Mayor Patricia Smith | *Council President* Mark Clark | *Councilors* Stanley Dirks, Timothy Clark, Scott Harden

REGULAR MEETING OF THE WOOD VILLAGE CITY COUNCIL
February 11, 2014
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Smith**, Council President Mark Clark*, Councilors Stanley Dirks, Tim Clark and Scott Harden, City Administrator Bill Peterson, Finance Director Peggy Minter, Public Works Director Mark Gunter, and interested parties.

ABSENT: None.

MAYOR SMITH CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CONSENT CALENDAR

a. Review of bills paid in January, 2014

b. Contracts $2,500 - $50,000
   - Bravo Environmental – Jet and Clean Lines: $3,975.44
   - Multnomah County – New Street Signs: $6,000.00

c. Council Minutes:
   - January 14, 2014
   - January 28, 2014

Upon motion by Tim Clark, seconded by Harden and passing 4-0, the Consent Calendar was approved.

PRESENTATION: PORTLAND STATE FIRE SERVICE STUDY

Director of Public Services at Portland State University Phil Keisling stated that he was honored to conduct this study on behalf of the three cities. Adjunct Professor Kent Robinson presented the summary of the study. Robinson explained that the key findings of the study include that the combined service area of the three cities has about 29,000 people. The primary call for service is for medical response, and not for a fire. Robinson stated that 74% of calls are for medical, and 88% of the time spent in the field is for medical calls. Robinson explained that there is a structural fire in the three city service area about once every 25 days.

*Mark Clark arrived at 6:05pm.

Robinson stated that the current service level is very high, and Gresham Fire is highly trained and respected in the industry. Robinson explained that Gresham is a low cost service provider compared to other comparable systems. Under the current IGA, Wood Village residents receive fire service for about 20-30% less then Gresham and Rural Fire District 10 residents pay. Robinson stated that the three cities have a slower response time compared to Gresham residents. Priority one calls which should have a response time of less than four minutes, actually has a response time of six to eight minutes.

Robinson stated that fire station location is a factor, and overlapping calls stretch the system and leave service gaps. Robinson explained that if the IGA is renewed, the three cities should consider implementing a best practice or service level agreement with the IGA. Robinson stated that Gresham seemed open to that concept. Robinson stated that there are viable service delivery options that can have similar or better service levels, but some have higher costs. Robinson explained that any option that involves just the three cities will have capital costs, and may have operational challenges.

Robinson stated that buying fire and ems service through Gresham reveals a complex system for service providers. First response comes from Gresham, as does large events and fire inspections. Ambulance service is provided through AMR, and dispatching is done through the City of Portland. Robinson explained that the county sets the standards for first response, and is involved in the background of all the operations. That may be a factor in how the three cities decide to move forward. Robinson stated that the City has limited control or influence on those operations, and the three cities have a dispersed geographical location with a relatively small service population.

Mark Clark stated that he thought BOEC was paid for with 911 tax revenue, and that should not affect this discussion. Peterson stated that the 911 tax only covers a portion of the total cost. The remaining funds come from the General Fund.

Harden stated that some of the response times were skewed by the scene staging, and the police would not let the fire department in until the scene was cleared. Harden explained that the response times are calculated from when the call comes in to when the fire department is on scene. If the police are clearing the scene, that can skew the response time even if the fire department has arrived. Peterson stated that while that is true and is a factor, that would not change the percentages of calls that that do not meet the best practice response times. Keisling stated that the research team broke down the response times into categories to help reduce the outliers. In all over 5,000 records were reviewed, and averages were not used because of the potential for outliers.

Robinson stated that the service area is about 29,000 people, and has about 88 calls per 1,000 people. Robinson explained that the services include immediate fire response, medical service calls, and surge capacity for large events. The daily rate is about two fire calls, and five medical calls. There are also hot spots which include care homes, mobile home parks, and schools. Robinson stated that the system has to be reliable, and have mutual aid agreements.

Robinson explained that the goal is to deliver the service for $1.88 or less per $1,000 of assessed value. Other goals include improving on the service delivery, and maintaining or improving the insurance rating. Keisling stated that in the reality of the aging population, the decisions that are made today will need to adapt over the next ten years especially when it comes to medical response. An adaptive system is needed.

Smith asked about mutual service, and if fire service was paid on a response by response agreement, then no mutual aid would be needed. Robinson stated that would be correct. Keisling stated that while that is a proposed option, he is unaware of any agency using that model for service delivery. Robinson presented a matrix of service alternatives, and stated that some options are actually models and not necessarily specifically defined.

