



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Irrigon City Council Meeting

September 16, 2008

7:00 p.m.

Irrigon City Hall

500 NE Main Avenue

1. Call to Order/Roll Call

Mayor James Ray called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

Council Members present: Ken Matlack, Robert Flournoy, and Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns. Eleanor Partridge was on vacation.

Staff Members present: City Manager Gerald Breazeale, Penny Moore Utility Billing Clerk, and Public Works Director Keith White.

Citizens present: Bonnie Baxter, Amy Sandy, David Wood, Gloria Wood, Alice Scott, Ivan Mulkey, Lois Mulkey, Harold Poeling, Tom Skach, Lyman Branson II, Sharon Rhodes, Shelby Gallion, David Burns, Carole Statton, Jack Statton, Mathew Matz, Craig Bensen, Dwight Osborne, Andrew Sorenson, Christine Sorenson, Michelle Osborne, Becky Seewer, Richard Seewer, Danny Young, Meredith Young, Mike Pearsall, Vivian Pearsall, Darryl Jones, Paul Buykus, Dale Beamer and Dave Adamson.

At this time Mayor James Ray stated that there were three prospective citizens interested in serving as a council member; David Burns, Harold Poeling and Paul Buykus. David Burns and Harold Poeling had submitted a letter of interest which the present council members obtained in their packet.

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

Mayor James Ray stated that the city had an opportunity to welcome home a soldier from Iraq today. A ceremony was presented to United States Marine Dusten Starkweather. In attendance was Colonel Robert Stein from the Umatilla Army Depot, the Oregon Veteran's Motorcycle Association (which escorted Marine Starkweather into town) and the Veterans of Foreign Wars, along with citizens of Irrigon. A plaque of appreciation was presented to Marine Starkweather for valuable service to our nation and the community of Irrigon.

Christine Sorenson addressed the council on the city's web site. Citizen Sorenson asked why the minutes to the city council meetings were not posted since February of this year. Penny Moore addressed that question by stating that she had recently assumed the web site responsibility and had only one session to learn on how to maintain the site. Ms. Moore stated that she would contact the person helping her with the site and continue to update with the minutes and links and more.

Citizen Sorenson asked when the orange barrels on Sixth Street were going to be moved. Public Works Director Keith White stated that the city is working with ODOT and has already saw cut the pavement. Mr. White is still working out an agreement with ODOT to remove the asphalt and the shoulder. There are no funds or equipment for this project, Mr. White is negotiating with ODOT for help with this.

Bonnie Baxter asked about the plaque for the Skate Park. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the first person contacted turned out to be too expensive, it was a much smaller stone than was desired. Mr. Breazeale is in the process of contacting others. Ms. Baxter asked if there were funds to pay for the stone. Mr. Breazeale stated that funds were available.

3. Approval of Minutes – August 19, 2008 Council Meeting

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

Councilor Bob Flournoy moved to approve the August 2008 minutes. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion to approve the August 2008 minutes passed unanimously.

4. Correspondence

Mayor James Ray re-introduced two vacant council member openings. Councilor Ken Matlack stated that he was prepared to take a vote. Paul Buykus stated that he did not submit a letter of interest and was here to observe tonight only. Councilor Matlack asked to visit with each candidate. Harold Poeling gave his reasons for interest, including seeing a bright future for Irrigon and would like to see people proud of their city. He would enjoy getting involved in the city government. Councilor Bob Flournoy moved that Harold Poeling be appointed to the council. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously to appoint Harold Poeling to the city council.

David Burns would like to see the downtown area developed and he stated that he knows how hard it is to run a business here in Irrigon. He stated that he would like to improve relations between the council and the public. Councilor Ken Matlack moved to appoint David Burns to the council. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously to appoint David Burns to the city council. City Manager Gerald Breazeale swore in the oath of office for Harold Poeling and David Burns. The two new council members were welcomed and took their place at the table.

Highway Trust Fund Shortfall correspondence states the lack of funding for our transportation system.

Correspondence from the Oregon Department of Energy subject was notice of intent to construct a new power transmission line through the area.

5. Public Hearing

Mayor James Ray **opened** the public hearing starting with Ordinance 192-08 to adopting a 5 percent city transient room tax. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated a request by the Irrigon Chamber of Commerce to bring marketing and tourism to Irrigon. This ordinance would be for the future of any motels, hotels, and RV parks. Gerald Breazeale bringing recommends commerce and industry into the city. Discussion was to amend and defer for two years.

Ordinance No. 193-08 to amend Ordinance No. 188-08 to allow one Planning Commission member from outside the city limits of Irrigon, but within the urban growth boundary. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated the need to fill the Planning Commission. One applicant was present in the audience. Councilor Ken Matlack was not in favor of modifying the ordinance.

The third order of business was regarding the placement of an espresso stand at the intersection of Division Street and Highway 730. There was discussion on the application being approved and meeting all requirements except landscaping. City Manager Gerald Breazeale's concerns are temporary, full compliance with the landscape must be completed before the 5 year lease be renewed. The lease can be broken by either the City or the Pearsall's at any time. The Pearsall's site plan was submitted and plan changed. The citizens of the community were in the audience in support of the espresso stand being approved. One concerned citizen brought up the use of small pieces of gravel for the disabled in wheelchairs so they would be able to access the espresso stand, also several citizens in the audience stated the need for new businesses in town.

