MEETING OF THE WOOD VILLAGE CITY COUNCIL
January 26, 2016
MINUTES

PRESENT: Mayor Patricia Smith*, Council President Tim Clark, Councilors Scott Harden, Bruce Nissen, and Jimmy Frank via phone*, City Attorney Jeff Condit, City Manager Bill Peterson, Finance Director Peggy Minter, Public Works Director Scott Sloan, and interested parties.

ABSENT: None.

COUNCIL PRESIDENT CLARK CALLED THE MEETING TO ORDER AT 6:00 PM.

CITIZEN COMMENTS
There were none.

PRESENTATION: MT. HOOD COMMUNITY COLLEGE BOND MEASURE
Albert Sigala the Executive Director of the Mt. Hood Community College Foundation stated that the board has placed a $125 million bond on the May ballot. Sigala stated that this is also the 50th year of the college. Sigala presented a video clip for the bond measure. Sigala explained that this effort started three years ago with a community survey of the needs in the community. The results indicated that there is a need for workforce training in the region.

Sigala stated that the main components of the bond measure is a new workforce training center that would include STEM programs, welding, automotive, and mechatronics. Sigala explained that the college works with several industrial partners for job training efforts. The college works to create programs that are needed in the industry. Sigala stated that the bond will also pay for a new Maywood Park campus. The current Maywood Park campus was built in the 1940's, and is in need of replacement. Sigala stated that the new campus would be a full service campus for career path training.

Sigala stated that the bond would also pay for security upgrades to the main campus. The safety enhancements would be for seismic, as well as outside threats. Sigala explained that the current facility cannot be locked down, and the upgrades will install new security measures.

Sigala stated that the state has a matching fund program of about $8 million, and that money will go away if the college does not get the bond. Sigala explained that the bond will cost $.30 a thousand of assessed value. That equates to $60 a year on a home with an assessed value of $200,000. Sigala stated that there is not currently a bond for the school, and the last bond was approved in 1974 for $6 million. Sigala stated that the economy will benefit from the improvements at the college, and asked the Council to consider endorsing the bond measure.

Harden asked what areas the college district covers. Sigala stated that it is a large district that stretches from I-205 to Cascade Locks, over the mountain to Government Camp and Sandy, south to Boring and into Happy Valley. Harden stated that he feels that mechatronics is a big up and coming study area. Sigala stated that part of this effort is to also get the high schools engaged in workforce training programs.

Nissen asked about the Maywood Park campus, and if any new land would have to be purchased. Sigala stated that the new school would be built on a parking lot across from the current campus. Once constructed, the old campus would be vacated.

Peterson asked if there was coordination from the other community colleges on workforce training efforts. Sigala explained that there is coordination, and all the colleges offer the basic education and transfer degree courses. There are differences in the job training programs.

Clark asked how the bond has been received in other meetings. Sigala stated that overall people and groups have been supportive. Clark asked what Sigala would like from the Council. Sigala stated that he would appreciate the Council endorsing the bond which would help get the word out. Sigala explained that that college is a major industry with overall 1,200 employees, and plays a large role in the economy.

Clark asked that the bond endorsement be placed on a future agenda for consideration.

The Council thanked Sigala for the information.

*Councilor Frank was conferenced into the meeting via phone.

DISCUSSION: 28TH ANNUAL EASTER EGG HUNT EVENT

HR/Records Manager Greg Dirks presented the discussion. Dirks stated that the Easter Egg Hunt is scheduled for Saturday, March 26th. Dirks explained that staff is proposing an event similar to the past few years. There would be separate hunt areas for kids ages 3-4, 5-6, 7-9, and an area for special needs kids. Dirks stated that staff is proposing 15,000 eggs, and 500 prizes. Dirks stated that the number of prizes is being reduced because a lot of kids did not claim their prizes last year, and the older age group does not seem interested in the prizes.

Clark asked if the prizes could be eliminated altogether. Dirks stated that is possible, and asked if the Council would be okay with offering just a few prizes per age category to help distribute left over prizes from last year. The Council agreed.

Dirks stated that the other item for discussion is the helicopter. Dirks explained that the Easter Bunny has arrived to the event via a helicopter for many years. Last year the helicopter was unable to come to the event because of weather where the helicopter was located. Dirks stated that he priced other helicopter charter services that were closer to the City, but were double the cost. Dirks asked for the Council's feedback on how the Easter Bunny should be delivered at the event. Clark stated that the helicopter is nice, but the use of the animal control vehicle last year was good too. Nissen agreed and stated that the

helicopter should be reserved, and then an alternate plan made in case the helicopter cannot make it. Dirks stated that he will make the arrangements.