Peterson asked if more information can be presented about the County Health Department which has oversight of the process including ambulance service. Peterson stated that the County enters into one contract with an ambulance service, and the cities would have to go through the County to get at AMR. Peterson stated that he has been unsuccessful at getting information from the County. Keisling stated that he was able to meet with people from the City of Portland, but not the County. Keisling explained that when Portland moved to having rapid response vehicles, the County pushed back and allowed them for only low priority calls. It is a complex system with potential constraints at the County level.

Keisling explained that he did not find anything in his research that would prohibit just an ambulance from responding to priority calls. Keisling stated that in some instances, the ambulance actually reaches the patient before the fire engine. Keisling explained that it is a very networked and complex system.

Peterson stated that the Council had a brief discussion on the topic in January, and the method of providing direct fire or medical response may not work throughout the County. Peterson explained that Gresham indicated that they were not willing to enter into a pay as you use it service.

Harden asked if the County has a county wide agreement for ambulance service, why is fire involved with medical calls. Peterson stated that there are other factors at play including that the ambulance is only for medical stabilization and transport, not medical first response. Peterson explained that there is a statute that covers ambulance service for the state, which includes the service areas. The responsibility to have service within those areas is up to each county. Keisling stated that some counties still operate their own service, and the ambulance service only gets paid to transport patients.

Keisling stated that nationwide, structural fires make up only about 4% of all emergency fire calls. Keisling explained that they looked at the overall system to help find alternative methods that make the most sense. Robinson stated that they interviewed the Fire Chiefs in Candy and McMinnville which

each operates an ambulance service. Robinson explained that they use a two person response team which provides for greater flexibility.

Robinson asked if there were any further questions about the presentation or alternatives. Mark Clark stated that there are a lot of options, and it has been a fascinating process so far. Harden stated that he feels the residents are not upset with the current service level, and is wondering how much the current service level could increase and at what cost. Harden stated that not all options cost less, and any option away from Gresham will have capital costs.

Peterson stated that the largest single reason for the study was to have viable options when renegotiating the contract with Gresham. Harden stated that if the model moves to a three cities method, there will need to be a discussion about who actually manages and oversees the department. Peterson stated that there were issues with just funding the study, let alone a department. Harden asked about the timeframes to have any one of the alternatives in place. Peterson stated that all the options will take some time, and a contract with Gresham would be needed in the interim.

Keisling stated that the alternatives were selected based on the criteria of the study. None of the alternatives have been ranked. Keisling explained that in bargaining with Gresham for a new contract, the discussion should be more than just how long and how much. Pieces of the study can be incorporated into an agreement that could benefit all the parties. Service standards should also be included.

Mark Clark asked about issuing AED's to all MCSO cars to help act as first responders. Peterson stated that there is a model for a public safety agency that involves cross training officers. Sheriff Stayton stated that most of their vehicles have an AED, and several of the deputies have cross trained with Gresham.

Tim Clark stated that he is glad that there are viable alternatives to present to Gresham during the negotiations. Peterson stated that it could take 24-26 months before any one of the alternatives could be implemented, and the current contract expires in a year. Peterson asked what the response has been from the other cities. Keisling stated that Fairview expressed a lot of interest in negotiating with Gresham for an improved contract. There was willingness to explore some of the alternatives. Keisling explained that they are presenting to Troutdale after this meeting.

The Council thanked Keisling and Robinson for their work on the study.

PRESENTATION: HOMELESSNESS AND CRIME

Sheriff Stayton and Chief Gates gave the presentation. Stayton stated that there are a lot of issues with the transient population and the levels of crime in an area. Stayton explained that that while the MCSO does not have the resources available to trend all the data that has been collected, the transient population has tripled in the past three years. Stayton stated that the transient population is using

recently created regional pathways to get from one area to another. There are also a lot of illegal campsites along those trails as well. Stayton explained that as Portland clamps down on transients and illegal campers, the problem in East County will only get worse. Stayton stated that the MCSO is working on a coordinated plan to address the issue, and it is mainly because East County is not set up to accommodate the homeless population.

Stayton stated that the main concern in regards to the homeless population is the increased rates of burglaries, car prowls, and vandalism. Stayton explained that illegal campsites that used to house five people or less now have over 30. The crime and cleanup efforts are left for the cities and other local agencies to deal with. Stayton explained that these campsites can be seen from area trails, and many go deep into forested areas. Stayton stated that while some agencies and organizations attempt to help these people, there is no regionally coordinated effort.

Smith stated that there are camps between the City's park and Troutdale. Stayton explained that the County Commissioners do not want the MCSO to enforce some of the ordinances when it comes to illegal camping. The MCSO will clean tons of garbage and rubbish from a site, and attempt to clear out the campers. Stayton stated that the deputies will run people through the system to check for warrants, and distribute resources to help the campers. Stayton explained that the MCSO is trying to breakdown and categorize the number and type of transients.

