

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

February 25<sup>th</sup>, 2020

**COUCILORS PRESENT:**

Ron Lundbom, Mayor  
Steve Schuette, Council President  
Gregg Haberly, Councilor  
Paul Smith, Councilor  
Elliot Sky, Councilor  
David Holland, Councilor

**COUNCILORS ABSENT:**

Shannon Adair, Councilor- excused

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Nicholas Green, City Manager  
Don Gabbard, Fire Chief  
Daisy Goebel, Associate Planner  
Aaron Lieuallen, Project Manager  
Adam Heninger  
Monte Legg, Public Works Director

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Rudy Diaz, Blue Mountain Eagle  
Mike Springer, Benchmark Surveying  
Chris Labhart, Hope for Paws  
Dusty Williams  
Brett Moore, Anderson Perry  
Mike Lees, Anderson Perry  
Liz Aleman, John Day Resident/Planning Commissioner

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

Mayor Lundbom called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm, noting everyone was present except for Councilor Adair who was excused.

**Agenda Item No. 2—Approval of Prior City Council Minutes**

*Minutes from February 11<sup>th</sup> were presented. Councilor Holland pointed out two spelling errors which were corrected.*

**Councilor Smith moved to approve the minutes from February 11<sup>th</sup> as amended. Councilor Schuette seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

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

Mayor Lundbom welcomed the public and asked if there was anyone present for something not on the agenda. *None appearing.*

#### **Agenda Item No. 4—Consent Agenda**

*Nothing Presented.*

#### **Agenda Item No. 5— Executive Session**

**Councilor Smith moved to enter executive session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e). Councilor Schuette Seconded. The motion passed unanimously.**

Council discussed matters related to ORS 192.66(2)(e).

**Councilor Holland moved to exit executive session at 6:42 P.M. Councilor Haberly seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

#### **Recess**

**Councilor Schuette moved to recess until 7 P.M. Councilor Holland seconded and the motion passed unanimously.**

After a recess, Mayor Lundbom called the meeting back to order and welcomed the public.

#### **Agenda Item No. 6—Hope 4 Paws**

Chris Labhart, Vice president of Grant County Hope 4 Paws, explained the vision and structure of the organization. Hope 4 Paws was presented as the only animal control organization in the county, fully volunteer run and donation funded. The largest program Hope 4 Paws does is spaying and neutering stray animals. They also help pet owners feed animals when they cannot afford food and micro-chip animals free of charge. Mr. Labhart explained the need for local regulations regarding stray animals. Hope 4 Paws would like to see an ordinance on a county level that gives them the authority to take custody of unclaimed animals. Labhart also asked for a donation from the city to continue operations. Mayor Lundbom committed to adding the funding request from Hope 4 Paws to the agenda during the next budget discussion.

#### **Agenda Item No. 7—Wastewater Treatment Plan Update**

City Manager Green recapped the process the city has gone through to receive approval and funding for the design, environmental assessments, archeological surveys, and the preliminary phases of engineering for the new wastewater treatment plant. Bret Moore and Mike Lees from Anderson Perry gave a status report on their involvement in the plant. Mr. Moore explained the preliminary engineering report that was recently completed and the different options the city has for construction, equipment, and processes. These elements along with location, components, and cost will be determined in the next phases of the planning process. The preliminary floorplan and diagrams of site schematics were presented by Anderson Perry. The team explained the problem of seasonal inflow that occurs during periods of high water and several ideas they are discussing for how to deal with the issue while public works finds the source or sources of the inflow and infiltration.

Councilor Schuette asked what the timeline would be and the team clarified that the timeline is primarily funding-dependent. Green explained the timeline for USDA rural development and other funding opportunities as well as the constraints presented by Rural Development related to their funding. Mr. Lees explained the DEQ permitting process for this project and how they are addressing DEQ's groundwater requirements. Green explained his sense of urgency and the need for common sense federal regulations that work for small cities.

**Councilor Schuette made a motion to authorize the City Manager and Mayor Lundbom to submit the USDA Rural Development funding application as presented, and to sign all future documents related to this application on behalf of the City. The motion was seconded by Councilor Smith and passed anonymously.**

#### **Agenda Item No. 8— Downtown Parking Plans**

Green presented the city's draft plan for downtown parking and asked the council to assist with finalizing the design. Councilor Schuette requested that handicap parking be added near the public restroom area of the City Hall parking plan. Green proposed a lot line adjustment to expand the parking area at city hall. Councilor Holland expressed concern for the location of the oversize pull through parking spaces with regard to visibility. Dusty Williams suggested a few potential improvements to address this concern. Staff will continue to adjust the design to address these concerns. Councilor Schuette addressed the design of the Canton Street Parking Lot and asked whether the turning radius of the proposed design is sufficient. Green proposed eliminating a few parking spaces to allow for more space for ingress and egress. Chris Labhart provided input regarding the demographic of drivers that utilize RV parking and emphasized the importance of having restroom and drinking facilities at the parking lots, Labhart also asked if Kiosks will be provided. Green announced the city will be working with Cycle Oregon to further improve these designs.

#### **Agenda Item No. 9—Other Business & Upcoming Meetings**

Green gave an update on current city projects and provided a timeline for expending funding that has been awarded for the integrated parks system. The transient room tax was further discussed and will be brought up for public discussion in an April City Council Meeting. Upcoming meetings were announced.

Mayor Lundbom asked if there was any other business to discuss.

Liz Aleman presented information on Cycle Oregon's 7-day event this summer and asked the council to consider this event as a major tourism opportunity. The organization expects to host 1,000+ riders in John Day and Ms. Aleman recommended the council take a thoughtful and deliberate approach to welcoming and capitalizing on this event with an eye to the economic development opportunities available. Aleman also recommended that John Day pursue a Cycle Oregon grant to fund the parking and restroom projects the council has been discussing.

**There being no further business before the council, Councilor Holland moved to adjourn the regular session meeting at 8:04 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Schuette and passed unanimously.**

#### **Adjourn**

Respectfully Submitted:

Nicholas Green  
City Manager

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON MARCH 10, 2020

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'RL', is written over a horizontal line. The signature is stylized and somewhat illegible.

Ron Lundbom, Mayor