

City of St. Helens City Council

Regular Session Minutes

April 4, 2018

Members Present: Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Doug Morten
Councilor Ginny Carlson
Councilor Susan Conn
Councilor Keith Locke
Youth Councilor David Ryder

Members Absent: None

Staff Present: John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Matt Brown, Finance Director
Margaret Jeffries, Library Director
Jenny Dimsho, Associate Planner
Terry Moss, Police Chief
Crystal Farnsworth, Communications Officer

Others:

Julie Thompson	Andrew Dilton
Rich Bailey	Brady Preheim
Ellen Bailey	Rosemary Clement
Patrick Birkle	Charles Castner
Hannah Stewart	Matt Phemester
Kenna Reinholdt	Alyson Blasier
Jordan Caveman	Addison Hiatt
Don Maywald	Jason Resch
Jenny Maywald	Shauna Stroup-Harrison
Savanah O.	Nick Scholl
Grace Smith	

- 1) **Call Regular Session to Order - 7:00 p.m.**
- 2) **Pledge of Allegiance**

Presentation of Plaque to Patrick Birkle, Budget Committee

Mayor Scholl thanked Patrick Birkle for his six years of service on the Budget Committee. Council members added their sentiments of appreciation to Patrick for his service to the community.

- 3) **Visitor Comments - Limited to five (5) minutes per speaker**
 - ◆ Rosemary Clement. She read a letter into the record. A copy is included in the archive meeting packet. She holds the City Council responsible for contractors they hire and for communicating with the public. She sent an email to Mayor Scholl about the Waterfront property and never received a response. She was told by another Councilor to direct her
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questions to Tina Curry but finds that unacceptable. Rosemary does not want the Spirit of Halloweentown promoted all year long. It cheapens the reputation. Also, she would like a timeline of the Waterfront development. It is the greatest asset. She encouraged the City to focus on outdoor recreation. OMIC is coming to Scappoose and she would like to see St. Helens benefit from it.

- ◆ Charlie Castner, husband of Rosemary. He does not understand the stonehinge and how it relates to Spirit of Halloweentown. There is so much opportunity to focus on natural resources. The idea of a ferry to Sand Island and Washington is great. He talked about communication with Tina Curry being difficult. He suggested the Council talk to her about being more approachable.
- ◆ Brady Preheim. He read a letter from Nancy Whitney into the record. She depends on the City government to be open and honest. She asked a staff member what the fencing was for around a portion of the Waterfront property and was told that it was secret and confidential. She is asking the Council to inform staff what is confidential and what is not. Brady added his own comments. He thinks Tina is doing a fantastic job. His criticism is more with Mr. Walsh. He understands the public can be annoying when you're busy. It's his job to explain what is happening in the City. He also holds the Council responsible for all being in attendance at the merchants meeting. They know the rules and someone should have left so there was no quorum.

Mayor Scholl apologized for not getting back to Rosemary. Calling his cell phone is the best way to reach him. Spirit of Halloweentown will not be a year-long event. The Council has been discussing the Festival of Fairies over the last few work sessions. Having all the Council at the merchant's meeting was not planned. It was a mistake and will not happen again. No decisions were being made there. It was a meeting to find out how Tina could be a better help to the merchants. Tina paid to rent the space and have it catered. She has also taken on 4th of July when they were unable to get volunteers.

Rosemary asked if Tina is being paid more money to take on additional events. Mayor Scholl responded that she is not being paid more.

Councilor Carlson added that the merchants have expressed that they want more business support. The events bring people downtown to shop and eat at restaurants.

Mayor Scholl talked about the first merchants meeting, where he and Councilor Carlson were there only Council members in attendance. It just so happened everyone showed up to the next meeting. No decisions were made. He is working for the citizens and to be of service to his community.

- ◆ Shauna Straup-Harrison. She is in favor of the ferry across the river. She is concerned about the push to build big development on the Waterfront that will not be sustainable or affordable. It will become a hindrance like the South Waterfront in Portland. She wants to see livability. The Council works for the betterment of the community. She would like to see sustainable businesses.

Councilor Conn pointed out that more Waterfront property is available for development. She encouraged Shauna to send interested developers to the City.

Mayor Scholl talked about plans for the Waterfront development and opportunities for the public to participate.

- The second Riverfront Corridor meeting is happening soon.
- The Urban Renewal District Agency has met and approved a plan.
- The City is working with a developer for the Waterfront property.
- Talking about studies for the boardwalk.

Shauna understands that things are being done but wants the opportunity to voice her concerns. Community members are here and want to be heard.

Council President Morten appreciates the visitor comments and criticism. It's the way the Council becomes aware and grows.

4) **Deliberations: Planned Development Overlay Zone at 34759 Sykes Road (Kessi Engineering & Consulting)**

Mayor Scholl is in favor of the plan. It maintains the 50 foot buffer from wetlands and works around the BPA easement.

Councilor Conn appreciates the larger buffer around the wetlands.

Council President Morten finds the plan flawless with how it has to work around all the obstacles.

City Administrator Walsh talked about the overlay. It is a tool for working with property that has obstacles.

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Morten's second, the Council unanimously approved the Planned Development Overlay Zone at 34759 Sykes Road as recommended by the Planning Commission.

