

CITY OF PILOT ROCK

COUNCIL MEETING

April 17, 2012

7:00 PM

A. Call to Order

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 and Shawna Kirk on the speaker phone. Also present were City Recorder Teri Porter, Public Works Director Steve Draper and Police Chief Darren Richman. Citizens present were Jackie Carey, Colleen Yarbor, Helen Jobes, Trudi Engen, Sue Martin, Mayanna Kopp, Amanda Drake, Karen Gillespie, Richard Carnes, Misty Rowe, Cecile Tresham, Mike Nelson, John Taylor and Mary Lue Slabik.

B. INVOCATION

Pastor Mike Nelson gave the invocation.

C. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

D. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS

John Taylor addressed Council with the following statements: Council has talked about being in negotiations. In the real estate business you are either in negotiations or in contract. In a contract situation you have responsibilities and obligations. In a negotiation standpoint either party can back away if they so choose. Check with your attorney to make sure that is the way he sees it.

Mayor Carnes directed Teri Porter to contact David Blanc with this issue.

E. PRESENTATIONS

Eli Stevens was scheduled to be present but did not make the meeting.

Mayor Carnes asked Councils permission to add F-4 Outside Seating at Archie's, to the agenda. On a motion by Councilor Kirk and seconded by Councilor Tester, Council agreed to add F-4 to the agenda.

F-I Citizens Request to Keep the Public Safety Surcharge

Misty Rowe addressed council stating that she would like to see the Public Safety Surcharge remain as a permanent charge. She has spoken with a lot of citizens from college students to retirees, who agree that our Police department has improved tremendously over the years. Chief Richman, stated that the original ordinance was to sustain funding for the Police dept and give us some revenue to pay for experienced officers. Since its implementation we have tried to reduce it by a dollar each year. In order to drop it by a dollar again this year, the Chief has refused any consideration for a

raise. Misty added that Folks like the new police officers and instead of trying to get it dropped we need to make it permanent to ensure that we maintain the current level of a quality police department. Teri Porter stated there is nothing in the ordinance that states that the original surcharge was to be reduced. Misty stated that the police are doing a good job and they have a lot of supporters? Steve Draper stated that he has been here 23 years and this is the best police department that he has seen in those 23 years. Jackie Carey seconded Steve's remarks stating this is the best police department and if you want to have a good police department you have to pay them the right amount of money to keep them once you get them trained. We can only hire people who are uncertified, then they have to work for us for 3 years. If we hope to keep them after that 3 years you have to pay them well enough to encourage them to stay. Jackie feels it should be a permanent thing, but not sure that \$5 is where we need to keep it. With the cost of everything going up the surcharge may need to be raised. She suggests staying at \$5 as long as we can, but eventually if need be Council can take a look at it. But it should stay so that the Police department has a constant, stable revenue source. \$5 a month is worth having a quality police department. Chief Richman stated that Low income citizens can come into City Hall to apply for a reduced rate. The applications are confidential and would reduce their rate by approx. 20% if they qualify. Steve added that we have always been a stepping stone for policemen, we train them and give them a few years experience then they go somewhere else. We have a lot invested in those officers. We have never been able to pay the officers to keep them here. Now we have the wages up to where we are keeping them. The surcharge would give us a sustainable revenue source to enable us to keep our Officers. Mr. Taylor read from a prepared statement which is [attached](#). Councilor Tester asked Mr. Taylor what that property cost the City. Mr. Taylor stated it does not cost a thing originally. Regarding Mr. Taylor's point about keeping a portion of the Industrial property and the revenue it creates as a way to fund the Police department, Teri Porter pointed out that the rent the city collects from that property is not as reliable as one would think. Currently she is having to aggressively persuade the current renters to pay their rent. She does not see it as a sustainable, steady revenue source. Regardless of what happens with A&V what Misty is trying to say is that the Public Safety Surcharge is a stable revenue source. There was additional discussion regarding the Industrial property and the sale to A&V but Mayor Carnes slammed her gavel to prevent the discussion from continuing. Councilor Moss asked the audience if there was anyone else who would like to add to this discussion or who are against it, no one replied. Jackie Carey suggested that the employee raise be put into a pool so that more even amounts were received. Mrs. Slabik stated that Pilot Rock has many senior citizens that are on a fixed income. She is all for keeping public safety a top priority, but would like to see the City find other ways to fund public safety rather than the surcharge. Misty reminded Mrs. Slabik that they can apply for the low income rate. Referring to all the low income people, Misty asked why all these people that Mrs. Slabik talks about don't come to the meeting, and why is Mrs. Slabik their representative. Mrs. Slabik stated that she is just talking from what she hears from the rest of the community. Misty stated that she too has heard from the community who feel differently. Misty went on to state the City's budget is so barebones that there is nowhere else to pull these funds, but suggested ways that Mrs. Slabik could help those folks personally. It's only \$5 a month, it's a choice you can choose to spend that \$5 on lattes or public safety and Misty feels that Public Safety is the right choice. Councilor Moss asked what would we need to move forward, a resolution? Teri stated that

