey stated at the direction of the Council, from testimony received in an April 2024 City Council meeting, staff has worked on revisions to ease the existing mobile food regulations. After reviewing other Eastern Oregon communities food vending regulations and considering City surveys conducted regarding food vending in the City, staff is recommending changes to the existing mobile food vending regulations to include: eliminating the 400 ft spacing requirements for food trucks and brick and mortar restaurants, eliminating parking space requirements, eliminating only specific food truck colors be allowed, changing the type of licenses and what they require, and more as presented in the agenda packet.

Councilor Linton stated she is not in favor of eliminating the 400 ft spacing requirements, stating it is not aesthetically pleasing when a City has food trucks all around town and does not want food trucks all along Highway 395.

Councilor Primmer agreed stating Hermiston is the biggest City in Eastern Oregon and should have distance requirements, unlike the other cities surveyed in Eastern Oregon.

Councilors Barron, Peterson, Duron, and McCarthy disagreed stating the previous mobile food vending requirements were too restrictive, the benefits of having additional food trucks in the growing community and showing residents that the Council is listening to their comments and suggestions.

Public Comment

Tyler and Tara Bendixsen (1082 E. Highland Ave)- stated they are the co-owners of Soda Craze and for the last four years have been trying to establish a regular business presence in Hermiston. However, the City's regulations are extremely restrictive and have not allowed Soda Craze to find a permanent site. While the City's of Umatilla and Stanfield have offered Soda Craze incentives to establish their business in those cities, they have wanted to stay in the City they live in. Mr. Bendixsen thanked the Council for reviewing these regulations and stated they fully support the proposed changes with enthusiasm.



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After additional discussion, the Council asked that staff return to the next meeting with a proposed ordinance encompassing these changes.

Committee Reports

None given.

Mayor's Report

Mayor Drotzmann spoke regarding:

- Umatilla County Fair Parade, stating the new route was good however the clean up process after the parade should be reconsidered as there was a lot of trash left behind. Commented on the great Fair and Rodeo events held
- National Night Out. Thanked the Police Department and Umatilla County Fire District #1 for their efforts hosting this event

Council Reports

Councilor McCarthy spoke regarding the City Picnic, City Manager Byron Smith's Annual Evaluation, MelonFest, and judging the cutest baby contest with Councilor Peterson and Mayor Drotzmann.

Councilor Linton thanked Code Enforcement Official Daniel Taylor for helping to address neighborhood issues that came before the Council.

Mayor Drotzmann also thanked Chief Edmiston, City Manager Smith, and others that were involved with meeting Mrs. Thompson to explain what the City legally can and cannot do.

Councilor Duron stated the National Night Out event with the medallion winner was a well-attended event. Thanked the Police Department for providing engaging Mandatory Reporting Training to HSD employees.

Councilor Primmer thanked all first responder organizations that helped with security at the Umatilla County Fair and Farm-City Pro Rodeo, stating there were no major issues and people felt very comfortable attending these events.

Councilor Barron praised Team USA for their efforts and accomplishments at the Olympics.

City Manager's Report

City Manager Smith stated the City Picnic will begin at 5:30pm and announced Dakota Steal has accepted the contractual prosecutor position.

Mayor Drotzmann asked that City Manager Smith work with Stepping Stones Alliance to give the Council a status update and tour the new facility.



Where Life is Sweet

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Adjourn

There was no other business and Mayor Drotzmann adjourned the regular City Council meeting at 8:03pm.



SIGNED:

Dr. David Drotzmann, Mayor

ATTEST:

Lilly Alarcon Strong, CMC, City Recorder