5) **Ordinances - Final Reading**

- 5.a Ordinance No. 3226: An Ordinance to Annex and Designate the Zone of Certain Property at 2130 Gable Road

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3226 by title for the final time. **Motion:** Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously adopted Ordinance No. 3226. [AYES: Scholl, Carlson, Conn, Locke, Morten; Nays: None]

6) **Ordinances - First Reading**

- 6.a Ordinance No. 3322: An Ordinance Vacating a Portion of North First Street Right of Way and Reserving Public Utility and Construction Easements

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3322 by title for the first time. The final reading will be held at the next regular session.

7) **Resolutions**

- 7.a Resolution No. 1811: A Resolution of the Common Council of the City of St. Helens, Oregon, Adopting a Supplemental Budget for Making Appropriations for Fiscal Year 2017-18

Motion: Upon Morten's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1811. [AYES: Scholl, Carlson, Conn, Locke, Morten; Nays: None]

- 7.b Resolution No. 1812: A Resolution in Support of a Feasibility Study for Ferry Service from South Columbia County, Oregon to Washington State

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Locke's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1812. [AYES: Scholl, Carlson, Conn, Locke, Morten; Nays: None]

7.c Public Comments - Proposed Increase in Garbage & Recycling Rates
No comments received.

- 7.d Resolution No. 1813: A Resolution Establishing Garbage & Recycling Rates and Superseding Resolution No. 1792

Discussion. Council President Morten assured citizens that Hudson Garbage has a good history of reducing rates to the rate payers if their costs are reduced. They will continue recycling even with the rising costs.

Motion: Upon Locke's motion and Carlson's second, the Council unanimously adopted Resolution No. 1813. [AYES: Scholl, Carlson, Conn, Locke, Morten; Nays: None]

8) **Approve and/or Authorize for Signature**

- 8.a [Ratify] Agreement with Miller Consulting Engineers, Inc. for Professional Structural Engineering Services

Motion: Upon Carlson's motion and Morten's second, the Council unanimously approved '8a' above.

9) **Consent Agenda for Acceptance**

- 9.a Planning Commission Minutes dated February 13, 2018

Motion: Upon Conn's motion and Locke's second, the Council unanimously approved '9a' above.

10) **Consent Agenda for Approval**

- 10.a Work Session, Executive Session, Public Hearing, and Regular Session Minutes dated March 7 & 21, 2018
10.b Declare Surplus Property - Water Filtration Facility Equipment
10.c Street Closure Request from Amani Center for Race Against Child Abuse
10.d OLCC Licenses
10.e Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Upon Carlson's motion and Conn's second, the Council unanimously approved '10a' through '10e' above.

11) **Mayor Scholl Reports**

- Glad to see high school students here tonight. They were able to see democracy at work. It's important to come and educate yourself when you have questions. The Council is no different than anyone else here.
- Facebook can be a place for people to just be mean and it can be easy for people to get caught up in it. He is not perfect and apologizes for any future shortcomings.

12) **Council Member Reports**

Council President Morten reported...

- Encouraged community members to attend Monday's Parks Commission. He is excited about a proposal that will be presented. It will have a profound effect on the Waterfront.
- He is excited about the Veteran's Plaza being developed in McCormick Park.

- Encouraged people to contact him with questions about the parks.

Councilor Conn reported...

- Welcomed everyone here tonight. She appreciates them coming. This is the forum to be heard. The Council tries to do their best.

Councilor Locke reported...

- This is his 18th year on the Council. They have been working on the Waterfront that entire time. It's a process and they don't take it lightly.

Councilor Carlson reported...

- Missed the work session earlier because of other commitments.
- Appreciates the feedback from citizens. She shares some of their same concerns. The people who live here have an expectation for the Waterfront property and their input will be considered.
- Participating in the National Alliance Mental Illness (NAMI) fundraising walk.
- Participating in a Regards to Rural event that will be held in Portland this year. It bridges the gap between rural and city divide.
- Working with Public Health to start a cancer support network for the community. They will be sponsoring and leading walks four days a week for survivors, family members, and people affected by cancer. It's a free event.

Youth Councilor Ryder reported...

- Al and Kannikar Petersen attended the last Youth Council meeting. They presented information and flyers on two upcoming events; Earth Day Cleanup and Blues & Folk Music Workshop. The flyers will be distributed at the schools.
- He attended KOHI today and talked about Chef School.

13) Department Reports

Chief Moss reported...

- Elijah Merkwan will be sworn in at the next work session.

Associate Planner Dimsho reported...

- Nothing to report.

Communications Officer Farnsworth reported...

- Nothing to report.

Library Director Jeffries reported...

- The Library is hosting Author Willy Vlautin as part of Columbia County Reads on Thursday, April 26 at 7 p.m. She encouraged people to come.

Finance Director Brown reported...

- Budget Committee meeting tomorrow at 6 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

City Recorder Payne reported...

- Nothing to report.

City Administrator Walsh reported...

- There was a lot of talk about the Waterfront and tourism today. The City's work on the Waterfront has been to ensure public access. If a private developer had purchased it, there wouldn't be the same level of public access. They want to draw people to the community long term. He talked about the draw of hotel industries. With the tourism events that draw thousands of people, travelers are having to stay in Portland due to the lack of hotels in St. Helens.
- There was a comment earlier about secrets and him not being available. Anyone who works with him knows that his door is always open. He welcomes people to come talk with him.

Council President Morten talked about the vision of the Waterfront. Sustainability was a key word for its development.

14) **Other Business**

15) **Adjourn – 7:57 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:



Kathy Payne, City Recorder



Rick Scholl, Mayor