

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

July 11th, 2023

COUCILORS PRESENT:

Heather Rookstool, Mayor
David Holland, Council President
Katrina Randleas, Councilor
Chris Labhart, Councilor
Ron Phillips, Councilor
Sherrie Rininger, Councilor

COUNCILORS ABSENT:

STAFF PRESENT:

Casey Myers, Public Works Director
Don Gabbard, Fire Chief
Steph Allen, Senior Account Clerk (Virtual)
Sarah Wright, Secretary (Virtual)

GUESTS PRESENT:

Shannon Adair	Jody Moulton
Bob Pereira	Jon Meiling
Carl Swank	Justin Davis
Heather Swank	John Rowell

Agenda Item No. 1—Call Meeting to Order

Mayor Rookstool called the city council meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Agenda Item No. 2—Pledge of Allegiance

The City Council stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

Agenda Item No. 3—Roll Call and Attendance

Mayor Rookstool noted that all councilors were present.

Agenda Item No. 4—Amend or Accept Regular Agenda

Mayor Rookstool would like to add an update on the cleaning position as well as helping at the Fair Grounds.
Councilor Rininger would like to add an update about a motion that was made at a previous meeting.

Councilor Phillips made a motion to approve the amended agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rininger and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 5—Consent Agenda

Items on the consent agenda for approval:

- a) Approval of Check Register
- b) Approval of Council Minutes

Councilor Rininger made a motion to approve the June 6th amended Budget Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Phillips and passed unanimously.

Councilor Randleas made a motion to approve the June 7th Special Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rininger and passed unanimously.

Councilor Randleas made a motion to approve the June 27th URA & Budget Meeting Minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor Holland and passed unanimously.

For the June 27th, 2023 City Council meeting minutes Councilor Rininger would like to add on Agenda Item No. 11 (a) that she did leave the room due to a conflict of interest. Also, on Agenda Item No. 12 it states that on July 28th there will be no City Manager and that should be removed.

Councilor Rininger made a motion to approve the June 27th City Council Meeting minutes with the changes presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Randleas and passed unanimously.

Councilor Rininger made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Randleas and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 6—Public Comments

Mayor Rookstool welcomed the public and asked if there was anyone present for something not on the agenda.

Cam Marlowe had heard that the CyberMill building is not going to get used. Mayor Rookstool stated that is not true we are still moving forward just waiting for approval. Cam Marlowe was just clarifying because he sold that building to the City not because he wanted to sell it but because he wanted to do something good for the community.

Agenda Item No. 7—Public Hearing and Consideration of Ordinance No. 23-903-03

a. Mayor Opens the Public Hearing

Mayor Rookstool opened the public hearing for Ordinance No. 23-903-03. An ordinance approving, ratifying, and declaring City of John Day's intent to (A) create a certain housing and public improvement intergovernmental entity, commonly known as regional rural revitalization (R3) strategies consortium, in accordance with ORS 190.085, and (B) City of John Day's admission into the intergovernmental entity; an declaring an emergency.

Councilor Rininger excused herself from the room due to a conflict of interest because the building she occupies is part of this program.

Councilor Radleas made a motion to open the public hearing for Ordinance No. 23-903-03. The motion was seconded by Councilor Holland and passed unanimously.

b. Staff Report

The first official meeting for R3 with all four cities will be on July 18th.

c. Public Testimony (Oral or Written)

Bob Pereira believes this is another bad decision by the City's administration. He believes the City is using tax payer money for the chosen few. He thinks that although R3 will not cost anything today, down the road it will. He also thinks the City needs to take care of the problems created by administration before getting involved in anything else.

d. **Staff Comments in Response to Public Testimony**

Mayor Rookstool stated that no one is currently hired for R3 and no one is being paid or compensated. Every Council has selected their board member representation.

e. **Mayor Closes the Public Hearing**

Mayor Rookstool closed the public hearing for Ordinance No. 23-903-03 at 7:15 pm.

f. **Council Deliberations, Questions, and/or Comments**

Councilor Labhart doesn't believe this should be declaring an emergency because it is not affecting health, safety, or peace. The sooner this is established the sooner these projects can get done and some of these projects are for safety issues because they deal with streets.

g. **Motion to Adopt**

Councilor Holland made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-903-03 an ordinance approving, ratifying, and declaring City of John Day's intent to (A) create a certain housing and public improvement intergovernmental entity, commonly known as regional rural revitalization (R3) strategies consortium, in accordance with ORS 190.085, and (B) City of John Day's admission into the intergovernmental entity; an declaring an emergency. Councilor Randleas seconded the motion.

h. **Mayor Calls for Roll Call Vote**

The motion to adopt Ordinance No. 23-903-03 passed 3-2 with Councilor Labhart and Councilor Phillips voting against it. Councilor Rininger was not present to vote.

Councilor Randleas made a motion to close the public hearing at 7:19 pm for Ordinance No. 23-903-03. The motion was seconded by Councilor Labhart and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 9—City Manager Update

Council interviewed a gentleman last week and have the opportunity to bring him in with a 3-month contract. He is requesting a salary of \$135,000. This gentleman comes with planning, public works and city manager background. Councilor Labhart is on the administrative committee and wanted to know why he wasn't informed. Councilor Holland believes the council should be able to see the other applications. Everyone on Council was very pleased with how the interview went.

Councilor Holland made a motion to allow Mayor Rookstool to move forward with the City Attorney to secure the public employee contract for him. The motion was seconded by Councilor Rininger and passed unanimously.

Agenda Item No. 10—Councilor Rininger

Councilor Rininger brought up the statement that Councilor Holland made at the last meeting about putting aside money for the sheriff's department. Councilor Rininger stated that on March 8th 2022 in the minutes Councilor Holland moved that the City is willing to work with the County and willing to help and pay their share but not willing to pay for the full cost of 2-3 officers on their own. Councilor Holland

stated the motion was actually that the City would work with the County on a county wide solution to pay our fair share. Councilor Rininger and Councilor Phillips met with Jim Hamsher trying to get a fair solution for the lack of response being made to emergency phone calls. One option that was discussed was any 911 call that is made and the County responded to, the City would pay that. The public safety committee is open to other ideas.

Agenda Item No. 11—Cleaning Job

The City did receive a bid from a professional service but it is out of their budget range. It will be put out as a part time job for \$21.00 an hour, no more than 7 hours a week. This person will come in during business hours at the City Hall.

Councilor Randleas made a motion to post the job to the public. The motion was seconded by Councilor Holland and passed 5-1, Councilor Phillips being opposed due to not doing a background check.

Agenda Item No. 12—Additional Department, Council or Other Comments

The Fair Grounds are looking for volunteers to help out at the fair. If you have time to volunteer please do so.

Heather Swank would like to see the gravel from winter be cleaned up. Her other issue was regarding the police. Within the last two days she has had multiple vehicles racing down her street and believes we need police and someone we can call in those situations.

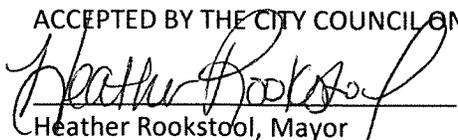
Adjourn

There being no further business before the council, Councilor Holland moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:01 PM. The motion was seconded by Councilor Randleas and passed unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted:

Heather Rookstool
Mayor

ACCEPTED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON August 8th, 2023


Heather Rookstool, Mayor