*Smith arrived at 6:45pm.

Clark asked if there could be a scheduled time for volunteers to have a group photo. Dirks stated that can be arranged, and Emilio Inc. has already pledged their support for the event. Clark asked if some of the savings from not having prizes could go towards the face painting and other activities that Emilio Inc. provides. Dirks stated that he will ask if they need any support.

Dirks stated that the field layout will be the same as last year with separate hunt areas, and the 3-4 year old area sectioned off into four quadrants. Clark asked if there would be enough support to complete the field layout before the event. Dirks stated staff learned a lot from the event last year, and there will be additional support to layout the field.

Dirks stated that he will coordinate for sponsors and volunteers. The budgeted amount for the event is $3,500. Dirks asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Upon motion by Harden, seconded by Nissen and passing 5-0, the 28th Annual Easter Egg Hunt was approved as discussed.

DISCUSSION: CITY ENTRY SIGN REDESIGN (LOLLIPOP SIGNS)

Dirks presented the discussion and stated that this project would redesign the round City entry signs. Dirks explained that the current signs were designed about 18 years ago, but the shape of the sign does not conform to the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices. Round signs are reserved for railroad use only. Dirks stated that the MUTCD specific that city boundary signs are to be either 18 by 24 inches, or 24 by 24 inch signs. Dirks explained that the current image on the entry sign is okay, but the sign shape is not.

Dirks stated that the Council could elect to keep the current image, and direct staff to fit the image onto a regulation sign. The Council could request that a new design be featured, and that could be done by staff or a community design contest. The Council stated that they like the current image, and asked that it be fitted on to a 24 by 24 inch sign. The Council requested a few options to select from including keeping the round look to the logo on a square sign.

Upon motion by Clark, seconded by Nissen and passing 5-0, the Council directed that sign options be brought back to the Council that include the round logo look on a square sign.

RESOLUTION 2-2016: DECLARING SURPLUS ITEMS

Dirks presented the resolution. Dirks stated that this resolution would authorize the City to dispose of items that are no longer necessary or functional. Dirks explained that there are some smaller furniture and outdate electronic items, but also the old Konica copier, and a large trailer mounted generator. Dirks stated that the generator has ongoing maintenance issues, and the operations building will be wired into the new generator going in at the Shea lift station. Dirks stated that items will either be donated, scraped, or sold off.

Upon motion by Nissen, seconded by Clark and passing 5-0, Resolution 2-2016 declaring certain items as surplus and authorizing disposal was approved.

DISCUSSION: ANNUAL COUNCIL RETREAT SUMMARY

Peterson stated that the Council retreat was this past Saturday. Peterson stated that he sent out an evaluation form, and would like to have responses by the end of the week. Peterson stated that there was not a lot of discussion at the retreat regarding the Annual Performance Plan. Peterson explained that there will be an upcoming APP workshop, and asked that any additional ideas be sent to him before that time.

Clark asked about the capacity of the APP. Peterson stated that there is still a lot of capacity in the plan. Clark asked about the Parks SDC project. Peterson started that he understood that if there was capacity to do the project with staff then it would be added to the APP. If not, then it would be left off the APP.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Sloan presented the report, and stated that it goes back to the first part of December when we had the flooding event. Sloan stated that the City's crew did a great job in responding to the event, and the county was very appreciative of the City's efforts. Sloan stated that the City hired a new Engineering Technician who started today, and we also hired a temporary limited duration employee to cover the permits counter.

Sloan stated that the 238th island project is underway, and preliminary designs will be presented to the Parks Commission next month. Sloan stated that the Halsey sewer line project is also underway, and construction should begin next week. Sloan explained that there has been some delays in getting the right of way permits from the county, but overall the project is moving forward. Sloan stated that the county is also looking at repair options for valve boxes that did not reseat properly during the overlay, and that should be resolved shortly as well.

Sloan stated that City staff held a meeting with the HOA of Treehill and Cotton Wood regarding the pressure zone project. Sloan stated that both boards were interested in moving the project forward, so the next step will be to meet with the residents of those communities to determine the final steps.

