

**CITY OF JOHN DAY  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
JOHN DAY, OREGON**

**September 24, 2013**

**Adjourned Meeting**

**COUNCILORS PRESENT:**

Ron Lundbom, Mayor  
Steve Schuette, Council President  
Donn Willey, Councilor  
Paul Smith, Councilor  
Doug Gochnour, Councilor

**COUNCILORS ABSENT:**

Don Caldwell, Councilor  
Gene Officer, Councilor

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Peggy Gray, City Manager  
Ron Smith, Fire Chief  
David Holland, Public Works Director

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Richie Colbeth, John Day

**Agenda Item No. 1 – Open and Note Attendance**

The John Day City Council meeting opened at 7:00 p.m. Mayor Ron Lundbom noted that all Councilors were present with the exception of Councilors Don Caldwell and Gene Officer, who were absent and excused.

**Agenda Item No. 2 – Approval of City Council Minutes of August 27, 2013**

The minutes of the August 27, 2013 adjourned meeting were included in the agenda packets and presented for the Council's approval. **Councilor Donn Willey made a motion that the minutes of August 27, 2013 be approved as presented; Councilor Paul Smith seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item No. 3 - Appearance of Interested Citizens**

Mayor Ron Lundbom welcomed those in attendance and asked everyone to please sign in. He asked if there were any additional items that anyone would like to add to the agenda. There were none presented.

**Agenda Item No. 4 – Discuss and Approve for Signature; letter from Stan Foster, PARC Resources**

City Manager Gray updated the City Council regarding a phone conversation that she and City Attorney Jeremy Green had with Stan Foster of PARC Resources regarding the fire station ballot title issue. Mr. Foster accepted partial responsibility for the false start on the bond measure and is offering to absorb part of the legal expenses the City and Rural District incurred during the legal review of the joint ballot title.

PARC Resources is currently finishing up three grant applications on behalf of the project and is offering to credit the City and Rural District the sum of \$3,522.50 (an amount equal to what PARC would normally bill for this work) as their contribution to this expense. Applications for the Swigert/ESCO Foundation, Swindells Trust and Rose Tucker Trust were submitted via USPS on September 17, 2013 by Laura Prado of PARC Resources.

City Manager Gray informed the City Council the grant applications for the Rose Tucker Trust and the Swindells Trust will be reviewed by the trustees at their November 2013 meetings. The Meyer Memorial Trust application said they know the project is vital to the local community and they have funded similar projects in the past, however, since a fire station isn't their standard project, they would only consider a request after the bond measure passes, rather than committing to a challenge grant up front. Therefore, if the bond passes, we will resubmit in May or June next year for consideration at that time.

City Manager Gray informed the Council that City Attorney Jeremy Green suggests the City and the Rural might want to explore the possibility of hiring a bond counsel to help us through the ballot title process. Jeremy suggests going out for an informal solicitation to hire a bond counsel within the next few months. Jeremy stated his costs to develop the solicitation of proposals would be nominal as he has just prepared a similar solicitation for the City of La Pine.

Fire Chief Ron Smith stated the Rural Board met that day; the board passed a resolution authorizing them to split the cost of hiring the bond counsel with the City of John Day. He also agreed that hiring a bond counsel would assure that the ballot title is legal for the May election and would be beneficial in the challenge process.

**Councilor Steve Schuette moved to allow the City Manager to sign the September 17, 2013 letter accepting the financial proposal from PARC Resources and to allow the staff to go out for an informal solicitation to hire a bond counsel. Councilor Donn Willey seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.**

**Agenda Item No. 5 – Discuss Bridge Inspection Report from Anderson Engineering & Surveying, Inc. for Bridge Structure #23B004 on NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Ave. over Canyon Creek**

City Manager Gray informed the Council that the City received word from the state bridge inspector Greg Sharp of Anderson Engineering & Surveying that on their recent bridge inspection trip the NW 3<sup>rd</sup> Street Bridge was found to have a major structural deficiency. The bottom portion of the upstream SW Prestressed Concrete Girder had blown out due to water and ice intrusion through a drain hole drilled into the slab. The slab will need to be repaired or replaced as soon as possible since the prestressing tendons have been compromised.

