

MARCH 4, 2020

The regular meeting of the City Council was called to order on Wednesday March 4, 2020 at 7 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.

Councilor Smith and Councilor Jesse declared as builders they might have a conflict of interest with building permit fees.

ON MOTION by Councilor Cockrum, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve the February 5, 2020 City Council minutes, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Each member of Council was given a copy of reports from the Police Department, Fire Department, Planning Commission and City Treasurer. Concerning the Planning Commission report, Councilor Cockrum requested a briefing on the Gearhart Cottages and asked if the Parks Plan was on track. City Administrator advised the Commission was only being kept in the loop; a development group has approached the County to develop the space, which lies outside Gearhart's UGB. The Parks Plan timeline is on track; data is being collected and maps generated.

Mayor Brown reported:

- Coronavirus – how it spreads, how long it lives; leaders are in touch
- Oregon Health Authority & CDC – websites with informational updates
- Fire Station – hopeful for a bond this year; analyzing costs, property negotiations, bond scenarios
- Elementary School Property – interested parties, informal/exploratory conversations taking place; preservation of park or community space and affordable housing needs have been suggested

The Mayor's report is also available on the City Blog and the City website.

Councilor Cockrum asked for city staff to conduct a full title search on the deed to the elementary school property. A comment was made on behalf the County Manager that the County has no jurisdiction over the property; it does not "revert back". There are 5 new CERT members and

training opportunities available. Regarding the Community Cache, CERT is focusing on sanitation supplies to supplement a person's personal cache in a big emergency. All will be stored up at the Community Cache site. The final draft of the Employee Handbook is almost ready for review.

Attorney Peter Watts mentioned some housing related legislation activity in Salem; likely will not progress in the Senate right now with COVID-19.

City Administrator Chad Sweet reported:

- Signed an agreement with DLCD for \$25,000 grant leftover from their Tsunami Hazard Overlay Zone project – will help design the fire station foundation
- Working with Energy Trust of Oregon – investigating solar possibilities in Gearhart; ETO suggested solar savings with the fire station design
- Community Cache Program – 30-gallon barrels stored above the inundation zone, finalizing MOU, April 19, 2020 10 a.m to Noon is first official access drop-off date, second date will occur in October
- Grant Updates – amended SHSP grant after vendor pricing came in lower, now purchasing additional 20' Conex and shelving, OSWB grant unsuccessful
- Upcoming Work Session on C1 zone

Councilor Jesse wished to voice support for the proposed “Concert in the Park” submitted via Correspondence. Attorney Peter Watts expressed concerns over copyrighted music and annual fees the City would need to pay; laws have changed, and vendor owners are now the financially responsible party. City staff will follow-up with the event organization.

Gearhart Volunteer Fire Department asked permission to hold the Fireman's Ball on May 23, 2020. The Council agreed.

Building Official Mark Brien discussed building permit fees. He noted the last time building fees were addressed was in 2004 and proposed looking into commercial permit fee increases, not structural residential housing increases. Cost comparisons were presented. City staff will use the presentation to draft an ordinance to present to the Council at an upcoming meeting.

ODOT Senior Planner Ken Shonkwiler spoke to the Council regarding the Hwy 101 corridor development plan and how it ties to Gearhart's Transportation Plan. The plan is ODOT funded. Overall safety, speeding, aggressive driving behavior, bicyclists, and pedestrians along the corridor

are all issues of focus. Ken asked if the City was open to participate in the plan. The Council agreed.

Clatsop County Commissioner Sarah Nebeker spoke to the Council with updates concerning County staffing changes, the approved jail bond and current jail programs, County Public Health's role with COVID-19, Human Resources Advisory Council increased funding, Countywide Arts Council support, County Public Works Department relocation and (possibly) new road as an alternate route to 101, and strategic planning with homelessness and affordable housing following the recent housing study.

Resolution #945, a resolution to Adopt Land Use Fees - ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Smith to approve Resolution #945, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Resolution #946, a resolution Licensing Retail Sales of Tobacco Products, ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve Resolution #946, MOTION was approved 5-0.

ON MOTION by Councilor Cockrum, 2nd by Councilor Smith to approve Gearhart Clean-up Day on April 25, 2020, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Request for Hazard Mitigation Funds to spend up to \$33,000 with the knowledge it will be reimbursed. ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to approve spending up to \$33,000 from the Hazard Mitigation Fund with knowledge it will be reimbursed, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Budget Committee applications were given to the Council. After conducting interviews and some discussion, the Council re-appointed Judy Schector and newly appointed Brent Warren as Budget Committee Members with 3-year terms.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to adjourn, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:30 p.m.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Matt J. Brown", written over a horizontal line.

Mayor Matt Brown

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Chad Sweet", written over a horizontal line.

Chad Sweet City Administrator