

CITY OF PILOT ROCK

COUNCIL MEETING

September 20, 2011

7:00 PM

A. ROLL

The regular meeting was called to order by Mayor Virginia Carnes at 7:00 PM. Council members present were Kacie Moss, Annie Tester, Ray Corwin, George Hall and Shawna Kirk. Also present were City Recorder Teri Porter, and Public Works Supervisor Steve Draper, Police Chief Darren Richman, Steve Haddock, Mary Lue Slabik, Brian Hemphill.

B. INVOCATION

Mayor Carnes read the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

Mayor Carnes asked Fire Chief Brian Hemphill to discuss the November 8th ballot issue. Brian stated that on November 8th the citizens of Pilot Rock fire district will be asked to vote on the RFPD Levy. Voting yes on this levy will not increase our taxes. Currently we pay .82 per \$1000 assessed value and that will remain the same. Voting yes will mean a continuation of services at the current level. If the levy does not pass it will mean that the Pilot Rock ambulance and first responders will be discontinued. Brian stated that 75% of their business is medical. The passing of the levy would ensure another 5 years of medical coverage for the citizens. There will be an open house at the station and door to door flyers.

E. PRESENTATIONS

None.

F-1 Recruitment Process for Officers

Chief Richman addressed Council stating that the City Employee Handbook indicates the need for officers to have a psychological test before they can be hired. The Chief has talked with Pendleton Police department and they have informed him that the testing is a waste of money. Chief stated that if you perform a thorough background on any applicant, you will find any issues that may concern the hiring process. On a motion by Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Tester Council agreed to remove the wording from page 13 of the employee handbook, which states that the police officers need to pass a psychological test. All present voted yes.

F-2 Mr. and Mrs. Slabik's Property at the City Park

Teri Porter addressed Council regarding the negotiations the City has had with Mr. and Mrs. Slabik. Letters both to and from the Slabik's is attached to the Council packets. Teri stated that it is clear that Mr. and Mrs. Slabik wish to hold firm to their original offer of \$1200 plus all attorney, survey and recording fees, which would be approximately another \$1200. Teri stated that Staff is looking for direction from Council as to how they would like Staff to proceed. Councilor Hall asked if we had countered with a \$930 offer, which is the assessed value of the property, plus splitting the additional fees. Teri stated that they had made that offer. Councilor Tester asked Mary Lue to come forward and confirm. Mary Lue stated that they are holding firm to the offer that was presented. She confirmed that the offer is for \$1200 and the City is to incur all additional expenses. On a motion by Councilor Hall and seconded by Councilor Kirk Council agreed to table this discussion until we have a chance to look at other options. All present voted yes. Mary Lue inquired as to how long this would go on. Councilor Hall stated we need the time necessary to make inquires.

F-3 Resolution #534: Cascade Natural Gas Franchise Agreement

Steve Draper addressed Council stating that as Council directed he negotiated an 8% Franchise Fee with Cascade Natural Gas. A mistake was made with the packet and the resolution was not included. On a motion by Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Tester Council agreed to table this item until the next Council meeting when the resolution would be included. All present voted yes.

F-4 Partitioning of City Property

Steve Draper and Steve Haddock addressed Council with the final plot mat for the City property being partitioned. Steve Draper stated that Council had approved all easements with the exception of the existing water supply to the fire hydrant. Steve has dug up that area and finds that there is a 3 foot separation between the 2 lines with water over the top of the sewer like it is suppose to. He is asking for a motion to grant an easement for the one line that supplies the water hydrant. On a motion by Councilor Hall and seconded by Councilor Kirk Council agreed to grant the easement. All present voted yes. Teri Porter stated that there is a 15 day appeal process after this decision, before this can be recorded. Steve Draper and Steve Haddock then presented the map for approval with all easements properly indicated. The final map will need to be signed by Teri Porter. Teri Porter addressed a request by Council to find out whether the City had Right of Way Use agreements and Rail Road Crossing permits with the Rail Road. Teri stated that the City does have those permits. Teri Porter also pointed out that Fire Chief Brian Hemphill is present to address any concerns regarding fire suppression on that property. Steve Haddock stated that the question for Brian is whether Brian thinks that the current fire suppression plan is sufficient? Brian stated that he did receive a copy of the plan and feels that the fire suppression is adequate as long as it remains status quo. Councilor Hall indicated that he would like it to be noted

