



City Council Minutes
Irrigon City Council Meeting
June 10, 2008
7:00 PM
Irrigon City Hall
500 NE Main Avenue

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Mayor Pro-Tem Johns.

Roll was called; Councilors present were Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, and Jesse Pena. Mayor James Ray was absent.

City Manager Gerald Breazeale; Public Works Director Keith White and Utility Billing Clerk Penny Moore were present.

In the audience: John R Swanson, Tim R Beatty, Joe Cox, Jack Cupples, Mildred K Shade, Nathen R Braun, Rick Jewett, Amy Sandy, Dick Cole, Linda Cole, Warren H McCoy, Richard Kent, Mike Pearsall, and Vivian Pearsall.

At this time Sheriff Ken Matlack introduced new Morrow County Code Enforcement Officer Nathen Braun. Sheriff Matlack informed the citizens in the audience to call the Sheriff Department for code enforcement or any other calls.

2. Comments from Citizens not on the Agenda – Max. 5 Minutes/person

Citizen Amy Sandy addressed the council and the audience to thank all for their help during and after the fire June 2. Ms Sandy continued to state how wonderful the community has been.

3. Correspondence

No comments.

4. Approval of Rate Increase by Sanitary Disposal, Inc.

City Manager Gerald Breazeale introduced Mike Jewett from Sanitary Disposal stating that SDI has not had a rate increase for quite a long time. Mr. Jewett discussed four different proposals with new rates and to

become effective July 1, 2008. One of the proposals included adding a recycle box for plastic. Councilor Ken Matlack questioned the need of a recycle box of plastic from SDI at this time. Mr. Breazeale stated that the staff recommended SDI taking back the billing of garbage services and increase the franchise fee from 3% to 7%. Mr. Breazeale went on to state that the relief for the office staff not having to deal with garbage issues would be well worth the extra cost. Mr. Jewett stated that SDI would go back to billing garbage services quarterly.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to go with the staff recommendation for the rate increase for 35 gallon can to \$7.75 and 90 gallon can to \$12.70 and increasing the franchise fee from 3% to 7%. Councilor Jesse Pena seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

5. Approval of Minutes – May 27, 2008 Council Meeting

Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to approve the minutes. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

6. Children Helping Children – August 16th and 17th

This item was tabled from the previous council meeting. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that this event would be a great opportunity for our city and our skate park if the council approves. There has been a request to close North Main Avenue between Sixth and Seventh Street August 16 and 17. Mr. Breazeale stated that the purpose of the event is to involve children helping children and making them aware of how fortunate they are and how they can make a difference in another child's life. Councilor Bob Flournoy questioned the insurance coverage. Mr. Breazeale explained that they do have insurance, however if the council would give approval for the event, they could fall under the City's umbrella insurance. Councilor Ken Matlack stated that the City could use barricades to close the streets.

Councilor Jesse Pena made the motion to approve the Children Helping Children event for August 16 and 17, 2008. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

7. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns **opened Public Hearing.** First up was Resolution No. 08--10, a Resolution Establishing Rates and Charges for Sewer Service.

City Manager Gerald Breazeale give a presentation on the 2008 sewer rate increase and why it is necessary. The annual bond payment is \$237,422, the annual operating costs is \$360,200, making the total \$597,622. The cost increase is due to the new treatment plant and collection system. Rate calculations show total resources necessary \$595,400, total ERU's (equivalent residential units) 804, divided by 12 months equal \$61.71 a month average if on sewer rates alone. Mr. Breazeale proposed solution is to increase base sewer rates to \$54.00 a month for all users, tax all property assessed value at \$0.60/\$1000 and to add a \$10.00 city surcharge for customers outside the city limits that are not subject to taxes. The budget is set to this formula.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns asked the citizens in attendance for any comments. Linda Cole 75074 W Oregon Lane stated her concerns being about the surcharge and how many years of indebtedness for the sewer loan does the city have. Mr. Breazeale stated 40 years, with 38 years left on the sewer loan. Ms. Cole stated that she would love to get off the city sewer system. Jack Cupples 75175 W Oregon Lane stating that he uses no more water with two in his family than a family of six inside city limits and the concern is that like himself and others and they are on a fixed income. Joe Cox 75055 W Oregon Lane stated that he could see the improvement the city is doing but he feel they are not getting any extra service and would like to get off

the city sewer system. John Swanson 75096 W Oregon Lane asked how they could get disconnected from the city sewer system. Mr. Breazeale stated that they would need to go through DEQ to disconnect from the City. Mr. Swanson continued to state that the outside of city limits customers are being penalized because they are out side city limits and to add a \$10.00 surcharge. Mr. Breazeale stated that the average cost to all customers will be approximately \$61.00 a month and although this would raise the out of city rates higher than in city rates; the city customers will also be paying part of the sewer debt retirement on their taxes. The City does not have any means of attaching a tax bill onto property outside the city.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns continued **open Public Hearing** with Resolution No. 08-11, a Resolution Declaring the City's Election to Receive State Revenues.