Stayton stated that the MCSO is being forced to track and develop statistics of the transient population. Peterson asked what agency is behind that initiative. Stayton stated that it is other underlying agencies, and it is an expensive process. Stayton explained that the piece that is being neglected is having a place for these people, and no one seems to be willing to take them. Smith stated that she thought Portland was partnering with a homeless camp for housing. Stayton explained that this needs to go beyond just a building. There are also constitutional issues about forced housing, and other issues regarding amenities.

Mark Clark stated that when he was first on the Council there were a few panhandlers in the City, and the advice given was to not give them any money. If there was no money to be made, the panhandlers would move on. Gates stated that is still the best way to remove panhandlers. Tim Clark asked if panhandling and homelessness were related. Gates stated that some panhandlers are not homeless, but other others are and typically live in natural areas outside the City. Gates stated that while panhandling is an eyesore, it is less likely that those people will commit a property crime if they are making money. Panhandling does provide an opportunity for the deputies to make contact with these people and get to know them.
Stayton stated that while the County Board has been liberal on the issue, the City may end up being stricter on the matter. Peterson stated that he has followed some of the cases out of Portland, and there are a lot of issues. Stayton explained that a lot of the homeless population knows the legal system well enough to know that they will probably not go to jail over a citation, or even be prosecuted. Stayton stated that others will purposely elevate a crime to go to jail in order to get healthcare, food or shelter.

That is especially the case when it comes to prescription medications. Stayton explained that the mentally ill who fit into that category have nearly overwhelmed the system.

Gates stated that illegal camp cleanups are more than just removing tons of debris. The site has to be labeled, and any serviceable items that are left behind have to be stored for 30 days. Smith asked if there is anything the City can do. Stayton stated that there is a lack of regional coordination, and a gap in communication with local service providers such as churches. Stayton explained that there are resources going to because there is not better coordination between agencies and community partners.

Stayton explained that the MCSO is working with Troutdale on consolidating their law enforcement service. Essentially the MCSO would take over police service for Troutdale, which would better service the East County area. The consolidation would also better support the schools, gang enforcement, and have a larger presence in the area. Stayton explained that it would be a cost savings for Troutdale, and they would not have to let go of any officers.

Tim Clark asked where the consolidation stands. Stayton stated that they are having another meeting with the Police Chief in Troutdale, and then the County Board. There seems to be buy-in from the union and the Police Chief.

Dirks stated that a few years ago Chair Wheeler wanted to cut or even eliminate the Sheriff's Office, and asked how that may factor into future expansion or consolidation. Stayton stated that a service contract is between the Sheriff's Office and a particular agency, not the Board. Stayton explained that the Board can cut service in unincorporated areas, but not for contracted service. Mark Clark stated that there was even talk of cancelling the contract. Stayton stated that the Board could not do that, or prevent the renewal of a contract.

Harden asked how the consolidation may affect the relocation of the Sheriff's Office. Stayton stated that they will still be looking for a new building in East County. If the consolidation occurs, the Troutdale Police Station will house patrol services, and a new building will house investigations, drugs, records, administration and other services. The discussions are moving forward, and it is looking like a good possibility to consolidate with Troutdale.

Gates stated that on another issue, there is a new emergency communications tower proposed in Gresham. This is an essential tower to increase emergency communications throughout East County and the Gorge. BOEC has done their due diligence on the project, and there are not viable alternatives. Stayton stated that he wrote a letter to the Gresham City Council in support of the tower. Gates stated that several other agencies have written in support of the tower, and he wanted to let the Council know that the MCSO does support the new tower.

Gates stated that the annual report has been drafted, and will be presented to the Council hopefully at the next meeting. Gates explained that theft increased last year, and vandalism increased this past December. There were over 2,200 traffic stops in the City, and 75% of calls were self-initiated.

The Council thanked Stayton and Gates for the report and service.

RESOLUTION 4-2014: CITY WATER VALVE REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Peterson presented the resolution and stated that the City is getting ready for the County's Arata Road project. The good news about the project is that the Wood Village Blvd. extension will start in about two weeks. The bad news is the Arata Road project will not start until 2015. Peterson stated that in anticipation of these projects the City tested the water valves on Arata, and found that there is a significant valve failure. There is also a valve failure at the reservoir site, and all these valves need to be replaced.

Peterson explained that because the valves need to be replaced soon, that would push the reservoir two painting project back into next fiscal year. Peterson stated that the Council could elect to draw from reserves to accomplish both projects, but does not prefer that approach. The staff recommendation is to use the current appropriation that was for the reservoir painting to replace the valves.