Public Works Director David Holland contacted bridge contractor Dennis Dice regarding this issue to get his professional opinion. Dennis Dice stated the panel would need to be removed and replaced, and the

curbing, sidewalk and guardrail will need to be reinstalled. Because of the intense labor involved in doing this project; he estimated the cost could be anywhere from \$150,000 to \$200,000.

Upon further inspection of the bridge by Dennis Dice; Dice thought that the bridge was structurally sound. He stated most of the damage was surface; the spans are 18” thick and he didn’t feel it was broken any further than a couple of inches and only half of it is damaged. Joe Hitz, certified engineer, Sisul Engineering also inspected the bridge and agreed with Dennis Dice. The outside span is tipped down and it is pinching at the bottom; when those panels move its putting pressure on the span and that is what is causing the breaking of the concrete. Dave stated Dennis Dice and Joe Hitz suggested jacking the bridge up and injecting a 70 ton epoxy grout to fill the voids (so that water can’t get into it) and glue the broken pieces on the bottom back together. Holland explained they thought the bridge was structurally sound; however, if we don’t do something with it, it will continue to get worse. They couldn’t give a ball park price to fix it but it would be considerably cheaper than replacing the slab.

Greg Sharp, the engineer from Anderson Engineering, who is contracted by the State of Oregon to do the bridge inspections; thought the patch would be possible but he thought replacing the slab would be better. He agreed the bridge was structurally sound right now; however, he stated that the bridge slab would need to be replaced within the next three to five years if the City didn’t do anything to fix the problem now.

City Manager Gray stated she attended a SEACT meeting shortly after we received this notice. She informed ODOT of the issue with the bridge. Craig Sipp, Sean Maloney and Michael Barry from ODOT, looked at the bridge and we got the bridge on the ODOT needs list. She said that doesn’t mean we will get funding for it; however, it puts us in the position that if some grant dollars should come up the project is on the list.

Councilor Steve Schuette questioned if this project would qualify as project that the County is talking about putting together for the cities. City Manager Gray stated yes, it would qualify as a project but the cities still needed maintenance money for their street funds and all of the other Grant County cities would have to agree on the project as well. Public Works Director David Holland stated he spoke with Grant County Road Master Sue Horn, she told him that at their last meeting that they tabled the topic again and still haven’t discussed it. David stated that the Road Master is still working on the County to change their mind about giving the cities money for projects because all of the cities need money for street maintenance.

Councilor Doug Gochnour questioned if the City could call the National Guard to see if they are interested in this project.

Mayor Lundbom asked if we would have to make the repairs at a certain time of the year because the bridge crosses Canyon Creek. Public Works Director David Holland stated he checked with the Game Commission, as long as we’re not in the creek, we can do the work at anytime of the year.

Public Works Director David Holland stated the sooner we can relieve that pinch the better, he would like to have it done this fall if possible or in the spring at the latest. Holland stated the pinch is below the sidewalk; no wheels go over the problem area. City Manager Gray stated ODOT wanted the city to cone off the area so that a wheel won’t get on it; however, Dennis Dice, Joe Hitz and the bridge inspector disagreed and stated there is no way a truck could get a wheel over that area without jumping the curb and going over the sidewalk. Mayor Lundbom asked if we should put a weight limit on it; Holland stated there is a weight limit already on the bridge at 30,000 GVW; but the bridge is rated for approximately 90,000 GVW. Holland reminded the Council that the reason a load limit was placed on that bridge is because the residents didn’t want 3<sup>rd</sup> Street to become a truck route, they didn’t want truck traffic on the street.

It was the consensus of the City Council to have Public Works Director David Holland get more information and an estimate of the cost to fill the crack with the epoxy as a temporary fix (until the panel can be replaced). Holland stated he would have to get an estimate to see if the city could afford to do the temporary fix and then go out for an informal solicitation.

**Agenda Item No. 6 – Discuss Dangerous Building Solicitation, 405 SE Hillcrest, John Day**

City Manager Gray gave a brief background of the Dangerous Building issue. Due to lack of funds in FY 2013; the John Day City Council decided to wait until the beginning of the new fiscal year to send out a new informal solicitation for the removal of the dangerous building located at 405 SE Hillcrest, John Day. Staff also recommended that we revise the solicitation to include a “not to exceed cost” being the cost of what the City could do the work.

