



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Irrigon City Council Meeting

August 19, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Irrigon City Hall

500 NE Main Avenue

1. Call to Order/Roll Call:

Mayor James Ray called meeting to order at 7:05 pm.

Council Members present: Eleanor Partridge, Robert Flournoy and Ken Matlack. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns was absent due to illness.

Staff Members present: City Manager Gerald Breazeale, Public Works Director Keith White and Finance Officer Brandy Adams.

Citizens present: Burrel Cooley, Bonnie Baxter, Amy Sandy, David Wood, Alice Scott, Ivan Mulkey, Lois Mulkey and Rebecca Tasakos.

2. Comments from Citizens:

Mayor Ray asked for comments. City Manager Breazeale asked on behalf of the chamber for the City to sponsor the walleye tournament. Mayor Ray asked for any debate on sponsoring the tournament. City Manager Breazeale stated that he would attend the tournament as a volunteer regardless of a monetary donation. Breazeale asked for a \$25 sponsor fee for the tournament. Councilor Matlack felt that the City benefited from sponsoring such a tournament.

Councilor Matlack moved to sponsor the tournament for \$25. Councilor Flournoy seconded. Vote was taken. Motion for the City to sponsor the walleye tournament for \$25 passed unanimously.

Mayor Ray asked for further citizen input on sponsoring the tournament.

Citizen Bonnie Baxter stated the tournament was a positive event for the City and she had made a donated herself.

3. Approval of the Minutes:

Mayor James Ray asked the council if the minutes had been read.

Councilor Matlack moved to approve the July 2008 minutes. Councilor Flournoy seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion to approve the July 2008 minutes passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence:

City Manager Breazeale stated that the Oregon State Parks Grant that the City had applied for was not funded for the children's park near the Skate Park. However, the City had ranked 17 out of 49 of the applicants and Breazeale was hopeful that the City would obtain the grant next year.

The Oregon Mayor's Assoc. was attended by Mayor Ray in Pendleton. He met several people from the state and learned that the state remains persistent in not issuing more water rights to cities.

Breazeale and Ray went on to discuss telecommunication franchise fees and cellular use.

Mayor Ray also added that there was an essay contest presented to high school students to write on "If I were Mayor..." essay.

Councilor Eleanor Partridge made a motion to approve a \$50 essay contest for high school students. Councilor Flournoy seconded. Vote was taken. Motion to approve an essay contest for \$50 for Irrigon high school students passed unanimously.

Breazeale stated that packets included a copy of a letter from Governor Kulongoski on avidly opposing transporting more chemical weapons to this area.

A memo from Utility Billing Clerk Penny Moore was included in correspondence about closing at 5:00 and allowing citizens to come in right at the hour. Breazeale stated that if over time was necessary than it would be paid. Mayor Ray felt that this was administrative and shouldn't be brought to council. Matlack felt that the City should be open until 5:00 and if a citizen came in at 5:00 and required lengthy business that an appointment could be made to conduct the business at a later time.

5. Public Hearing:

Mayor Ray opened public hearing on Ordinance No. 190-08 on vacating Twelfth Street North of Washington Street.

Breazeale recommended that the City vacate the area. The City does not want to maintain the right of way.

Mayor Ray stated that the printed ordinance should say Twelfth and not Eleventh Street.

Citizen Wood asked who would assume the ownership of the property being vacated. Breazeale stated that in this particular case the Irrigon Park District would become owner of the vacated property.

Mayor Ray opened public hearing on Ordinance No. 191-08 Vacating Sixth Street between North Main Avenue and Hwy 730.

Breazeale stated that the street would be eliminated and eventually be a part of the plaza. Mayor Ray closed the public hearing on Ordinances 190-08 and 191-08. There being no testimony.

6. Council Action:

10/13/2008

Breazeale read Ordinance No. 190-08 by title. Councilor Robert Flournoy made motion to reread Ordinance 190-08 by title again. Matlack seconded. Vote was taken to reread the ordinance. Motion passed unanimously.

Councilor Matlack asked that the passage way still be a public way that may still have enforceable traffic regulations.

Citizen Cooley stated that the Park District should have an agreement in place with the Sheriff's office to enforce traffic infractions.

Councilor Matlack made a motion to amend the motion on Ordinance No.190-08 to include that the roadway remain a public property and enforceable to the vehicle code.

Breazeale took a vote on the amendment. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy and Eleanor Partridge voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Breazeale took a vote on the motion to approve the amended motion on Ordinance No. 190-08. Vote was taken. Motion to approve **Ordinance No. 190-08 Vacating Twelfth Street North of Washington as long as the Vacated area is subject to the Motor Vehicle Code passed unanimously.**

Breazeale read Ordinance No. 191-08 by title once. Councilor Matlack moved that Ordinance No. 191-08 be read by title only a second time. Councilor Flournoy seconded the motion.

Councilor Flournoy moved to adopt Ordinance No. 191-08. Councilor Matlack seconded the motion.

Vote was taken by Breazeale for **Ordinance No. 191-08 Vacating Sixth Street between North Main and Hwy 730**, Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy and Eleanor Partridge voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7. Irrigon Park District for Contribution

Breazeale summarized a request from Burrel Cooley to aid in the Gazebo Project. Breazeale stated that there shouldn't be a waiver of the SDC's but a different type of funding assistance.

Councilor Matlack asked Breazeale what his recommendation of funding assistance would be. City Manager Breazeale reconsidered his first comment to not waive the SDC's and decided that waiving the sewer SDC's would in fact benefit both the City and the Park District.

Councilor Matlack made the motion to waive the sewer SDC's for the Irrigon Park District for the gazebo project. Councilor Flournoy seconded. Vote was taken. Motion to approve waving the sewer SDC's for the Irrigon Park District on the Gazebo Project carried unanimously.