Mayor James Ray **closed** the public hearing.

6. Council Action

Councilor Harold Poeling moved to approve the placement of an espresso stand at Highway 730 and Division Street. Councilor David Burns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made a motion to read by title only **Ordinance No. 192-08** adopting a 5 percent city transient room tax. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously. Councilors Ken Matlack made to read by title only second time. Councilor Harold Poeling seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Councilor Ken Matlack made motion to defer implementation for two years after January 1, 2009 Ordinance No. 192-08. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns made the motion to read by title only **Ordinance No. 193-08**, an Ordinance amending Ordinance No. 193-08, an ordinance amending Ordinance No. 188-08 to allow one Planning Commission member from outside the city limits of Irrigon, but within the urban growth boundary. Councilor David Burns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously. Councilors Harold Poeling made motion to read by title only second time. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

Councilor Harold Poeling made the motion to table Ordinance No. 193-08 until more discussion could be made. Councilor Ken Matlack seconded the motion. There was a discussion on having three planning members for the committee instead of 5 members. In addition, if three members for the committee was appropriate, and whether the committee would allow one member from outside Irrigon city limits.

After this discussion, Councilor Harold Poeling withdrew his motion to table the ordinance. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns made the motion to adopt amended Ordinance No. 193-08 as read. Councilor Bob Flournoy

seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Councilors Ken Matlack, Bob Flournoy, Jack Johns, Harold Poeling and David Burns voting YES, the MOTION CARRIED unanimously.

7. Irrigon High School Request for Relief of Water SDC Charges-Booster Club Snack Shack

Craig Bensen, Principal of Irrigon High School, addressed the Council about getting a waterline hooked up for the Snack Shack. The High School, along with the Booster Club is asking for relief for the difference between what they would have to pay for systems development charges for a ¾ inch meter and a 1 inch meter. Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to waive the \$1,946 of the 3,892 for the High School Snack Shack. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

8. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that this resolution is a result of a discussion from a previous Council meeting regarding an intersection on Riverview Avenue with a private driveway that serves Riverview Mobile Home Park. Currently traffic is being stopped in each direction at a private driveway, which is an unusual situation. The city is proposing to remove the stop sign on Riverview Avenue and make that a through street on Thirteenth and Fourteenth Street and move the stop sign temporary onto the driveway side. Mr. Breazeale stated that this is a safety issue. Tom Skach, owner of the Riverview Mobile Home Park asked to address the council regarding **Resolution No. 08-19**, a resolution establishing a stop sign on the private driveway serving the Riverview Mobile Home Park and removing the stop sign stopping traffic on Riverview Avenue at the Riverview Mobile Home Park private driveway. Mr. Skach gave a brief history of the park. Mr. Skach does not want the stop sign removed at Riverview Avenue and he is requesting that the Council allow him to petition to vacate some of the street, 180' of the city street (Riverview Avenue). Councilor Ken Matlack suggested that the city not vacate the street. Mr. Skach asked if this matter could be deferred until the next meeting and he would bring a petition. Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to table Resolution No. 08-19 until the next City Council meeting. Councilor David Burns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

9. Resolution No. 08-20, Special City Allotment

It was stated that this proposed resolution would enable the City to apply for State funds to improve the intersection of Twelfth Street and Washington Avenue where the new sports complex is being built. Councilor Ken Matlack made the motion to approve Resolution No. 08-20 Special City Allotment. Councilor Bob Flournoy seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

10. Water Improvement Project

City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the water project is moving along well. No real problems have come up with the Swaggert Brothers.

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to approve payment of \$319,192.83 Partial Pay Request No. 4. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

11. Right of Way Acquisition – Fourteenth Street

City Manager Gerald Breazeale reported that the property owner is not going to be particularly cooperative. Mr. Breazeale is continuing to pursue getting estimates for purchasing the right of way. This looks to be a long drawn out process. From the beginning in 1998 this process was never completed. Mr. Breazeale went on to say that he has contacted a private real estate appraiser. Councilor Bob Flournoy stated that the City is trying to correct some of the faults of the past; however, it will not happen overnight. The Council had a consensus to continue with estimates before making a decision.

12. Report from the Morrow County Sheriff

Councilor Ken Matlack reported on marijuana in the north county and in the south county investigating a Mexican Cartel. And he reported on fires on Tower Road in Gillian County with the subjects being caught.

13. Staff Reports

There were no comments from the council on the Public Works Director, Finance Officer or City Manager's reports.

14. Accounts Payable

Councilor Bob Flournoy made the motion to pay the accounts payable bills. Mayor Pro-Tem Jack Johns seconded the motion. Motion carried unanimously.

15. Additional Discussion

A citizen from the audience asked if the staff reports are public. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the reports are public.

Adjournment - There being no further business before the council at this time, the meeting was adjourned at 9:25 p.m.

Next Regular Meeting Date – October 21, 2008

If you would like to attend and need assistance, please call Irrigon City Hall at 1.541.922.3047 or TTY relay 1.800.735.290

Mayor James Ray

Attest