



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, August 03, 2022

APPROVED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Doug Morten
Councilor Patrick Birkle
Councilor Stephen R. Topaz

MEMBERS ABSENT

Councilor Jessica Chilton

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder
Jacob Graichen, City Planner
Jenny Dimsho, Associate Planner
Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

OTHERS

Keith Locke	Howard Blumenthal	Brady Preheim	Tracy Brown
Steve Toschi	Jerry Belcher	Audrey Webster	Art Leskovich
Jim Coleman	Brenda Herren-Kenaga	Darren Boe	Scott Jacobson
David Williamson	Robyn Toschi	Gina Harrington	

CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 8:18 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to five (5) minutes per speaker*

None

DELIBERATIONS

- 1. Street Vacation of Sections of right-of-way along N. River Street, N. 1st Street, Columbia Blvd. and S. River Street (Keith Locke, et. al.)**

The Street Vacation has been recessed until September 7, 2022, at 5:30 p.m.

ORDINANCES – *First Reading*

- 2. Ordinance No. 3286:** An Ordinance to Amend the City of St. Helens Zoning District Map to Add a Planned Development Overlay Zone for Certain Property Located at the Southeast Corner of the Pittsburg Road and Meadowview Drive Intersection

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No.3286 by title. The final reading will be at the next meeting.

RESOLUTIONS

- 3. Resolution No. 1961:** A Resolution Approving Referral to the Electors of the City of St. Helens at the November 8, 2022 General Election, the Question of Whether to Prohibit Psilocybin Service Centers and the Manufacture of Psilocybin Products within the City

Mayor Scholl read Resolution No. 1961 by title. **Motion:** Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to adopt Resolution No. 1961.

Mayor Scholl reported that this is to put the moratorium on the ballot for a vote.

Vote: Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz

Mayor Scholl reported that Councilor Chilton is on maternity leave.

AWARD BID/CONTRACT

4. Award Bid and Authorize Mayor to Execute Contract for 2022 Annual Striping Project to Specialized Pavement Marking, LLC in the amount of \$38,002

Motion: Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '4' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz

APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE

5. Extension of Agreement with Columbia County for Community Corrections Work Crews
6. First Amendment to Agreement with Keller Associates, Inc. for the Water Master Plan Update
7. Contract with Duke's Root Control, Inc. for Services to Eliminate Roots from Sanitary Sewer System
8. Second Amendment to Agreement with David Evans & Associates, Inc. for Columbia Blvd. Sidewalk and Safety Improvements Project
9. Notice of Measure Election - Psilocybin Moratorium

Motion: Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '5' through '9' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

10. Council Work Session, Public Hearings, and Regular Session Minutes dated June 15, 2022
11. Proposed New Librarian 1 (Youth Librarian) Job Description
12. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Motion made by Council President Morten and seconded by Councilor Topaz to approve '10' through '12' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Morten, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Topaz

WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS

None

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council President Morten reported...

- Parks & Recreation Commission
 - Recommended denial of Keith Locke's Street Vacation
 - Recommended City staff create a budget for the Urban Trail
 - Recommended investigating murals at Campbell Park, which has proven to reduce graffiti and vandalism. He talked about it how it has come up to the Arts & Cultural Commission in the past. The Arts & Cultural Commission has been on hiatus, but this gives them something to do. It will be a collaborative effort between the two commissions. Councilor Topaz acknowledged this is a great idea and added that Government Affairs Specialist

Rachael Barry is working on reactivating the Arts & Cultural Commission. Discussion about other murals that have impacted communities.

Councilor Topaz reported...

- Read the Maul Foster proposal for measurements of the lagoon waste disposal area. Have they had an opportunity for the community to provide input for a waste dump there?
- Talked about the cooling center opening per standards set by the National Weather Service. City Administrator Walsh added that the City is just a service provider. Columbia County Emergency Management is using tiers determined by the National Weather Service.

Councilor Birkle reported...