that this assessment is as things are right now. In the future new property owners would have to supply whatever fire suppression may be necessary at that time for those circumstances. On a motion from Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Hall Council agreed to accept the final plot plan pending the expiration of the appeal period. All present voted yes. Mayor Carnes asked Brian to please put something in writing on Fire Department letterhead.

G-1 DEPARTMENT HEAD REPORTS

Chief Richman addressed Council stating that he got some prices for cameras. For 2 wireless cameras at each end of the park will cost about \$4800. He has a \$4300 in the CIS grant and is looking for where he can come up for the remaining \$500 in his budget. He had to put new tires on the Crown Vic that were down to the ware bars. That was \$460. A new master cylinder was needed on the Impala that was \$250. Now the starter on the Ford is out so looking to get a remanufactured starter on it. The Chief also stated that he has received about 9 applications and asked Councils permission to allow the posting to remain open until he fills the position. On a motion by Councilor Hall and seconded by Councilor Kirk Council agreed to leaving the police officer position posted until filled. All present voted yes.

H. CONSENT CALENDAR

On a motion by Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Tester Council accepted the consent calendar. All present voted yes.

I. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Kirk stated that the Round Up room has been sold. Chief Richman stated that Gheorghe Stroe's brother who is out of Walla Walla has purchased it. He said that Steve had spoken with him and after looking the place over he feels he will need to tear it down and he is going to pay the back sewer bill so the City will not be out that money. He will be erecting a metal building for a bar and restaurant.

Councilor Kirk made a motion to put the Administrative Staff description on the next Council meetings agenda. The motion was seconded by Councilor Tester all present voted yes.

Councilor Hall apologized for missing the 6pm work session. He stated that he hoped it went well and did not mean to belittle the process because it is important that we all are on the same page, that does not necessarily mean that we agree all the time, but we are on the same page as to what our common goals are and being able to work with our citizens. It is important that staff feels that they can come to Council and vice versa and doing their job on a day to day basis in the manner in which we and the citizen expect.

Mary Lue Slabik asked Teri Porter if she had found out anything regarding liability on the portion of the park that is owned by Mr. and Mrs. Slabik. Teri read from an e-mail that she received from Lisa Jacobson of CIS. This e-mail stated that a park open to the public without a fee would be subject to recreational use immunity. Mary Lue asked for a copy of the e-mail. Councilor Hall stated that he was not comfortable with Staff giving out insurance or liability advice and cautioned Teri not to do so. Councilor Hall stated that a property owner should make direct contact with your own insurance rather than going through Teri. Mary Lue stated that her only reasoning is that if they were going to be liable that they would close off that part of the park. Councilor Hall stated that that situation has existed for a great number of years. Councilor Hall asked that these negotiations be moved to executive session. Councilor Hall stated we need the time to take a look at all our options and discuss it in executive session. Mary Lue still concerned about the liability asked what she needs to do to get this resolved. Councilor Kirk answered that we are going to start addressing this issue in executive session since it is negotiating a contract. Mary Lue stated her displeasure with how long this process is taking. Councilor Tester asked Mary Lue to understand that we only meet twice a month, so it has only been four meetings that we have been discussing this. Councilor Tester stated that Mary Lue is pretty adamant about sticking to the \$1200 so Council will need to talk about that and we can't talk about real property in an open meeting. With Councils approval Teri Porter gave Mary Lue Lisa Jacobson's contact information.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Teri Porter stated that Steve Draper had asked her to keep the executive session on the agenda in-case something should come up unexpectedly. Steve Draper stated that there was nothing new to discuss.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Hall Council adjourned at 8:45pm.

APPROVED _____

ATTEST _____

