



COUNCIL PUBLIC FORUM

Wednesday, May 04, 2022

APPROVED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Council President Doug Morten
Councilor Patrick Birkle
Councilor Stephen R. Topaz
Councilor Jessica Chilton

MEMBERS ABSENT

Mayor Rick Scholl

STAFF PRESENT

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

OTHERS

Jane Garcia Judy Thompson
Brady Preheim Steve Toschi

OPEN PUBLIC FORUM – 6:30 p.m.

TOPIC

1. Grey Cliffs Waterfront Park In-Water Facility Presentation

Associate Planner/Community Development Project Manager Jenny Dimsho reviewed the presentation. A copy is included in the archive packet for this meeting.

The Oregon State Marine Board provided the presentation and will provide the funding for the design.

- Reviewed the existing conditions
- Goal is to provide fishing and paddle docks that are both accessible and permittable
- Reviewed permits and consultations that are needed
- Reviewed conceptual design common features
- Reviewed the location. It is only about half as far out as the St. Helens Marina.
- Preferred concept
 - 80' and 120' gangway
 - Passing lane on ramp
 - Fishing docks north of gangway landing
 - Paddle docks and ramp angled to river flow but closer to marina

Public Comment

- ◆ Brady Preheim. Asked if there is already a dock near there.

Dimsho showed where the Marina docks are located. There are nearby pilings that may have to be removed.

Councilor Chilton asked if there is adequate parking. Dimsho knows parking needs will increase. City Planner Graichen is working on additional parking areas in the right-of-way.

Council President Morten talked about the existing pilings. One or two are home to osprey. Dimsho said that was brought up at the Planning Commission meeting. Chair Dan Cary was quick to say that osprey are not protected species, but salmon are protected. The white point is added to the columns to keep osprey nests off because they eat salmon. The permitting agencies would prefer osprey do not nest near salmon habitat.

Councilor Topaz said people put boats in at the nearby public ramp. It will make it difficult for sail boats coming in. Dimsho said this is much further inland. Councilor Topaz argued that sail boats go through there. Councilor Topaz said there will also be a number of cars with trailers they need to provide space for, including handicap access.

- ◆ Rob Jolin. Will they be able to fish for salmon and steelhead at that dock?

Mayor Scholl said yes.

- ◆ Steve Toschi. He likes it. It is great and it will be fun. He is in favor of adding more parking.

Walsh talked about project funding. The Marine Board will pay for the design, engineering, and permits. They will also be a potential grant source. The Department of Fish & Wildlife will pay for 75% of the construction. The City will pay the remaining 25%.

Councilor Topaz said the first picture shows why they need the ramp. There is deep mud there that would make it difficult to launch. Does the ramp sink for kayaks? Dimsho said the notches are semi-submerged. There is a handrail to pull yourself out. Councilor Topaz emphasized the need to make it handicap accessible. Is there a possibility to add an electric lift for kayaks? Dimsho is not aware of any for public use.

Dimsho will bring back a contract prior to design work.

CLOSE PUBLIC FORUM – 6:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

/s/ Kathy Payne

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

/s/ Doug Morten

Doug Morten, Council President