



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, February 15, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Patrick Birkle
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder
Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

OTHERS

Brady Preheim Nick Hellmich
Jim Coleman Jane Garcia
Arthur Leskowich Shauna Stroup Harrison
Chris Osling

CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Tina Curry. Fireworks was also sponsored by Comcast. It was a generous contribution.
- ◆ Brady Preheim. Responding to comments made by Howard Blumenthal last week. They need an anti-Karen law. It's ridiculous that you can't walk down the road minding your own business without being screamed at. People should be punished for making false reports to the police. The City does not have a leash law. His dog Mouse identifies as a mouse. His other dog identifies as a cat. They should enforce laws they have, such as that person cleaning up the big mess in his front yard.
- ◆ Nick Hellmich.
 - Did the developer of the apartments by Walmart pay taxes to the County?
 - Wants to see speed limit signs on his street. A kid almost got hit again.
 - Suggests putting in a roundabout at the S. 4th and Cowlitz Street intersection. It's a confusing intersection for people unfamiliar with the area and can cause accidents.
 - Suggests lowering the speed limit downtown. He was almost hit by a car last week.
 - He is a certified housing counselor and educator, and offers free classes in Columbia, Clatsop, and Tillamook Counties. They can contact Community Action Team (CAT) for details.

- St. Helens has a pro level disc golf course. He suggests doing a St. Helens invitational. They need something to bring in more revenue in the spring.

Mayor Scholl commented on the apartments. They do not pay taxes because they are nonprofit. It is a HUD project. They did pay SDCs.

Councilor Chilton suggested he contact Parks & Recreation Manager Shanna Duggan about the disc golf invitational.

◆ Shauna Stroup Harrison.

- Questioned why visitor comments are now three minutes instead of five.
- A tree council is supposed to be running parallel with the Parks & Recreation Commission. It is part of their ordinance and she would like to see it active again to preserve trees in the City.
- She has noticed theft and dumped derelict vehicles on streets. She was curious about a plan of action with the new Code Enforcement Officer.

Mayor Scholl said they have an arborist for trees in rights-of-ways. He will look into that further. Shauna will find out what ordinance addresses it and let them know. City Administrator Walsh added that a requirement of being a Tree City is having a tree committee. He will look into it as well.

ORDINANCES – Final Reading

1. **Ordinance No. 3289:** An Ordinance Amending All Sections of the St. Helens Municipal Code to Reflect a Change in the Name of the Parks and Recreation Commission and to Remove References to the Newly Named Parks and Trails Commission having Responsibility Over the Recreation Program

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3289 by title. **Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Council President Chilton to adopt Ordinance No. 3289. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

RESOLUTIONS

2. **Resolution No. 1973:** A Resolution Adopting Findings to Utilize Design-Build as an Alternative Procurement Method for the 2.0 MG Reservoir Replacement Project and Exempting Project from Competitive Bidding Requirements

Mayor Scholl read Resolution No. 1973 by title. **Motion:** Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to adopt Resolution No. 1973. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE

3. First Amendment to Agreement with Oregon Patrol Service for Bailiff Services
4. Fifth Amendment to Agreement with Otak, Inc. for Design Services for Undergrounding Electrical Services in the Riverfront District
5. Joint Memorandum of Understanding with Columbia Economic Team regarding Implementation of the Growing Rural Oregon Initiative (GRO)

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '3' through '5' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

6. Council Work Session and Regular Session Minutes dated November 2, 2022
7. Council Work Session and Executive Session Minutes dated November 16, 2022
8. OLCC Licenses

9. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Gundersen and seconded by Council President Chilton to approve '6' through '9' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS**Community Grant Applications**

Council each selected their top choice to receive grants:

- Mayor Scholl – St. Helens Alano Club \$500
- Councilor Birkle – Dia de los Muertos Event \$500
- Councilor Sundeen – Elks Veterans Bunker \$500
- Councilor Chilton – The Playground Indoor Skatepark \$500
- Councilor Gundersen – CASA for Children, Inc. \$500

Mayor Scholl would like to transfer \$1,000 from the Community Grant Fund into the Arts & Cultural Commission (ACC) fund to donate to Columbia Choral of Oregon. Councilor Chilton was concerned that the ACC is not active, so would not have oversight. Discussion ensued.