there is nothing in the ordinance that states the Public Safety surcharge at a specific amount, and felt that a motion was all that was needed. Jackie suggested that it may be in the fee schedule resolution and with that Teri said she would look into it. Councilor Corwin asked if anyone had heard of anyone complaining about the surcharge. Misty stated that besides Mr. Taylor and Mrs. Slabik she did not think so. Richard Carnes and Colleen Yarbor stated that they did not even know it was on their bill. Colleen is a single income household with teenagers and she can afford it. A motion was made by Councilor Moss and seconded by Councilor Corwin Council agreed to **develop a Resolution establishing the \$5 public safety surcharge and that it be adjustable.** Councilor Tester stated that we do have sustainable revenue such as franchise fees. Steve Draper stated that franchise fees are sustainable. The mill, the bark plant, A&V, are not sustainable, you can't count on that. You build your budget around the funds you know you are going to get. If you get extra from the others then you put it in the bank for savings. Mr. Taylor stated that last year's budget reflects that the franchise fee amount went up by \$28,000. Steve explained that that is due to consumption. The mill firing up there gas boiler accounted for a lot of that increase in revenue. Regarding the for mentioned motion all present voted yes.

F-2 Donation Letters and Grant Requests for the Swim Program

Teri Porter asked for Councils permission to allow Angel to seek donations from Wildhorse, CenturyLink and Pilot Rock Parks and Rec. as well as applying to Pacific Power and Light for a grant. These donations and grant would be used to fund the Summer Swim Program. On a motion by Councilor Tester and seconded by Councilor Kirk, Council agreed to allow Angel to seek donations and grants for the swim program. All present voted yes.

F-3 Dog License Fees and Rabies Clinic

Chief Richman stated that the City will be holding another rabies vaccination clinic on May 18, 2012 from 3pm to 5pm. Chief Richman asked Councils permission to waive the fees for the dog licenses for the day of the event. On a motion by Councilor Moss and seconded by Councilor Tester, Council agreed to waive the dog license fees for the day of the event. All present voted yes.

F-4 Outside Seating at Archie's

Richard Carnes of Archie's Restaurant addressed Council requesting permission to set tables outside his restaurant. He said there would be four on Main St and two on 395. To enhance the curb appeal of the building and let people dine outside. Councilor Corwin asked if alcohol would be served to customers dining outside. Richard said there would be no outside alcohol service. Councilor Corwin asked if the tables were stationary or would they be taken in and out every night. Richard said they would take them in and out. Chief Richman stated that he had spoken to Richard previously inquiring about the time the table would be set up outside, because of the rigs that park there first thing in the morning that have to pull up onto the sidewalk a bit. The Chief also stated that we have a City ordinance that you cannot block a side walk. The Chief and Steve went over and with the City truck park out front they measured that with the table there, there would still be approx. 4ft of space for people to walk by. So they would not be blocking the side walk.

