

**MILL CITY
MINUTES OF THE CITY COUNCIL
Tuesday, March 22, 2022**

Mayor Kirsch opened the meeting at 6:30 PM with the flag salute. Councilors present were Janet Zeyen-Hall, Dawn Plotts, Tony Trout, and Steve Winn. Brett Katlong arrived at 6:48 PM. Staff members in attendance were City Recorder Stacie Cook and City Clerk Tree Fredrickson.

Citizens in Attendance were Ed Diehl, HD 17 Candidate, Stephen Floyd, The Canyon Weekly, Roel Lundquist, Gary Olson and Pierce Torres.

DECLARATIONS OF POTENTIAL CONFLICTS OF INTEREST: Mayor Kirsch stated that anyone who felt they may have a potential conflict with anything on tonight's agenda may say so at this time or at any time during tonight's meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilor Trout moved and was seconded by **Councilor Zeyen-Hall**, to approve items a; Approval of Minutes of Regular City Council Meeting of March 8, 2022, b; Approval of Accounts Payable, c; Approval of Mill City 4th of July Committee Request for:

- Sale/Consumption of Alcohol in Kimmel Park
- Overnight Vendor Camping North of Interior Drive Only
- Waiver of Deposits for Shelters/Concessions
- Noise Waiver (July 3-4)

During the 4th of July Celebration, July 2 to 4, 2022, Between the Hours of 7:00 AM and 11:00 PM, Subject to Submittal of a Certificate of Liability Insurance Naming the City as an Additional Insured, Placement of Port-a-Potties During the Event, Coordination of Vendor/Stage Placement With Public Works Supervisor to Avoid Damages to Park and Hiring of Private Security During the Event, and d; Ratification of Mayor Kirsch's Proclamation Declaring April, 2022, Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month in the City of Mill City. Mrs. Fredrickson polled the Council. The motion passed unanimously, (5:0).

CITIZEN COMMENTS/QUESTIONS: Gary Olson, SW Spring Street, complimented the new interpretive sign on N 1st Avenue. It was noted that Kevin Groom designed the sign frame and a professional historian assisted SOB members with the information.

PRESENTATION- Ed Diehl, Candidate for House District 17: Mr. Diehl introduced himself, stating that he is running for State Representative HD 17, as he wants a better state for his children and grandchildren. A conservative Republican, Mr. Diehl is feels that our liberties are being taken away and that he wants to fight for them in Salem. Mr. Diehl said that he is looking forward to the challenge of changing policies that are too restrictive to citizens and businesses. With onerous regulations and unfair taxes that stymie growth and hamstring businesses, he will be the voice of small business in Salem.

Mr. Diehl stated that his issues include wildfires and using the 'good neighbor authority' to allow the state to do more timber harvesting. In addition, addressing he executive order ability for the governor and reducing the authority for emergency powers drastically is important. Mr. Diehl said that he believes a good legislator should be in touch with city councils to be able to represent constituents.

Councilor Katlong joined the meeting.

Councilor Plotts asked Mr. Diehl where he stands on police issues. Mr. Diehl said that he supports police; funding the police; restoring law and order.

Pierce Torres, S 1st Avenue, asked for Mr. Diehl's thoughts on rectifying the homeless issue. Mr. Diehl responded, stating that dealing with homelessness and lawlessness in city streets is very important and that he feels these issues are directly reflective of policy issues. 'Compassionate accountability' is needed for the homeless, whereas now we have 'callous neglect'. We need to provide shelter, but people need to be held accountable for use, with a condition that they don't use drugs.

Mr. Torres asked how to assist police to take some of the burden away from them. Mr. Deihl said that we need to invest more in police, jails and defense attorneys.

HAZARD MITIGATION NEXT STEPS: The Hazard Vulnerability Analysis for Mill City's portion of the Marion County Hazard Mitigation Plan was provided for Council to discuss and determine next steps based on the Steering Committee's overall scoring and recommendations on mitigation actions.

Gary Olson went over a number of the recommendations and noted that the possibility of school violence/shooting was of high importance to SCSD Superintendent Todd Miller. Response time for Linn County deputies may be high if there is not a deputy in the area. Mayor Kirsch suggested that the fire department/and LCSO should become familiar with the school's layout and have keys for entry should it be needed.

Mrs. Cook said there are a number of items that can be implemented with little effort and low to no cost. However, no matter the cost, Council should identify priorities within the mitigation actions so that they can begin to be implemented and suggested considering a subcommittee to work on the various items to ensure that they move forward with as little delay as possible.

Discussion regarding possible items that may qualify for FEMA grant dollars ensued. It was agreed that Councilor Katlong would research costs for generators and hook-up requirements.

Councilor Katlong and Mayor Kirsch agreed to sit on the subcommittee. Consensus of the Council that the top priorities are: purchase of generators, transfer switches for current and new generators and MOU's for fuel.