- Attended the Sheriff's National Night Out. He had the opportunity to speak with Sgt. Eggers and observe a demonstration with K9 Officer Ryder and the County's new K9 officer.
- Visiting the reservoir tomorrow. If anyone else is interested in going, they are meeting at City Hall at 9 a.m.
- Can people still file to run for mayor and council. City Recorder Payne confirmed that the filing deadline is August 15.
- Researched hazardous waste between meetings today. In response to Councilor Topaz, there have not been any public forums for it, but they are planning to have them. Public input is important. The exclusive negotiating agreement with US Ecology gives them resources to provide information and engage the public. Contrary to a published article in the Chronicle last week, the Council has not made any decisions to bring toxic waste to the lagoon. He encouraged people to continue to educate themselves and be engaged in discussions about waste. They are discussing hazardous waste. They are not discussing toxic waste. He encouraged the Council to be careful about terms used when they are speaking and writing as City representatives. They need to rely on the best information possible, which includes heavy public engagement. The decision will have a long-lasting impact. He promises to learn as much as he can. Council can set the tone in discussions by addressing real science and real information and addressing people's concerns with scientific information.

Mayor Scholl said there were informative meetings early on with the public about the concept. There are many layers, including citizen input. The article really upset him as well. They are not back door dealing with anyone. He would appreciate trust from councilors and a phone call before a letter is submitted to the paper. Council President Morten said there are no plans. They are just studying the issue. Councilor Birkle went on to say that they are not simply talking about dredging Portland Harbor, putting it on a barge, and bringing it to the lagoon. There's so much more to the process, which is why they entered into the agreement and will continue to do their due diligence and determine if it is in their best interest.

Councilor Topaz said the article pointed out that the agreement is with a company that manages, not studies. There is another operation for studying but that was not mentioned in the article. The article is about a company that manages waste systems. When you do that, you will have a system that handles waste, and this company will manage it. DEQ talked about a particular compound that is acceptable up to one part per million. Two parts per million are not acceptable. There is another compound that is acceptable at half a part per million but if you go to one part per million it's not acceptable. DEQ does not say what happens when the two compounds are together. They could neutralize each other, or they could add to it, which makes it toxic, or they could make it multiply. The way the law is written now, they look at each individual compound, without anything else being around it, and they declare it a problem or a toxic condition. That should be cleared up, especially with a waste plant that has the possibility of bringing in stuff from all over. Some of the stuff that comes in may be innocuous but when you mix it with other stuff it's not.

Councilor Birkle said that is all part of the conversation. The fact is they have entered into negotiations and may or may not enter into an agreement. Council has not in fact agreed to move ahead with a waste treatment facility. Councilor Topaz said they agreed with a surveyor. Mayor Scholl said that is his opinion and not fact. Councilor Topaz pointed out that his is a well-educated opinion. Mayor Scholl does not want to argue with nonsense. They are going to learn together. Councilor Birkle expressed that his opinion is different than Councilor Topaz's. Councilor Topaz asked if he is aware that he has worked with the artificial kidney. He has dialyzed people who have gotten poisoned and had some of these toxic problems that are in the microbusiness because they interact. He has worked on people with this. Mayor Scholl is trying to find out how it's relevant to a hazardous waste dump on a 39-acre lagoon. Councilor Topaz said it's hazardous waste because the compound...Mayor Scholl called out of order and moved on to his report.

MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS

- Congratulations to Councilor Chilton and her family on their new baby.
- Attended the National Night Out and was able to see the K9 officers' presentation.
- Sandcastle competition is this weekend. He will be a judge. The weather will be perfect.
- Oregon Mayor's Association Conference is coming up. He is most looking forward to presenting first place awards to Ellie Luke and Rosie Parsons for the "If I Were Mayor..." Student Contest.
- 13 Nights on the River has been rocking. Thank you, E2C for all your efforts.

OTHER BUSINESS

Walsh clarified that the work being done with US Ecology is aimed towards a subtitle Class D permitting process. Class C is hazardous waste facilities, but Class Ds are not. They have never talked about receiving hazardous waste. Class D is limited waste. They are not interested if it can't be done safely.

ADJOURN – 8:53 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

/s/ Kathy Payne

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

/s/ Rick Scholl

Rick Scholl, Mayor