

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

April 11<sup>th</sup>, 2023

**COUCILORS PRESENT:**

Heather Rookstool, Mayor  
Sherrie Rininger, Councilor  
David Holland, Councilor  
Katrina Randleas, Councilor  
Elliot Sky, Councilor  
Ron Phillips, Councilor

**COUNCILORS ABSENT:**

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Casey Myers, Public Works Director  
Anna Bass, City Recorder  
Rick Allen, Interim City Manager  
Stephanie Allen, Senior Accountant (Virtual)  
Sarah Wright, Cashier

**GUESTS PRESENT:**

Shannon Adair  
Jeremy Adair  
Jim Spell  
Beth Spell  
Chris Labhart  
John Rowell  
Bob Pereira  
Heather Swank  
Carl Swank  
Louis Provencher  
Ryan M  
Jon Meiling

**ONLINE GUESTS PRESENT:**

Kim Rollins                   HW  
Chris Ostberg               MF  
Dagney  
Ann  
Zach Denney  
Grant Co Fair and RV  
Judy  
JL  
Michele  
Dawn DeGrande  
ZW  
Phil DeGrande

**Agenda Item No. 1—Call Meeting to Order**

Mayor Rookstool called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

**Agenda Item No. 2—Roll Call and Attendance**

Mayor Rookstool noted that all councilors were present as well as Rick Allen, Interim City Manager.

**Agenda Item No. 3—Amend or Accept Regular Agenda**

Mayor Rookstool gave amendments to the agenda as follows: there will be minutes from the City Council Work Session on March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 to be approved as well as the City Council Meeting on March



28<sup>th</sup>, 2023. The approval of the check registry is also needed. The final amendment is a request from Councilor Rininger to discuss speed signs.

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

Items on the consent agenda for approval:

- a) Check Register
- b) Approval of March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 City Council Minutes
- c) Approval of March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 City Council Work Session Minutes

***Councilor Randleas made a motion to approve the work session and regular minutes from the March 28<sup>th</sup>, 2023 council meeting with the changes presented. Councilor Rininger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

***Councilor Rininger made a motion to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

#### **Agenda Item No. 5—Public Comments**

Mayor Rookstool welcomed the public and asked if there was anyone present for something not on the agenda. No one came forward for comment.

#### **Agenda Item No. 6- Supplemental Budget Hearing & Budget Resolution Adoption**

##### **1) Call Supplemental Budget Hearing to Order**

Mayor Rookstool called the Supplemental Budget hearing to order.

##### **2) Staff Report**

Anna Bass stated there will be several funds changing in the budget. In the water fund the only changes are the interfund transfers. We are going to increase the transfers to the motor pool from \$40,000 to \$74,000, to cover the purchase of a vehicle that was approved by the council that was not budgeted for. The debt refinance payments are decreasing from \$838,000 to \$175,000 which allows us to put \$629,000 into contingency. We are increasing the transfer from the sewer fund to the motor pool fund by \$33,000 as well as the joint sewer fund by \$5,000. We are decreasing the debt payment due to the balloon payment not being made, which increases the contingency by \$194,000. In the project construction of the sewer fund, there is a new grant from ODE for the crep project for \$100,000 so we are showing that as a revenue. We are also moving 4.7 million dollars out of the sewer system facility improvements line to the package treatment plant. In the joint sewer fund we have the transfer to the motor pool for \$5,000 increase to help cover the cost of the pickup, that money is coming in from the sewer fund. In the street fund Anna is going to decrease the wages and salaries by \$5,000. In capital outlay we have a property purchase of \$127,000. Malheur Lumber Company is going to be donating \$42,000 to the city, so we're increasing landscaping improvements by \$42,000. We moved the \$200,000 from the downtown revitalization line to the business grants. In the community development fund the building improvements line we're breaking out \$593,000 into different

projects. We decreased our networking capital by \$220,000, which increased the revenue line by \$220,000 because of the timing issues. Most of these changes are due to timing and changes that the council made after the budget had been adopted, that were not anticipated during the budget process.

3) **Comments from the Public**

There were no comments from the public made.

4) **Council Deliberations, Questions, and/or Comments**

Council members had no questions or comments related to the supplemental budget hearing.

5) **Close Supplemental Budget Hearing**

Mayor Rookstool closed the Supplemental Budget Hearing at 7:27 pm.

6) **Resolution 23-xxx**

*Councilor Randleas made a motion to approve 23-902-02 Resolution. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rininger and passed unanimously.*

**Agenda Item No. 7—Regular Agenda**

1) **City Council Vacancy – Interview and Appointment**

a. **Adair, Shannon**

Shannon Adair has been on city council for 6 years. Adair addressed the issue about the ethics complaint that is against her currently. She said, “First of all I am not admitting guilt, I am not in negotiations, I am innocent until proven guilty, and I have not received anything yet from the investigator to negotiate.” The charge was that she used her position for financial gain. Which she stated she did not, and she provided documentation to the investigator to show that. Adair asked the council to consider that just because someone filed an ethics complaint against somebody it does not mean that they’re unethical or that they did anything wrong, until it’s proven.

b. **Colbeth, Richard**

Not Present.

c. **Labhart, Chris**

As a former city council member and mayor for the city of John Day, he stated that he knows how a good functional city council works. Labhart said, “I have never been involved in any projects former city manager, Nick Green brought before the council in the past 6 year.” Labhart has always been involved in the community and in a variety of activities. He wants to see the city of John Day be the best it can be. Labhart stated if the council were to select him for city council they would receive someone who is honest, fair and brings no hidden agenda to the position.

d. **Meiling, Jon**

Meiling stated that all of his views are the same as they have been, he hasn't changed anything since the last time he ran for council.

***Councilor Rininger made a motion to elect Chris Labhart for city council. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion. The vote was 5-1 with Councilor Holland being the only one opposed. Labhart will be sworn in April 25<sup>th</sup> at the next city council meeting.***

2) **Discussion of Security Cameras at City Hall and Public Works**

Rick Allen brought up the fact that there are no cameras at the city hall or public works. Casey Myers believes it is a necessity to have cameras for the safety and well being of the employees. As well as keeping the general public accountable for their actions and reactions to the staff.

***Councilor Sky made a motion to acquire cameras for the City Hall and Public Works building and work with ESD throughout that. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

3) **Community Development Director Position**

Rick Allen stated someone for this position is very hard to recruit but possible. Councilor Sky proposed that we amend the qualification of having 10 years of experience to having 3-5 years of experience.

***Councilor Randleas made a motion to move forward with the community development director position as presented with a couple changes. Councilor Rininger seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

4) **Amend Budget Calendar**

***Councilor Rininger made a motion to approve the amended budget calendar. Councilor Phillips seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.***

5) **R3 Discussion**

Anything that comes before the board does take the 3 original members to reach consensus. Councilor Rininger made a comment on how she was against this in the beginning but now that it has evolved and additions have been made she thinks that she can safely move forward. Others agreed with her.

***Rick Allen asked if there was a consensus with the city council to move forward. Everyone agreed to move forward with R3.***

6) **Speed Sign**

Councilor Rininger brought up putting in solar speed signs at the edge of town and would like someone to approach ODOT to see if we can get that done for our city.

**Agenda Item No. 7—Additional Comments, Announcements and Departmental Reports**

No additional comments were made.

The next council meeting is on April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 pm.

**Adjourn**

***There being no further business before the council, Councilor Randleas moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:02 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Phillips and passed unanimously.***

Respectfully Submitted:

Rick Allen  
Interim City Manager

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON APRIL 25<sup>th</sup>, 2023

  
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Heather Rookstool, Mayor