Public Works Director David Holland estimates the work to remove the dangerous building at \$3,788.10 (see attached spreadsheet). Note there is no cost for asbestos abatement; David says there is no evidence of asbestos in the building.

City Attorney Jeremy Green has revised the solicitation of proposals to include a “not to exceed amount of \$4,000.” Staff would like to send out the revised solicitation to the same contractors that were sent the original solicitation of proposals on February 27, 2013. It was decided to place the deadline for the proposals by 3 p.m. on October 18, 2013.

Councilor Doug Gochnour moved to allow staff to send out the revised Solicitation of Proposals for Removal of Dangerous Building located at 405 SE Hillcrest, John Day, OR. Councilor Donn Willey seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

**Agenda Item No. 7 – Discuss Setting Date for Community Potluck Thanking Local Firefighters**

City Manager Gray stated she put together a flyer for the Community Potluck, setting the date for the event on Sunday, October 13, 2013 at 2 p.m. Fire Chief Ron Smith said the weekend of the 13<sup>th</sup> was a good date for his firefighters.

Mayor Lundbom asked if the Fire Chief has invited the other county fire districts to the potluck, Fire Chief Smith stated he was waiting to hear what the Council wanted to do. It was the consensus of the City Council to invite all the other fire districts within the county to the event. Also, include the Sheriff’s Office, John Day Police Department, and John Day Dispatch, US Forest Service, ODF and the State Fire Marshal’s office.

Fire Chief Smith said he would hand out the invitation at their next Fire Defense Board Meeting. He also said the Rural Board thought it was a great idea and offered to assist in any way they could.

It was decided to hold the event at the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Complex (Plan A); City Manager Gray stated she had the shelter reserved for that afternoon. In case of inclement weather, it decided to hold the event at the fairgrounds pavilion as Plan B. City Manager Gray stated she would call Fair Manager Mary Weaver to see if she could reserve it.

City Manager Gray stated the flyer will be inserted with the quarterly newsletter and sent out with the utility billing at the end of the month. She will distribute flyers and also get the word out on radio KJDY and the Blue Mountain Eagle.

Mayor Lundbom stated he would supply the burgers and pop, Councilor Steve Schuette said he would make arrangements for the grill, Councilor Paul Smith said he would help the Mayor cook the burgers. City Manager Gray stated we will ask people to bring a hot or cold dish to share. The City could provide the paper plates, napkins, utensils etc. We can bring tables from the fire station, City Hall, and ask people to bring their lawn chairs.

**Agenda Item No. 8 – Other Business and Upcoming Meetings**

1. Richie Colbeth asked the City Council if they could do anything about the pond scum on the pond west of town. Mayor Lundbom stated that is a privately owned pond and is outside of the city limits. The owner told the Mayor that he knows of no way to keep the scum from forming or any way to clean it up other than paying someone to come in and clean it up. Mr. Colbeth stated he felt sorry for the ducks; Fire Chief Ron Smith and Public Works Director David Holland stated the ducks actually eat the scum (most of it is duck weed) as a food source. Mr. Colbeth stated the main thing he wanted to talk to the Council about was the trucks roaring down the main road coming into town. Mr. Colbeth said he lives on 7<sup>th</sup> Street and he can hear them coming into town with their jake brake on and he is surprised that nobody is complaining about it. Mayor Lundbom stated he spoke with Patrick Bentz who lives on that hill coming into town, and Allen Hickerson who lives next door to Patrick, neither one of them had a problem with the trucks coming into town. Mayor Lundbom stated he spoke with two truck drivers from Iron Triangle, they said they don't use their exhaust brakes coming into town, maybe its the trucks coming in from Idaho.
2. The August 23, 2013 and September 13, 2013 LOC Bulletins were included in the council packets.
3. The August 2013 Statement of Revenue and Expenditure Budget to Actual Reports were included in the council packets.
4. City Manager Gray informed the City Council that the annual audit went well; the auditor should have the final audit report to the City Council by the end of October or early November 2013.
5. City Manager Gray reviewed the quarterly staff report with the City Council.

**Adjourn**

**There being no further business before the Council, Councilor Steve Schuette made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Donn Willey seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.**

Respectfully Submitted:

Peggy Gray  
City Manager

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, OCTOBER 8, 2013.

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Mayor Ron Lundbom