

MAY 3, 2017

The regular meeting of the Gearhart City Council was called to order on Wednesday May 3, 2017 at 7 p.m. by Mayor 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 the City is not ready to make a decision on the vegetation plan and felt that we need more information. Mayor Brown suggested if it is all right with the audience and the Council we can postpone the public hearing to allow more time for facts, findings and time for the committee to research. Mayor Brown advised visitors can speak what's on their mind during the visitor's section. ON MOTION by Councilor Lorain, 2nd by Councilor, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to postpone the public hearing indefinitely. During council discussion Councilor Jesse suggested adding a provision to allow homeowners to cut noxious weeds on their own property. Councilor Lorain amended her motion to postpone the public hearing but continue the conversation specifically about scotch broom. Councilor Cockrum amended the amended motion to postpone the public hearing and, with a sense of urgency, have the committee discuss scotch broom. Councilor Lorain agreed. MOTION was approved 5-0.

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

ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to approve the April 5, 2017 public hearing minutes for the lottery machines, MOTION was approved 4-0, 1 abstain.

ON MOTION by Councilor Lorain, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to approve the April 5, 2017 minutes for the public hearing for RV's, MOTION was approved 4-0, 1 abstain.

Councilor Smith noted a spelling correction on the April 5, 2017 council meeting minutes. ON MOTION by Councilor Lorain, 2nd by Councilor Smith to approve the minutes for the April 5, 2017 Council meeting as corrected, MOTION was approved 4-0, 1 abstain.

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 Fire Committee work session and mentioned that there will be a town hall meeting tomorrow. Mayor Brown also attended a parliamentary training and urged Council to go if they get a chance.

Councilor Lorain attended a CREST meeting.

Councilor Smith attended a dune vegetation meeting with CREST and noted there will be another meeting this Sat. at 10am.

Councilor Cockrum noted Jeff Merkely's legislative bill for renewable energy goals and thought the Council could learn more about it.

City Attorney Peter Watts reported there is a LUBA hearing tomorrow. Also Mr. Watts stated an initiative was turned in and there is a ballot title challenge.

City Administrator Chad Sweet reported there is a Town Hall meeting for the new fire station tomorrow at 6:30 and also mentioned the Fireman's Ball is May 27 2017 at 8 p.m.

Visitors spoke:

Jack Delaney 1250 N. Ocean had concerns with non resident members on the dune committee and felt they should be home owners in Gearhart and base their decisions on the facts and not their emotions.

Al Carder 598 N. Marion had heard a lot of talk about scotch broom and questioned what about English Ivy.

Jeannie Mark P.O. Box 2627 asked regarding the Short Term Rental inspection process, is there any stats gathered on any issues with the inspection items. Mr. Sweet stated there have been about 20 repair permits for STR's for septic tanks issues such as disconnected systems, cesspools, systems that were under sized and replacing steel tanks.

Kevin Lacost spoke to Council about the tennis courts hours of operation and improvements.

Kathy Schroeder P.O. Box 2240 mentioned the City Code that is the Gearhart City website is dated 2009 and should be up to date. Ms. Schroeder also advised the reason for the

challenge to the notice of ballot title was because they are inaccurate. Ms Schroeder also felt that if all home owners were to go through the same home inspection as vacation homes they would have things to fix.

Kathy Todd P.O. Box 2326 asked for clarification on Councilor Jesses' concern regarding the dunes. Councilor Jesse stated that the City asks property owners to maintain their property by cutting noxious weeds and yet we have property owners between Marion and E St. who own beachfront and are not allowed to cut anything.

Tom Thies P.O. Box 2831 advised that when that code was written there was only dune grass out there not trees, stickers and scotch broom and felt the code should be changed.

Jack Zimmerman P.O. Box 2480 wondered why we don't have porta-potties at the trail heads because we have the poop bags/mutt mitts for the dogs.

Chris Jones 102 S. Ocean stated in 1935 when his house was purchased the dunes didn't exist and today we have trees and scotch broom and if they were to catch fire with the westerly winds it would put homes and firefighters in danger. Mr. Jones felt that for fire, life and safety we should do anything reasonable to protect that from happening.

Police Chief Jeffrey Bowman spoke to the council about RV's and trailers and he suggested that council direct the staff to draft a new ordinance for storage of a RV on public property. Council directed the staff to draft the ordinance.

Medix representative Robin Schultz presented a plaque to the City in thanks for the City support. ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to adopt the proclamation declaring emergency services week, MOTION was approved 5-0.

ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to read ordinance #903 by title only, MOTION was approved 4-1. Mr. Sweet read the ordinance by title only.

After some discussion on the City Administrator's pay increase A MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Smith to give a cost of living increase the per social security cost of living. MOTION was approved 3-2. A MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor

Smith that if there is a COLA increase it would start as of July 1, 2017, the MOTION was approved 5-0.

ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to sign the Pacific Corp property lease for \$250.00 a year, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Additional visitor comments:

Jeannie Mark commented she is nostalgic for the stop light.

Kathy Schroeder suggested that when you have a visitor here like Medix you should open the meeting and let them go first so they can leave.

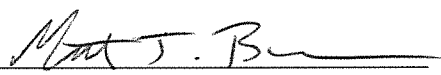
Al Carder mentioned changing the route of the parade.

Judd Todd advised the LUBA hearing proceedings tomorrow should be on the website.

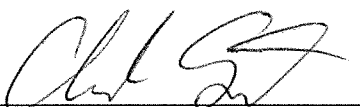
Kathy Todd suggested that you could sell tiles for the new fire hall.

Tom Thies asked Council to vote in favor of the additional 3 minute visitor comments.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Lorain to adjourn, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:45 p.m.



Mayor Matt Brown



Chad Sweet, City Administrator