

JANUARY 2, 2019

The regular meeting of the Gearhart City Council was called to order Wednesday January 2, 2019 at 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Matt Brown. Present were Councilor Fackerell, Councilor Jesse, Councilor Smith, Mayor Brown, Councilor Cockrum, City Attorney Peter Watts, City Administrator Chad Sweet and City Treasurer Gail Como.

Mayor Brown asked to add a 3-minute visitor's section to the agenda if the Council agrees. The Council agreed.

Mayor Brown asked to add to the agenda the election of a Council President if the Council agrees. The Council agreed.

There was no conflict of interest declared by any member of Council.

Councilor Smith asked for a correction on the December 5, 2018 City Council meeting minutes. ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve the minutes for the Dec. 5, 2018 minutes as amended, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Each member of council was given reports from the Police Dept., Fire Dept. and City Treasurer.

Mayor Brown thanked Cheryl Lund, Krysti Ficker and Gail Como for all the administrative assistance for Chad Sweet and for the city.

Councilor Smith met with Chad Sweet to discuss the wood chips, the budget and a supplemental budget.

Councilor Cockrum also met with Chad Sweet to discuss the vegetation west of the park.

City Attorney Peter Watts advised that a letter went out regarding Short Term Rental room tax and it has generated a lot of inquiries. What happened is the city has

received lump sum from checks from agencies like AIRBNB and VRBO. They are not reporting a list of the homes that are being paid by those taxes. We asked for that list and they said they could not provide that because of Federal law. We are working on a resolution.

City Administrator Chad Sweet reported:

- State revenues are up from last year
- Jan. 29 will be the Town Hall meeting at the Fire Hall.
- Oregon Solutions will meet on Jan. 9th regarding elk solutions.
- Responded to the comments that were made in his absence from the December City Council meeting regarding trimming trees, scotch broom, branches and wood chips.

Councilor Smith questioned the removal of the wells in the dunes Mr. Sweet stated we will go out for bids in Feb.

Councilor Smith questioned when Chief Eddy came to the Council and asked to spend \$50,000 that was not in the minutes at all. And why is he asking for 50k and did he get his grant. Mr. Sweet explained that SCBA's are not a budgeted expense and what Chief Eddy asked for is permission to spend money up to \$50,000 out of the Fire App. Reserve fund only if we didn't get the grant. It was his back-up plan.

Councilor Smith questioned what is going on with Duncan's Crossing. Mr. Sweet advised we have met with a local surveyor to help with the application to be submitted to the Dept. of State Lands and the Army Corp. of Engineer.

Councilor Smith questioned if the fire dept. has budgeted \$95,000 for fuel & clothing maintenance, why do we have to spend out of the reserve fund. Mr. Sweet advised the fuel cost, clothing and maintenance to run a fire dept. is expensive. The cost of one turn out is \$2800 and would not leave enough to purchase the SCBAS (air packs).

Councilor Smith questioned the check register for November a check for \$31,000 to the city administrator. City Treasurer Gail Como pointed out that the check is made out to the City of Gearhart for payroll.

Harrold Gable 714 H St. talked about the County's Short Term Rental software that shows the 1% of the room tax that will go for tourism and art. Mr. Gable questioned Gearhart's 1%. Mr. Sweet advised that will be addressed during the budget process.

Ann Mesh 684 F St. questioned why we don't have our own zip code. The Mayor thought we should look into it.

Traci Williams 567 Pacific Way asked the time line for removing vegetation in the park. Mr. Sweet thought before spring.

Jack Zimmerman 408 W. Kershul questioned the status of landscaping across the street. Mr. Sweet reported the first thing is getting water there.

City Administrator Chad Sweet stated that the feeding the wildlife ordinance #917 will be read at the Feb. City Council meeting.

The County Hazard Mitigation IGA agreement will be tabled until the Feb. Council meeting.

For the election of a Council President, A MOTION was made by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to nominate Councilor Cockrum, MOTION was approved 4-0, 1 abstain.

Harold Gable 714 H St. thought we should consider further costs of vegetation removal for the upcoming budget.

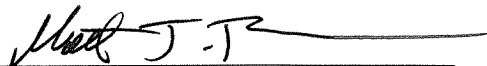
Councilor Fackerell had concerns that we are cutting vegetation too close to the estuary. Ms. Fackerell also asked about the plastic bag ban.

Councilor Jesse would like the city to move forward on the ban.

Councilor Smith would like to make sure to keep the trees for a stabilizer in the riparian zones.

Councilor Cockrum thought we should protect the estuary.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to adjourn the meeting, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.



Mayor Matt Brown



Chad Sweet, City Administrator