

January 6, 2021

The regular meeting of the Gearhart City Council was held Wednesday January 6, 2021, 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 Cockrum called the meeting to order at 7 p.m. Present were Councilor Fackerell, Councilor Jesse, Councilor Smith, Mayor Cockrum, Councilor Warren, City Attorney Peter Watts, Executive Assistant Krysti Ficker and City Treasurer Gail Como.

Mayor Cockrum received a request to bring back the additional visitors' section and she would like to if the Council agrees. The Council agreed to adding it for discussion on the agenda items.

ON MOTION by Councilor Fackerell, 2nd by Councilor Warren to appoint Kerry Smith as Council President for two years, MOTION was approved 5-0.

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

ON MOTION by Councilor Warren, 2nd by Councilor Smith to approve the December 22, 2020 special council meeting minutes as corrected, MOTION was approved 4-0, 1 abstain.

Mayor Cockrum asked the City Council to sign the Rules of the Council and please return the acknowledgement page to City Hall.

Mayor Cockrum reported:

- She is working on the Mayor's report to be posted soon on the BLOG.
- We had a work session to go over the Oregon Solutions project elk. management plan. We would like to sign a co-operations agreement soon and will likely have a town hall.
- COVID-19 vaccines were offered to First Responders on our Fire Dept. and Police Officers.
- We are getting started with the ODOT Safety Project for Hwy 101 and are looking primarily for Hwy101 business owners to sit on the advisory committee.
- She is working to complete the Fire Station due diligence document passed along from Matt Brown. It is about 80% done.

City Planner Carole Connell added that the Hwy 101 safety project is just a planning document right now. In the future there could be safety improvements such as lane configuration, sidewalks in some places, safety crossing and bicycle lane widening.

Councilor Warren enjoyed taking part in handing out CARES ACT applications and delivering the checks.

Councilor Fackerell and Councilor Smith also enjoyed handing out CARES ACT applications and checks and both have met with Mr. Morey to walk the former grade school property.

City Attorney Peter Watts advised we got a 2nd amendment complaint regarding the Smith property. Mr. Watts also addressed the fence permit for the former grade school property.

Krysti Ficker advised we have received 20 paper and 99 electronic Parks Surveys.

The Mayor acknowledged receiving a letter of correspondence regretfully late. It was emailed during the transition from her Councilor email to her Mayor's email. The subject of the letter was a concern of a tree in the right of way 5th Street. She spoke to public works and they will call an arborist to check it out.

Jack and Kathy Zimmerman 408 W. Kershul Circle emailed four questions. 1. Please provide progress update on the validation order on high point property. Mr. Watts noted that we have paused while getting more data related to viability. Once we have that information it will be better for the council to decide and potentially get more public comment. 2. Has the Palisades Homeowner's Association engaged legal counsel? Mr. Watts mentioned we have been contacted by two separate legal counsel regarding the fire hall. 3. Has the city formerly determined the titled ownership of the easement at High Point? Mr. Watts stated that was a pipe entity that is part of the HOA but was dissolved by the state of Oregon. It is basically a road easement and if we owned the property on either side, we could vacate that portion of the property, if we decide to move forward. 4. Has the city issued a fence permit on the former grade school property? Mayor Cockrum stated it has been signed.

Tom Thies 292 Woodland Ave thanked the City Council for the second visitor section and thought it is a good idea.

Mayor Cockrum read the synopsis of Ordinance #929, an Ordinance for C 1 zone text amendments. ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Jesse to open the discussion on the amendment. Councilor Smith had issues with Exhibit A page 2, paragraph 1. Following the discussion, a

decision was made to replace the word alcohol to say the words “beer and wine”. Councilor Smith agreed. ON MOTION by Councilor Smith, 2nd by Councilor Fackerell to approve as amended and read once by title only. Councilor Jesse was concerned that no business owner was in favor of this change. The Mayor called for a vote. The MOTION passes 4-1. Mayor Cockrum read Ordinance #929 once by title only.

Mayor Cockrum advised that a fence permit for the former grade school property has been signed and issued to Mr. Morey. Some of the ideas he mentioned during the walk about the property are to remodel, to create 55+ housing, keep the library, the gym and the cafeteria which could be used as a possible community gathering area.

Cheryl Newman 258 Kershul Circle is concerned with the grade school property being fenced and thought it would be a really good idea if the city to turned it into a park. City Planner Carole Connell advised we have started the parks survey and will have results in the spring.

Bebe Michele 661 10th St. had concerns with having the school completely fenced off. It may divert the elk onto the highway and would hate to see that. She would like to see a resolution that would be good for the public as well as the property owner.

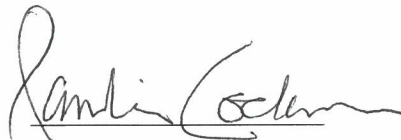
Chris Bell P.O. Box 2823 thanked city staff for their commitment in the “Toys for Tots” drive. It was a success. We collected two boxes of toys for the children.

Councilor Smith has concerns with the new variant of COVID-19. Please wear your mask, wash your hands and social distance.

ON MOTION by Councilor Jesse, 2nd by Councilor Warren to adjourn, MOTION was approved 5-0. Mayor Cockrum adjourned the meeting at 9:00 p.m.



Gail Como, City Clerk



Mayor Paulina Cockrum