

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

October 13, 2015

Adjourned Meeting

COUNCILORS PRESENT:

Ron Lundbom, Mayor
Paul Smith, Councilor
Donn Willey, Councilor
Louis Provencher, Councilor
Gregg Haberly, Councilor

COUNCILORS ABSENT:

Steve Schuette, Council President
Lisa Weigum, Councilor

STAFF PRESENT:

Peggy Gray, City Manager
Lance Woodcock, Public Works Director

GUESTS PRESENT:

Lara Petitcherc-Stokes, OTEC
Gary Miller, OTEC
Boyd Britton, Grant County Commissioner
Kyle Spurr, Blue Mountain Eagle

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 Steve Schuette and Lisa Weigum who were absent and excused.

Agenda Item No. 2 – Approval of City Council Minutes of September 22, 2015

The minutes of the September 22, 2015 adjourned meeting were included in the agenda packets and were presented for the Council's approval.

Councilor Donn Willey made a motion to approve the minutes of September 22, 2015 as presented. Councilor Paul Smith seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 3 - Appearance of Interested Citizens

Mayor Lundbom welcomed those in attendance and asked everyone to please sign in and asked if there is anything they would like to add to tonight's agenda. Lara Petitcherc-Stokes, Manager of Communications and Government Affairs from OTEC was present and requested to speak to the Council. Ms. Petitcherc-

Stokes introduced Gary Miller, Grant County Board Member Representative; they were here to present the OTEC quarterly franchise check in the amount of \$17,991.91. Ms. Petitioner-Stokes gave a quick update regarding projects and investments they have going on. Regarding the aftermath of the fires and fighting them for over 2 ½ weeks, battling the blazes and trying to rebuild what had been lost and taken away from their members living along the Canyon Creek wild fire path; OTEC was able to restore power to their members on August 27th. OTEC crews replaced a total of 160 poles equaling 60,000' of wire along the Canyon. The Canyon Creek Complex wild fire and the wild fire in Baker County resulted in an estimated cost of \$1.5 million for OTEC.

Prior to the wild fires, OTEC had just completed a fly job by the J Bar L. The job was in an accessibility-challenged area and the power poles were brought in by helicopter; all of that was lost by the fire. OTEC has hired Michael's Construction Company to repair the 69 kilovolt transmission line that runs through the Canyon and they will begin construction on or by October 20th; project is estimated to be completed by the 15th of December. All private landowners have been notified by the construction company. Ms. Petitioner-Stokes stated that OTEC has made charitable contributions to Grant County community totaling \$2,832.50.

Ms. Petitioner-Stokes concluded by informing the Council that this past June OTEC sent Dawson Quinton to Washington DC as part of their electric youth tour.

Agenda Item No. 4 – Presentation by Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton regarding alternate names opposing those proposed by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and adopted by the Oregon Geographic Names Board.

Mayor Lundbom introduced Grant County Commissioner Boyd Britton. Mr. Britton presented a list of names to the City Council stating these are a little dated; however, he stated he had some good news that some of their requests have been upheld by the National Geographical Names Board and gave some history of the creek names that were accepted.

Commissioner Britton informed the City Council that he has received letters of support from the Monument City Council, the Prairie City Council supporting the County's name proposals and he asked for the support of the John Day City Council. He noted the reason for the request is that the County Court feels the names proposed by the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla and the National Geographical Names Board are very hard to pronounce and were not geographically or historically significant to Grant County.

Councilor Gregg Haberly moved to write a letter supporting the names proposed by Grant County Officials and Citizens. The motion was seconded by Councilor Paul Smith, the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 5 – Review for Adoption Resolution No. 15-747-12, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of John Day, Oregon encouraging the State of Oregon to address Comprehensive Transportation Funding.

City Manager Gray stated at our last city council meeting, it was the consensus of the John Day City Council to draft a resolution encouraging the State of Oregon to increase and make more sustainable funding for highway, road and street maintenance and preservation.

City Manager Gray stated Resolution No. 15-747-12 basically supports the League of Oregon Cities Transportation Package presented to the Legislature at this year's session. As you know this legislation was not supported because of the passing of the Carbon Fuel Tax.

Representative Cliff Bentz requested the John Day City Council adopt a resolution supporting an increase to the gas tax. This resolution seeks passage of the following:

1. An increase in the state gas tax of up to five cents per gallon;
2. Indexing of the state gas tax to the consumer price index or another relevant economic index;
3. Expansion of the calculated method used for the state's transportation user fee to include vehicle miles traveled (VMT);
4. An increase in license plates fees and inclusion of lightweight trailers;
5. Maintaining the dedication of the state's Highway Trust Fund dollars to highway, road and street projects;
6. Continued allocation of Highway Trust fund dollars between the state, counties and cities at 50%-30%-20%, respectively;
7. An increase in the statutory "Small City Allotment" fund from \$1 million to \$5 million annually, split evenly between the Oregon Department of Transportation and the cities share of the trust fund;
8. No preemption of local government ability to generate their own transportation revenues; and
9. Funding for the jurisdictional transfer and maintenance of orphan highways (state highways or county roads that function as city streets).

