

JULY 1, 2020

The regular meeting of the Gearhart City Council was held Wednesday July 1, 2020, online via Go-To-Meeting, using a computer, a tablet, or a smartphone. Citizens could also join the meeting by calling in on a landline telephone. Mayor Brown called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. 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.

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

ON MOTION by Councilor Fackerell, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to approve the May 6, 2020 City Council meeting minutes, MOTION was approved 5-0.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve the May 20, 2020 Special Council meeting minutes, MOTION was approved 5-0.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to approve the May 27, 2020 Special Council meeting minutes, MOTION was approved 5-0.

The April City Council meeting was cancelled, no minutes to approve.

Mayor Brown reported:

- Statewide face coverings help protect others and help save lives. We will have a lot of visitors in town and we do not want what happened in Texas and Florida to happen in Oregon or Clatsop County. We do not want to have to close down again.
- In the wake of the horrific act that happened to George Floyd, we have had some conversations about policing in our city. Councilor Cockrum will report on that.
- Forming a new committee for the Master Parks Plan and a new committee for small business
- Evaluation process and policies
- Fire Station update
- Happy 4th of July everyone. Be Safe.

Councilor Cockrum had three conversations with Police Chief Bowman and learned that there have been no choke hold cases and the Police Dept. practices de-

escalating the situation. Ms. Cockrum obtained a copy of police policies on the use of force to review.

Ms. Cockrum also is working on updating the Employee Handbook, city cache and social distancing.

City Administrator Chad Sweet reported:

- Legislative Bill for Police accountability measures
- Tennis courts and the 10th street approach are open
- GVFD gave out 1900 free masks
- 4th of July parade was canceled however there is a merchandise store on the fire dept. website.
- The Fire Dept. is training for water rescue
- It is fire season
- Continuing work with Oregon solutions
- Duncan's Crossing: we have the permits from the State of Oregon Army Corp of Engineers.

City Attorney Peter Watts advised we do not know if the Palisades' CCR's would prevent building a Fire Station at High Point. He suggested an ORS 32.710 Judicial validation proceeding. It will give us the ability to go before a judge with oral arguments, with hope that we have a definitive answer before going to the voters. A special city council meeting was scheduled for July 7, 2020 at 5 p.m.

Mr. Watts gave credit to Gearhart Police Chief Bowman and his department for their community policing and all wearing bodycams. They are on the forefront to keep people safe and it is less likely that situations will escalate. They are officers of peace and that is the culture of Gearhart, and it is important to acknowledge that.

Councilor Jesse questioned if Mr. Watts could comment on the Shannon Smith Barn situation and trying to secure our liens. Mr. Watts stated that in reviewing the mortgage document, the bank found that the house has two owners but the mortgage was executed by the other co-owner, not Shannon Smith. The bank's position is ½ of the

home was owned so only ½ is secured by the mortgage and only ½ ownership interest. They filed for a quiet title. We filed our city lien on the property after the mortgage was recorded, but prior to the bank. Our position is that we occurred real expenses which should take priority.

Visitor Bebe Michel 661 10th St. thanked Mayor Brown for encouraging face masks, thanks to the PD for policies and for suspending the use of round-up.


City Attorney Peter Watts asked that Resolution #949 be tabled until next week. He is seeking guidance and will have an answer next week.

Staff requested up to \$22,000 from the Hazard Mitigation Fund to finish mass care cache purchasing. A MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Cockrum to approve the request, MOTION was approved 5-0.

Mayor Brown discussed ideas for forming a Small Business Committee and a Parks Master Plan committee. The Council agreed.

Councilor Fackerell questioned the school property title search result and also asked if people are playing pickle ball. Mr. Sweet noted that we found nothing that said the school property would revert back to the city. And yes people are playing pickle ball.

ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to adjourn, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Brown adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m.



Mayor Matt Brown



Chad Sweet, City Administrator