



## City of Irrigon Planning Commission Minutes

October 4, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

**Irrigon City Hall  
500 NE Main Avenue**

### 1. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Tom Roberts called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

Roll call was taken. Planning Commission members present were: Tom Roberts, Foster Carroll, and Irene Fetsch. Glenna Hoffman was absent.

Staff present: City Manager Gerald Breazeale.

In the audience: Morrow County Deputy Coleen Neubert.

### 2. Approve Minutes from the September 6, 2011 Planning Commission Meeting

The September Planning Commission meeting minutes were reviewed. It was moved by Commissioner Carroll and seconded by Commissioner Fetsch to approve the September 6, 2011 minutes as drafted. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

### 3. Ordinance No. 208-11, An Ordinance Amending City Code Title 4, Chapter 1, Nuisances, Section 4-1-1, Definitions, Inoperable Vehicle

Chair Roberts opened up the discussion on Ordinance No. 208-11 to amend city code, nuisance, and definitions of inoperable vehicles. City Manager Gerald Breazeale stated that the ordinance draft was approved by the city attorney and a public hearing notice was sent to the Hermiston Herald in order for Irrigon city council to vote on this ordinance at the October 18, 2011 meeting.

Manager Breazeale stated that if the Commissioners approve the ordinance by vote, this ordinance will be recommended for adoption by city council. Minor adjustment can be made at this point.

Chair Roberts read the ordinance section that stated: Any piece of mechanized equipment unable to perform its designed function, any motor vehicle that is not currently registered with the Oregon Department of Motor Vehicles, or any motor vehicle missing components critical for the intended or legal function of the vehicle. There was a discussion on a time limit for inoperable vehicles; however, Manager Breazeale stated that this way would allow the Deputy to see if a vehicle parked on the street has current registration or no one claims vehicle. Commissioner

Fetsch asked what if the abandon vehicle belongs to the property owner, Manager Breazeale stated that the owner could either register vehicle or they may get a citation.

It was the consensus of the planning commissioners to forward this ordinance to the city council.

4. Ordinance No. 209-11, An Ordinance Prescribing The Permitted Legal Growing Of Medical Marijuana In Irrigon

This ordinance is to allow for medical marijuana growers to invoke their rights under state statute though at the same time to insure the safety and welfare of the nonparticipants

There was a brief discussion on violation's being cause for permit revocation and future application denial.

It was moved by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Fetsch to make an amendment to motion from the September 6, 2011 to the draft Ordinance No. 209-11, to include: (as the city attorney deems appropriate language) Any conviction of this ordinance could be grounds for permit revocation and denial of any renewal. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

Chair Roberts will be present at the October 18, 2011 city council meeting to represent the Irrigon Planning Commission on this ordinance.

5. Ordinance No. 210-11, An Ordinance Providing for One Inoperable Vehicle to be Allowed to be Kept for a Parts Vehicle and Establishing a Permit Procedure for Such Use

There was a brief discussion on inoperable vehicles and ways the ordinance is written that gives some lead way and at the same time have tighter code enforcement. It was stated that the permit reads that if residents desires to keep an inoperable vehicle outside of a garage, carport or driveway they must obtain a permit from the City of Irrigon. And if the application is not signed by all the property owners within 250 feet of said property they could not get their permit.

City Manager Breazeale explained that if residents want a "parts vehicle" in their yards, they would need to talk to their neighbor's and get their signature for a permit, which changes the situation. Also, with having a current registration there is some expense to having extra vehicles.

It was the consensus of the planning commissioners to forward this ordinance to the city council.

6. Ordinance No. 211-11, An Ordinance Amending City Code Title 10, Chapter 1, Article B Enforcement, General Provisions, Administration and Definitions, Section 10-1B-3(A), Penalty, Class 1 Penalty, to Provide for a Fine Amount

Manager Breazeale stated that Deputy Braun had said that in the portion of the planning code ordinance there is no penalty or fine. They would either need to remove the structure or the owner would have to come into compliance. This would give the Deputy another enforcement tool to write a ticket for being out of compliant. As an example Manager Breazeale stated that perhaps the home owner was required by their building permit to put in a sidewalk in front of their place and they did not comply, the Deputy could issue a citation that they are required to put in a sidewalk under code. If the home owner refused, they would have to go to court and if convicted would pay a \$450 fine.

It was moved by Commissioner Roberts and seconded by Commissioner Fetsch to present draft Ordinance No. 211-11 to the city council amending city code title 10, chapter 1, article B enforcement, general provisions administration and definitions, section 10-1B-3(A), penalty, class 1, to provide for a fine amount. Vote was taken. Motion carried unanimously.

#### 7. Code Revisions

The current code allows parking of vehicles only in a driveway, a garage or street. Boat, campers, trailers have not been addressed and are still in violation of the ordinance by not being in a driveway. Chair Roberts stated that possibly narrowing down what a *defined* driveway is should be discussed in the near future. This would be so that properties are not a junk yard or have weeds growing up around vehicles.

#### 8. Umatilla Army Depot LRA

City Manager Breazeale stated that the Hermiston Chamber of Commerce in September announced that BRAC had expired; therefore the LRA has no authority, this could change if the BRAC law is extended. The Army is proceeding as if the Depot is a federal base closure without the BRAC. It is delayed at the time being.

Tom Roberts as a citizen stated that the National Guard currently is having training. Their presences will be good for the community.

#### 9. Additional Discussion

Chair Roberts welcomed Deputy Neubert and congratulated her on her upcoming appointment as city code enforcement officer.

City Manager Breazeale stated that the Mayors and Mangers of Morrow County have initiated discussions on changing the Morrow County government structure and presently there is a 3 commissioners system which was the default under the Oregon constitution for counties, a judge and 2 commissioners appointed by the governor. The group believes that this structure is outdated and needs a more modern charter.

Mayors and Mangers of Morrow County through their discussions have found issues that cities have brought to the county and the county is not been responsive to the city issues. Since city tax payers pay a large share of the county taxes and also are the majority of the voters, the Mayors and Mangers would like to form a committee of 8 people, 2 people from the Irrigon community, 2 people from the Heppner community and 2 people from the Boardman community, 1 person from lone community and 1 person from the Lexington community to meet and discuss how an idea government structure for Morrow County would look. The city councils will appoint representatives from their community. An article was in the newspaper stating individuals interested in representing Irrigon on the County Home Rule Committee could contact their city.

Adjournment was at 7:10 p.m.

---

Irene Fetsch  
Planning Commission Secretary