Mayor Lundbom noted he didn't want a new street tax if the city wasn't going to benefit from it; how would the new tax be distributed among the cities. City Manager Gray stated the resolution states to continue the allocation of Highway Trust fund dollars between the state, counties and cities at 50%-30%-20%; she felt a 5 cent increase per gallon in the state gas would make a difference for the cities.

Councilor Donn Willey questioned the increase of license plate fees and the inclusion of lightweight trailers, what did that mean (motorcycle trailers and other trailers that aren't currently registered)? City Manager Gray stated she could not answer those questions.

Councilor Gregg Haberly stated he would not support it because the DMV will not support ATV licenses.

Councilor Louis Provencher stated this resolution does not support electric cars, bicycles, all road users.

Councilor Donn Willey stated he struggled with the nine bullet points that we did not talk about at our last meeting and he is not comfortable with some of them as a councilman. He did not want vote for a tax increase for the constituents who voted for him; he agreed that we need to do something for our streets but he is uncomfortable with the current resolution.

Mayor Lundbom stated this resolution shows support for a transportation package, it doesn't mean all the items will be accepted, that will be hammered out by the State Legislature.

City Manager Gray stated the council can add or delete whatever they want from the resolutions, she did not own it. The resolution was simply a starting point.

It was the consensus of the Council to table this resolution for further discussion until the next council meeting when hopefully we will have the attendance of the full city council.

Agenda Item No. 6 – Review for Adoption Resolution No. 15-748-13, a Resolution of the City Council of the City of John Day, Oregon encouraging the State of Oregon to examine and provide consistent, sustainable funding for 911 services.

City Manager Gray stated at the last city council meeting, it was the consensus of the John Day City Council to draft a resolution encouraging the State of Oregon to increase the 9-1-1 tax to \$1.25.

This resolution provides the background of the 911 program that was established in 1981 by the Oregon Legislature. It explains the need for more sustainable funding for the 911 system. The funding of Next Generation (NG911) will require the development of new funding; stakeholders agree that current 911 funds are inadequate to support the migration to NG911.

Senator Ted Ferrioli stated at one of our City Hall Day events that cities and counties need to address the diversion of funds from the 911 fund to other uses by the State of Oregon. This resolution addresses that issue and requests the state use revenues derived from the 911 tax solely for the provision of emergency reporting services, thereby ending the practice of diverting both revenues and earned interest to the state's general fund.

Representative Cliff Bentz requested the John Day City Council adopt a resolution supporting an increase to the 911 tax to \$1.25. This resolution supports the following:

1. Ensure adequate resource for both management of the system and the acquisition of the most modern technology.
2. Require that the state use revenues derived from the 9-1-1 tax solely for the provision of emergency reporting services, thereby ending the practice of diverting both revenues and earned interest to the state's general fund.
3. Increase the current \$0.75 per month tax to \$1.25 per month.

Councilor Louis Provencher was very pleased to see the issue of the diversion of funds from the 911 to other uses at the state level and supported the resolution.

Councilor Louis Provencher moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-748-13. Councilor Donn Willey seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 7 – Review for Adoption Resolution No. 15-749-14, a Resolution to declare accounts uncollectible and take off the books as receivable.

Resolution No. 15-749-14 is a resolution to declare account uncollectible and take it off the books as a receivable and turns it over to the collection agency.

Councilor Donn Willey moved to adopt Resolution No. 15-749-14. Councilor Paul Smith seconded the motion, the motion passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 8 – Discuss Canceling the October 27, 2015 City Council meeting.

City Manager Gray will be on vacation beginning October 14, 2015 through October 26, 2015. She recommended the City Council consider canceling the October 27, 2015 city council meeting if there are no pressing issues as she will not be available to prepare the council agenda in time for the council meeting.

Councilor Gregg Haberly moved to cancel the October 27, 2015 city council meeting. Councilor Louis Provencher seconded the motion.

Agenda Item No. 9 – Other Business and Upcoming Meetings

1. LOC Bulletins were included in the Council packets.
2. Councilor Louis Provencher wanted an update on the facilities that could be used by Red Cross during a disaster. City Manager Gray stated Red Cross has a list of facilities that they can use, she stated it depends on where the disaster occurs as to which facility would be available.
3. Councilor Gregg Haberly expressed concerns with the security at the Juniper Ridge Facility. After discussion he stated he would have a conversation with Mark Webb of Community Counseling Solutions.
4. The September 2015 financial reports were presented to the City Council.

Adjourn

There being no further business before the Council, Councilor Donn Willey made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Paul Smith seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

Peggy Gray
City Manager

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL, NOVEMBER 10, 2015

Mayor Ron Lundbom