

DECEMBER 4, 2019

Following the Planning Commission interviews, the regular meeting of the Gearhart City Council was called to order on Wednesday Dec. 4, 2019 at 7:34 p.m. by Mayor Brown. Present were Councilor Fackerell, Councilor Jesse, Councilor Smith, Mayor Brown, Councilor Cockrum, City Attorney Peter Watts and City Treasurer Gail Como.

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

ON MOTION by Councilor Cockrum, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve the City Council meeting minutes for Nov. 6, 2019, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Mayor Brown attended a CEDR board meeting where three school superintendents from the Astoria, Warrenton, and Seaside districts gave an update on progress of the new school. Mayor Brown mentioned at the last council meeting that he was a part of the voting process to name the new elementary school. Superintendent Sheila Roley thought it was fitting to have the (750) kids name the school. It was an educational event for them to learn about civics and the voting process. Ms. Roley thanked Mayor Brown for his help with the ballot box. Once the kids voted they got an "I Voted" sticker. The name of the new school is Pacific Ridge and the Puffins won as the mascot (by a landslide).

Each member of Council was given a Police report, Fire Dept. report, Planning Commission report, and City Treasurer report.

City Attorney Peter Watts advised he will be doing a training for the Planning Commission on Dec. 10th on best practices and how to avoid problems. Mr. Watts also mentioned the litigation that impacted those counties that turned over forest land to the

state. Even though Clatsop county opted out of the litigation it is still entitled to a sizeable portion.

Bob Carson 226 Ridge stated that global climate change is accelerating. We have more intense forest fires, intense floods and intense droughts. Mr. Carson noted that we have to reduce carbon emissions by 7 ½% each year. He would like the city council to discuss ways to reduce carbon emissions in Gearhart (LCD lights) and consider an energy audit.

Wally Hamer 312 Spruce reported we have had 100 people play pickleball and it's working out great. Mr. Hamer did have concerns regarding the school property and what will happen to the soccer fields.

Mayor Brown thanked all of the planning commission applicants for applying. ON MOTION by Mayor Brown, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to re-appoint Russ Taggard to the Planning Commission, MOTION was approved 5-0.


ON MOTION by Mayor Brown, 2nd by Councilor Smith to re-appoint Terry Graff to the Planning Commission, MOTION was approved 4-1.

Councilor Cockrum would like to see a timeline on the parks master plan.

Councilor Fackerell advised that there are grants available to possibly retrofit city hall lights.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to adjourn the meeting. MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.


Gail Como City Treasurer


Mayor Matt Brown