Mark Clark stated that if the valves are replaced now, the City will be in the same shape in 20 years unless preventative measures are taken. Peterson stated that a large part of the problem was with well one which drew in a lot of minerals to the system. Mark Clark stated that he remembers seeing video of the reservoirs which had a lot of sand in them. Peterson stated that since well one was taken off line, those issues have not occurred, and recent inspections of the reservoirs have not had any sand accumulation. The City also has a good flushing and valve exercising program in place now.

Tim Clark asked if staff will be able to determine the cause of the failure once the valves are removed. Peterson stated that it depends on the type of valve, and if it can be opened. Peterson explained that if the valves can be rebuilt, the City will rebuild them, and use them for future projects. Harden asked if there is value to keeping the funds in reserves. Peterson stated that the largest single value is for the budget not to increase $180,000 in one year. Smith stated that she would like to keep the funds in reserve, and does not see any issues with holding off on the reservoir project for a few months.

Upon motion by Dirks, seconded by Mark Clark and passing 5-0, Resolution 4-2014 authorizing the City Administrator to seek bids for water valve replacements on Arata Road and at Cherry Park, and delaying the painting of Reservoir Two was approved.

RESOLUTION 5-2014: ESTABLISHING FEES FOR NON-EMERGENCY AFTER HOUR SERVICE RESPONSES

Peterson presented the resolution, and stated that staff was having a conversation about various fees when it was noticed that one fee had not been approved by the Council. Peterson explained that the fee

is for after hour non-emergency service calls. The fee had been set at $100 which covers the cost of a response. Peterson stated that the staff recommendation is to approve the fee.

Mark Clark asked how many people call for this type of response, and were there any for the recent storm. Gunter stated that there were a few calls for a turn off related to frozen pipes this past week, but those people were not charged. Minter stated that the only person that has been charged with the fee in the last few years was someone who rented the chambers, but never picked up the key. The fee is used to mainly warn people to think ahead if a special service is needed. Peterson stated that the fee is charged in non-emergency situations, and staff interprets broken pipes as an emergency.

Upon motion by Mark Clark, seconded by Harden and passing 5-0, Resolution 5-2014 establishing a fee for after hour non-emergency responses was approved.

REPORT: EAST METRO MEDIATION SEMI-ANNUAL REPORT

Records/HR Manager Greg Dirks provided the report. Greg Dirks stated that he sits on the East Metro Mediation Board on behalf of the City, and this report covers the period from July through December. Greg Dirks explained that while no Wood Village residents went through a mediation process, several residents went to workshops or received services over the phone. Greg Dirks stated that the East Metro Mediation Program is expanding into foreclosure mediation which helps homeowners avoid foreclosure. That mediation program is also a slight revenue generator for the overall mediation program. Greg Dirks explained that the mediation program is continuing their community outreach, and expanding their workshops. Greg Dirks asked if there were any questions.

The Council thanked Greg Dirks for the report.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Tim Clark stated that he participated in a survey regarding the Climate Smart Communities' Initiative. Tim Clark stated that while the plan makes sense for urban areas, it does not make a lot of sense for suburban areas. Tim Clark explained that he has mixed feelings, and feels parts of the program will not work or be feasible for this area.

Tim Clark stated that he was invited to a meeting with Councilor Rich Allen of Troutdale along with several staff member from the County to discuss the 238th project. Tim Clark stated that Allen had concerns regarding the safety of truck traffic, and thought the 242nd right of way should not be vacated. Tim Clark stated that Allen's concerns seemed to be addressed by the County's staff, and it looks like Allen may be on board with the project. Smith stated that she does not like how Troutdale is involved in that capacity with a road that is not in their City. Smith stated that it would probably not be too well received if this Council was trying to influence something on 257th. Tim Clark stated that he was simply passing along the message from Allen, but it looks like things have calmed down regarding the project.

Mark asked about the recent sanding of streets, and why gravel was used instead of sand. Peterson stated that the City uses concrete grade sand, which could contain some aggregate. The City does not have the equipment to spread gravel. Peterson explained that a staff member actually noticed gravel in the roadway prior to the snow event. The streets are schedule for sweeping on the 24th and 25th of this month.

**Smith left at 8:43pm.

Tim Clark asked if the City Administrator's Annual review could be added to the next agenda. Tim Clark stated that he would like to hold that in an Executive Session. Peterson stated that he will add that to the agenda, and he is okay with having it in an Executive Session. Any action taken on the review will have to occur in an open session.

ADJOURN

With no further business coming before the Council, and upon motion by Dirks, seconded by Tim Clark and passing 4-0, the Council adjourned at 8:47pm.

Patricia Smith
Mayor

3/11/2014
Date

ATTEST:

Greg Dirks
City Recorder