The Chiefs other concern was kids walking through and sitting down. Richard Carnes stated he would police that to ensure there was no loitering and he would not put the tables out until after 8 am when the one vehicle in question was gone and would allow for adequate space on the side walk. On a motion from Councilor Tester and seconded by Councilor Moss, Council agreed to allow the use of the public sidewalk for outside seating in front of Archie's. Councilor Tester asked if it did become an issue, we would like to reserve the right to back out of this, but stated that she would enjoy sitting outside herself and asked if her dogs would be allowed outside. Richard said that they would be. Regarding the motion, All present voted yes.

F-5 Approving the Park and Recreation District Agreement

Teri Porter stated that Katie Weinke had come by City Hall and reminded her that the Community Center agreement between the City and Parks and Rec. was up for renewal. Katie also suggested that Council Consider renewing it for 2 years rather than each year. Steve Draper stated that we have other agreements like this that are renewed automatically each year, unless there is an issue with either party and he recommended doing it that way. Councilor Tester suggested running that suggestion by the Parks and Rec. Board. After reading the attached agreement, Council Corwin noticed that City staff does quite a bit to help Parks and Rec. with the operation of the Community Center. Mayor Carnes pointed out that it is more convenient to have City Hall handle it and went on to state that the Community Center is a wonderful facility to have available to us. On a motion by Councilor Tester and seconded by Councilor Moss, Council directed Teri to contact the Parks and Rec Board to discuss the possibility to have a contract that automatically renews unless parties want to change it. All present voted yes.

G-1 Department Head Reports.

Chief Richman added that he will be taking a personal vehicle to Salem for Officer Faber's graduation from the academy. The Chief is requesting that City pay for the gas. Chief also stated that Teri will be going as well and will drive back the City's gold car, so that Rachell can ride back with her family. On a motion by Councilor Tester and seconded by Councilor Moss, Council approved paying for gas for the Chief to take his personal vehicle to Salem for Rachell's graduation. All present voted yes.

Mayor Carnes asked if Council has ever done anything as far as recognizing the graduation of an Officer. Chief stated no. The Chief added that Officer LeGore will be working with Rachell as the Field Training Officer.

Steve Draper stated that he needed a motion allowing him to hire the City of Pendleton to do the street sweeping. On a motion by Councilor Tester and seconded by Councilor Moss, Council agreed to hire the City of Pendleton to do the street sweeping. Councilor Corwin asked what it would cost. Steve replied that it varies, but \$2500 would cover it. All present voted yes.

Teri Porter pointed out that the quarterly legal expense breakdown is included in the financials.

H-2 Consent Calendar

On a motion by Councilor Corwin and seconded by Councilor Tester, Council agreed to accept the Consent Calendar. All present voted yes.

I. COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Tester stated that she enjoyed having a full audience and invited everyone back. We often talk to ourselves or to Mary Lue and John Taylor. All of Council and staff agreed. Misty Rowe commented that it is her feeling that people don't like to come because there are a few people that ramble on and on and don't really say a whole lot. And those of us that would like to come don't because we don't want to have to sit and listen, and that's part of the reason we don't show up to Council meetings.

Mary Lue Slabik asked if a PA system was in the budget. Mayor Carnes stated that it was a bare bones budget and a PA system was not part of the budget. Mary Lue suggested looking for a grant that would pay for it. Mayor stated that we could look into that. Misty Rowe suggested that Mary Lue invest in a hearing aid device. Mayanna Kopp suggested that Council could speak up.

J. EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

K. ADJOURNMENT

On a motion by Councilor Moss and seconded by Councilor Tester, Council agreed to adjourn the meeting at 7:57pm. All present voted yes.

APPROVED _____

ATTEST _____