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to donate \$1,000 from the Council fund to Columbia Choral of Oregon. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

Mayor Scholl explained the Wisdom of Columbia County music project.

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Council President Chilton to use a total of \$2,500 of Council funds and donate \$500 to each of the following: St. Helens Alano Club, Dia De los Muertos Event, Elks Veterans Bunker, The Playground Indoor Skatepark, and CASA for Children, Inc. **Vote:** Voting Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council President Chilton reported...

- Meeting with Library Director Bishop tomorrow to discuss partnerships and goals.
- Attending the Police Department awards dinner soon.

Councilor Sundeen reported...

- It's been good getting to know people.
- It was a great Employee Banquet the other night meeting employees and celebrating Employee of the Year Ethan Stirling.
- Meeting weekly with City Administrator Walsh and Chief Greenway about the Police Station. They are going to get a station they can be proud of and will be functional.
- Parks & Trails Commission
 - Dana Lathrope is stepping in as a great Chair.
 - Lot of good stuff coming up.
 - Discussed the additions and improvements coming to the McCormick Park Veterans Plaza.

Councilor Gundersen reported...

- Planning Commission meeting tomorrow.
- He and Councilor Sundeen will meet with Columbia River PUD (CRPUD) on February 27.

Councilor Birkle reported...

- Had a great time at the Chamber of Commerce Happy Hour.

- Did a ride-along with Code Enforcement Officer Medina on a Saturday morning. He was very impressed with the work he does. The Police Department and Code Enforcement is not out to get people. The primary public safety objective is to work with individuals.
- Has had excellent meetings with Library Director Bishop.
- Impressed with the Library staff trying to reach out to all people to establish relationships.
- Visited the Makerspace when the GRO group was meeting. It's exciting to see it all come together.
- Attended the Senator Wyden Town Hall.
- Enjoyed the Employee Banquet. Congratulations to Stirling on being awarded Employee of the Year. There were 11 nominees.

MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS

- He had a good time at the Employee Banquet. Stirling was very well deserving of the Employee of the Year award.
- Sees the need to move the switching yard. There are plenty of other areas along the highway to move it out of the city. It only takes one accident. It's time to start pushing the Railroad to move it. The location is detrimental to emergency services.
- Good to see the Waterfront project moving forward.
- Good report from Paul Vogel during the Work Session.
- He wants to visit the Makerspace again.
- The GRO program is very much needed.
- Thanked Curry for her Tourism report and boat update.
- Looking forward to it getting warmer.

Citizens Day in the Park donation assignments were distributed.

OTHER BUSINESS

- ◆ Chris Osling, musician. He would like to host a three-day music festival on Sand Island that would benefit the Columbia Pacific Food Bank, Columbia River Fire & Rescue, and the High School Band Program. He already has the okay from Brad Hendrickson at the Marina. There is enough local talent that will work for free. He will take care of everything. They need to know about permits and if they can have vendors over there. The goal is to make this an annual event, and eventually bring in professional acts.

Walsh informed Chris that a Special Use Permit would be needed. Contact information was given to Chris to begin the process with Parks & Recreation Administrative Assistant Melisa Gaelrun-Maggi. Chris will write a proposal. Their goal is the third weekend of June or July. They want to avoid the Portland Blues Festival. Mayor Scholl pointed out that the third weekend in June is the parade. City Recorder Payne will work with Chris on Concession Agreements for vendors.

ADJOURN – 7:49 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

/s/ Kathy Payne

Kathy Payne, City Recorder

/s/ Rick Scholl

Rick Scholl, Mayor