8. Welcome to Irrigon Information Packet:

Citizen Amy Sandy had prepared an introduction letter for new Irrigon residents that included information on the City's septic systems and the City's role, important phone numbers, church information and other useful information.

Some minor errors were pointed out and agreed that those errors would be corrected before distribution of the packets. Council had consensus to use the packet.

9. Water Improvement Project:

City Manager Breazeale recommended payment for pay application No. 3 to Swaggart Brothers in the amount of \$169,514.88. He also stated the Swaggart was doing a wonderful job.

Councilor Flournoy made a motion to approve Pay Application No. 3 to Swaggart Brothers. Councilor Partridge seconded.

Vote was taken by Breazeale. Motion carried unanimously to approve Pay Application No. 3 to Swaggart Brothers.

10. Right of Way Acquisition:

The City's original plat had shown the land near Fourteenth Street as the City's property. However, the east half of the right of way in question was not owned by the City. Therefore, the City would have to purchase the land from the rightful landowners. The cost could be upwards of 30,000 to the land owner to compensate for land and its operations.

Citizen Ivan Mulkey of 1377 SE Riverview asked the Public Works Director for Riverview Avenue to be graded.

11. Resolution 08-18:

Breazeale explained that there would be times that some of the City's financial funds would need to compensate for other funds when expenditures were required.

Councilor Matlack asked to be informed on the status of those funds and that the fluctuations between them be explained.

Finance Officer Brandy Adams stated the Balance sheet within the packet would show that fluctuation between funds and explanations would be listed on the bottom of the page. Loans will be identified in future reports.

Councilor Flournoy made a motion to approve **Resolution 08-18 Allowing the City to Borrow Between Funds in the Same Fiscal Budget Year**. Councilor Matlack seconded the motion.

Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously to pass Resolution 08-18.

12. Planning Commission Membership:

The membership of the planning commission has been defined in the City's Ordinance No 1. The ordinance called for 5 planning commission members. Breazeale stated that with the recent lack of participation for the planning commission, the City is urged to change qualifications and allow those outside city limits to participate and perhaps decrease the membership to 3 members.

Breazeale asked for direction from council on whether to amend the ordinance. Matlack asked if altering the qualifications for planning commission would allow those persons outside city limits to also become council members. Breazeale stated that the City's Charter would not allow persons outside city limits to be on City council.

Councilor Flournoy asked that Breazeale draft a revision allowing an individual from the urban growth boundary and reducing the members and bring the draft back before council.

13. **Credit Card for City Manager**

Breazeale stated that Public Works currently has access to the same credit card as the City Manager. The Finance Officer has asked for the City Manager to have his own credit card to avoid confusion.

Councilor Flournoy moved that the City Manager have his own City credit card with a \$5000.00 limit. Motion was seconded by Councilor Partridge.

Vote was taken. Motion for City Manager Breazeale to have his own City credit card with a \$5000 limit carried unanimously.

14. **Morrow County Sheriff Report:**

Sheriff Matlack stated that new code enforcement officer may have been a little confused on his code enforcement hours. Deputy Nathen Braun was asked to make sure that he listed all his hours as code enforcement.

Sheriff Matlack stated that there was a party in town last Saturday and some of the participants may have been misconstrued as gang related. There had then been a fight brought to the Circle K store parking lot. The party has been identified and the Sheriff's office is investigating the group.

Matlack stated that there is the continuing issue of the cameras at the skate park. The cameras are being monitored however, things can be easily missed as the dispatchers also must do their other duties and the screens are relatively small.

Breazeale stated that the second camera for the Skate Park has been ordered and at this point the conflict resides with UEC and using one of their light poles. If necessary, a new pole will be mounted if the existing pole can not be used.

There was a discussion of the Senior Citizen center being rented and the conduct of those renters when using the center. Council asked Breazeale to research ownership of the building and a curfew.

15. **Public Works Report**

The Public Works Director stated that the City had a severe accident at the lift station and that a home had been flooded and a claim filed against the City. DEQ issued the City a class 2 violation, which were a non-monetary violation with some recommendations for improvement. Electricians were hired to repair some items on the main lift station and on the generator set.

Councilor Matlack was concerned that if another incident occurs DEQ will begin to fine the City. He suggested that the City be preemptive and prepare the other lift stations to minimize recurrence of accidents.

PWD White stated that with the new water system, power outages would cause problems on the septic systems and that citizens should minimize water use in outages.

Finance Officer and City Manager Reports

Mayor Ray asked if there were any questions on either the Finance Officer Report or the City Manger's Report.

There were no questions on either report.

16. Accounts Payable

Mayor Ray asked if there were any questions on the Accounts Payable.

There were no questions.

Councilor Matlack moved to pay the bills. Councilor Flournoy seconded.

Vote was taken. Motion to pay the bills carried unanimously.

17. Other Comments

Mayor Ray asked if there were any further concerns.

Councilor Matlack stated that he had a concern with Riverview Mobile Home Park and an intersection within the Park. The Sheriff's department has asked for clarification on mapping out the intersection so that cars may not be parked in the intersection. He also suggested putting up "No Parking" signs and additional "Stop" signs.

Breazeale stated that the City could have a resolution initiating a stop sign inside the Park at the next meeting.

Citizen Huwe stated that the Irrigon Market needs to be addressed about the overgrown weeds and should be taken care of aesthetically.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 p.m.

Executive session began.

Returning from Executive session the council had voted. Councilor Matlack moved to pursue purchase of real estate. Councilor Flournoy second the motion. Vote was taken. Motion to pursue purchase of real estate carried unanimously.

Executive session meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date – September 16, 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