

MARCH 1, 2017

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order on Wednesday March 1, 2017 at 7 p.m. by Mayor Matt Brown. Present were Councilor Lorain, Councilor Jesse, Councilor Smith, Mayor Brown, Councilor Cockrum, City Attorney Peter Watts, City Administrator Chad Sweet and City Treasurer Gail Como.

Mayor Brown advised we are adding to the agenda an additional 3 minute opportunity for visitors to speak after new business.

There was no conflict of interest declared by any member of the council.

Councilor Lorain noted a missing letter on the Feb. 1, 2017 City Council minutes. ON MOTION by Councilor Lorain, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to approve the February 1, 2017 City Council minutes as corrected, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Each member of Council was given a copy of reports from the Police Dept., Fire Dept, Planning Commission and City Treasurer.

Mayor Brown attended the Transportation Plan work session and felt the committee has some good ideas and liked the direction they are going. Mayor Brown reported meeting with all of the City Managers and Mayors of Clatsop County and they talked about an issue important to all of the communities, affordable housing and affordable land, plus protecting our residential zones here in Gearhart. Mayor Brown also met with Kevin Lehey from CEDR and they talked about small business and under utilized commercial space in Gearhart and ideas to help Gearhart.

Councilor Smith attended a dune vegetation committee meeting.

Councilor Cockrum reported attended a CERT meeting, re-certified CPR cards via Chief Eddy and is working on CERT projects.

City Attorney Peter Watts reported the supplemental records are taking longer as previously reported. Mr. Watts also stated we received a citizen initiative relating to Transient Lodging and the process for that is dictated by state statutes as follows; first write the findings, then a ballot is drafted, challenge period, certified, they have 2 years to collect signatures and then it would be put on the ballot. If it was a general election in May or Nov. of an even year there would be no cost to the City. Also Mr. Watts advised a legislative ruling just came out today that repeals the provision requiring a city whose laws require petition proposing annexation of territory to be submitted to electors to annex territory without vote upon receipt of the petition for annexation.. Mr. Watts stated in the past citizens voted on whether to annex property however the bill ends a dual voting by city voters and city electors for annexation for now but that could be appealed.

City Administrator Chad Sweet reported income is up over last year and has no concerns with the budget.

Gearhart Volunteer Fire Department President Zac Plummer asked permission to hold the Fireman's Ball on May 27, 2017. ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Smith Council to grant permission, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Jay Speakman 201 S. Cottage told council he was tasked to examine the need for a new fire station. A committee was formed and they did a lot research and based on findings there is a need. Mr. Speakman noted there are three possible sites for a new fire hall and the cost of 5 million including a fire engine and remodeling city hall. There is a Town Hall meeting March 14, 2017 at 6pm at the Fire Hall.

Alisa Dunlap the Regional Manager for Pacific Power & Light spoke to council about renewable energy and would like for Clatsop County to be a "Green Power

Community”. Ms. Dunlap asked for support verbally or a financial commitment, from the City, for this solar project.

Tom Thies 292 Woodland commented on resolution #933, a resolution to make Gearhart a welcoming City because first we should be doing that already and he had concerns because two times it states sanctuary city and that may effect federal funding and thought we should ask the residents.

Michael Katspey 2186 Pine Ridge Dr. recently moved to Gearhart and thanked everyone in Gearhart for being so nice.

Jim Schultz 428 C St. had concerns about the limited amount of days you are allowed to us your RV, in the proposed RV Ord.

Councilor Lorain had concerns after attending a work session where so many people said that Gearhart is not a welcoming City. Ms. Lorain felt that Gearhart is very welcoming and a diverse community and supports Resolution #933.

RV Parking in public areas was tabled until April and the Council discussed RV lodging in residential zoned and scheduled a public hearing in April.

Each Council member was given a packet with review forms for the City Administrator’s job performance to fill out and return within 20 days.

Mr. Sweet noted it is time to review the Rules of the Council and will schedule a work session to discuss it and then we will adopt it in June.

ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to approve the Gearhart Clean-up Day for April 22, 2017, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Additional visitor comments:

- Jeannie Mark P.O. Box 2627 would like to see a hazardous waste day

- Craig Weston P.O. Box 2838 gave thanks to all the council & congrats to Mayor Brown for volunteering and questioned RV parking in public areas.
- Jim Whittemore 776 N. Marion thought we should go paperless that everything is electronic and it is a digital world.
- Judd Todd P.O. Box 2326 had concerns with having only 3 business days to review the City Council packet before the meeting and asked council to consider 5 days. Mr. Judd also reminded Council of there was the original water bond with no mention of two water bonds and re-finance and suggested when going for the Fire Hall bond add language for one bond and one period of time. Mr. Judd also felt the Council meetings are going very well.

Councilor Jesse concerns with cache site by the water tower and thought Blue Sky should be a future agenda for discussion.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to adjourn, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.

Mayor Matt Brown

Chad Sweet, City Administrator