Councilor Katlong suggested looking at propane fuel, in addition to diesel and gasoline, which could be used by citizens if unable to leave town.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY RECORDER ITEMS:

Sewer System "Interim Upgrade" Update: Mrs. Cook said the first of three meetings was held on March 17, 2022 with Mayor Kirsch, Planning Advisor Dave Kinney and representatives from DEQ, Marion County and Business Oregon to discuss the technical aspects of the City's sewer needs. The group is working diligently to find the dollars for this project. Mrs. Cook said that funds look to be available. The largest challenge will be timing funding with construction. The next meeting is scheduled for Thursday, March 31, 2022.

A Letter of Interest for a 'one-stop' financing meeting was submitted to Business Oregon with a tentative date set for April.

Keller Associates: Amendment No. 1 to Owner – Consultant Agreement: Amendment No.1 to Owner - Consultant Agreement between Mill City and Keller Associates for work related to the sewer upgrades was presented to Council for review. Mrs. Cook said the amendment will increase the contract amount from \$10,000 to \$30,000 to cover costs for coordination with DEQ, testing of sites, funding options and staff meetings.

A separate amendment will be forthcoming, which will authorize expenditures for completion of a soil investigation at potential drainfield locations.

Mrs. Cook said there are budgeted dollars to help with the immediate costs of the needed upgrades. Written commitment from Linn County for the \$300,000 needed to cover the immediate need items has been provided.

Mr. Torrez asked what changes have increased the cost by \$20,000.

Mrs. Cook explained that the original estimate was for project coordination to install a retention pond. However, DEQ rejected this proposal. The City is now looking at costs for engineering and coordination of a full drainfield and a lateral flow plant, which increases the time and complexity of the project.

Councilor Katlong moved and was seconded by **Councilor Trout**, to Approve Amendment No. 1 to Owner-Consultant Agreement with Keller Associates in the Amount of \$30,000. The motion passed unanimously, (6:0).

Mill City Falls Park Phase I Update: Mrs. Cook said that a meeting was held with City Planner Dave Kinney, SCSD Superintendent Todd Miller and Canyon Catalysts Joanne Olson and Dawn Plotts to discuss the possibility of partnering with the school and volunteers to complete components of the Mill City Falls Park Phase 1 project.

Mrs. Olson and Mrs. Plotts were very receptive to organizing volunteers to assist with installation of irrigation and landscaping. Mr. Miller indicated that he thought there was a potential to partner with the school's summer work program and the CTE program to assist with landscaping as well as construct the trellis that will be erected west of the restroom building.

Keller Associates will revise the bid documents to address only the elements that must be completed by a contractor. This includes the retaining wall, site prep and sidewalk work. Once the revisions are made, dates will be looked at to readvertise the project.

SRTS Application: Mrs. Cook submitted the Safe Routes to School Letter of Interest on March 17, 2022. The information will be reviewed by SRTS representatives and comments will be provided to the City. The intent of this initial review is to allow applicants to consider whether the application will be competitive as drafted or if modifications should be made. Part two of the application process opens May 1st with applications due by July 31st.

OPRD LGGP – Mill City Falls Park Phase I Application: Mrs. Cook said that she and Mr. Kinney have been working on determining the best elements to include in the Oregon Parks and Recreation Local Government Grant application to keep the project total at about \$450,000. Work will continue on this application in order to meet the April 1st submittal deadline.

Mayor Kirsch said that he completed a review for Mrs. Cook, stating that her workload has increased dramatically since the fires and she is doing a fabulous job. Her review will be presented at the next Council meeting.

Roel Lundquist, SW Linn Boulevard, asked the status of the Cedar Creek bridge. Mrs. Cook said that additional documentation outlined in the Army Corp of Engineer's permit has been requested. With submittal of this information, the project has been moved forward and is nearing completion of the review. Initial numbers indicate that the City will receive about \$170,000 from FEMA and the City must show a share of about \$56,000. Mrs. Cook said that an IGA with Linn County can now be completed so that the project can move forward.

Councilor Katlong said that the orange fencing has fallen down at the bridge, which is a safety risk and asked that Public Works place t-posts with the safety fencing. Safety fencing should also be installed at the Reid House property. Council consensus to prioritize these items.

Mr. Lundquist said that the unfinished part of the sidewalk on NE Wall Street is a safety issue. Councilor Katlong said that if gravel can be delivered, he will bring his mini and create a transition ramp.

Councilor Trout asked about the status of the RV site. Mrs. Cook said that RVs are leaving, but there are quite a few left still. Mrs. Cook said that staff has concerns that all will not be out by the deadline. City Attorney Jim McGehee will be consulted as to how to proceed should this happen. Mrs. Cook was directed to have Mr. McGehee begin the process to remove those who are not up to date on space payments.

Mr. Olson said that Marion County is putting together a fire mitigation plan and requested a representative from the Canyon to provide input. The representative will need to be determined by March 31st. It was suggested that the Mill City Volunteer Fire Department would be optimal, as they deal with fire. Mr. Olson will present the request to Fire Chief Leland Ohrt.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:41 PM.

Prepared by:

Approved by:

Stacie Cook, MMC
City Recorder

Tim Kirsch
Mayor