City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the City of Irrigon gets approximately \$10,000 a year through the State of Oregon tippage fees. Dick McCombs representing the Stroke's Landing Senior Center took the floor to request receiving some of the grant dollars for repairs, regarding paving the parking lot, roof needs, and paint. Councilor Bob Flournoy stated that the council has always supported the Senior Center, and asked if the Center has checked into other resources to be applied for, like, grants from Morrow County.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns continued **open Public Hearing** with Resolution No. 08-12, a Resolution to Adopt the City of Irrigon Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009; to Make Appropriations; to Determine, Make, and Declare the Ad Valorum Tax Levy for Each Fund; and to Categorize the Levy as Provided in ORS 310.060(2).

City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the figures on page 4 of the budget, utility deposit trust lines needed to be changed which changes the total budget bottom line to \$8,170,900.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns **closed the Public Hearing**.

8. City Council Action

Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to approve Resolution No. 08-10, A Resolution Establishing Rates and Charges for Sewer Service. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to accept Resolution No. 08-11, A Resolution Declaring the City's Election to Receive State Revenues. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to approve Resolution No. 08-12, A Resolution to Adopt the City of Irrigon Budget for Fiscal Year 2008-2009; to Make Appropriations; to Determine, Make, and Declare the Ad Valorum Tax Levy for Each Fund; and to categorize the Levy as Provided in ORS 310.060(2). Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Water Improvement Project

City Manager Gerald Breazeale announced the pre-construction conference is scheduled for June 12, 2008 at 1 p.m. at City Hall. After the conference, the contractor will be released to start digging.

10. Old City Hall Building – Multicultural Arts Center

Mr. Breazeale announced that the City of Irrigon no longer owns the old Irrigon School House.

11. Public Works Committee Report

Meeting was postponed.

12. Report from the Morrow County Sheriff – Written Report in Packet

Councilor Ken Matlack explained the sheriff report after Councilor Bob Flournoy questioned some activity. Councilor Flournoy thanked the Sheriff for all the hours put in.

13. Staff Reports

Keith White Public Works Director reported on the nitrates being on the rise this time of the year. The levels are up to 13.4 since last report.

Mr. White stated the lift station M has problem due to a combination of moisture and bad electrical connections and electronics. Mr. White stated that Darrell Gale and himself had went to Hermiston and looked at their waste water treatment system.

Mr. White reviewed the quotes with the council for the purchase of a new truck to replace the 1996 Dodge truck that has multiple problems and needed repairs. The council decided to accept the quotes Mr. White had available and make a decision.

Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to approve the ¾ ton with utility bed for \$27,878.83 truck purchase. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Bob Flournoy stated that he appreciated Brandy Adams Finance Officer graph chart in her report, however, could the figures on the graph be printed out of the colored box area. Mr. Breazeale stated that he would pass that on to Ms. Adams.

Mr. Breazeale stated that the City and its residents should see some progress by the construction activities as early as the end of August.

14. Pearsall Ground Lease

The council agreed to the ground lease prepared by City Attorney, Bill Kuhn for the Pearsall's to place an espresso trailer on the property owned by the City at Division and Highway 730.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to accept the lease with all requirements listed in the City Code. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Resolution No. 08-13, A Resolution Amending the Employee Handbook, Section 402 Paydays

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to approve the amending of the employee handbook, section 402 paydays. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

16. Authorized Signers on the Bank Accounts.

Councilor Jesse Pena agreed to be an authorized signer on the City's bank accounts. Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to approve Mr. Pena as an additional authorized signer on the City's bank account. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

17. Set Date for Future City Council Meetings

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to reinstate council meeting on the third Tuesday of the month at 7 p.m. starting July 2008. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

18. Accounts Payable

Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to accept and pay the payables. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

19. Additional Discussion

The Councilor asked Mr. Breazeale to have a formal letter of commendation be sent to Laura Clark after she resigned May 27, 2008.

Adjournment: There being no further business before the Council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:16 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date – June 24, 2008

If you would like to attend and need assistance, please call Irrigon City Hall at 1.541.922.3047 or TTY relay 1.800.735.2900

Mayor James Ray

Attest