Clark asked if there is an estimate on when Arata Road will be completed. Peterson stated that substantial completion is by November 30th, and final complete by February of 2017. Clark asked when the dedication event should occur. Peterson stated that it would probably by around March of 2017.

Nissen asked how traffic will be impacted by the Halsey sewer project. Sloan stated that while there will be some lane restrictions, the traffic will be kept moving at all times. Clark asked how much of the roadway will be impacted by the project. Sloan explained that there will be cuts for each service connection, as well as the bursting pits. The base will be enhanced with a concrete mix which will help ensure a better overlay on the roadway.

FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Minter presented the report and stated that revenues are on track and ahead of last year's numbers. Minter explained that the City is 9% ahead of revenues compared to this same time last year. Minter stated that the investments increased from .54% to .6%, and there is about $5.4 million in the investment pool.

Minter stated that the budget calendar is in the packet, and the first proposed meeting date is April 21st. Minter stated that date can still be adjusted if there are conflicts with the Council. Minter stated that the second meeting date if needed is scheduled for May 5th. Nissen stated that may 5th does not work for him, but the 3rd does. The second meeting date was moved to May 3rd.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Peterson presented the report, and stated that there are five APP items that will not be met this year. Peterson explained that the Arata Road fence project will be delayed because of delays at the county. The Halsey project will probably not be fully completed until June as there were delays in getting the permits from the county. Peterson stated that the Town Center Master Plan project is running about five months behind schedule which was partially due to the awarding process. Peterson explained that the multi-city economic developer position is essentially over as none of the other cities were interested in proceeding. Peterson stated that he will be bringing back as formal resolution to modify the APP at the next meeting.

CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Clark stated that he had his first few meetings as Chair of MPAC. The discussions have been around equitable housing and Metro parks. Smith stated that the last EMEA meeting focused on legislative issues, and the groups still seems to be struggling.

WORKSHOP: HOMELESSNESS

Peterson presented the workshop, and stated that while this topic rated high for a retreat discussion, it was too broad to include in the retreat. Peterson stated that he will presented some facts on homelessness in the area, and the responses by area cities. After that it will be up to the Council on the next steps of the discussion.

Peterson stated that there are about 3,000 homeless people in the Portland area. There are beds available for about 1,200 people which leaves at least 1,800 people on the streets at night. Peterson explained that Metro estimates that there is another 2,000 homeless people outside of the Portland area. There is a large problem of homelessness in this region.

Peterson stated that there are several programs being developed, and Portland has committed $30 million in this fiscal cycle to help homeless people. There will be $12.5 million for homeless shelters, $10 million for affordable housing, $5 million to operate shelters, and $2.5 million for prevention programs. Peterson explained that Portland has pledged $65 million over the next ten years, and Gresham has pledged $1 million a year for the next ten years for programs.

Smith asked where all that money is coming from. Peterson stated that he does not know, but Portland has required a 5% operating cost reduction from all agencies to help pay for the program.

Peterson stated that the City does not actively engage in homeless prevention, but does work with the MCSO in campsite cleanup and outreach. Peterson stated that the City does not participate financially in those measures though. Peterson stated that there has been camps in and around the park, City Hall, and RV's around the community.

Peterson stated that the APP is being developed, and this would be the time to decide what if anything the City wants to do in terms of being engaged in the homelessness issue.

Harden stated that East County has become the accidental affordable housing option for a lot of people. Harden stated that there should be efforts on ensuring there is intentional affordable housing options. Clark stated that may not have any effect on the homeless issue, and some of the issue is not about the affordability of homes. Clark explained that it is tough to find a tangible solution, and cutting core services is probably not the best answer either.

Harden stated that it would be beneficial to know the percentage of homeless people that also have jobs. Harden stated that a person making minimum wage has to work 72 hours a week to afford a home in Portland. Peterson stated that rental rates in the City are about 60% of what they are in Portland. Harden stated that there is also a large number of homeless youth that need to be considered.

Clark asked what the specific problem is within the City, and how could we help. Peterson stated that he does not know what the homeless issues are within the City. Peterson stated that the MCSO tracks people with mental disabilities and people with addictions, but that represents less than half of the homeless population. Clark stated that increased affordable housing will not fix or reduce the number of transient populations. Nissen stated that it would be good to know if the homeless in this area are stable, or transient.

Clark stated that as Portland increases their programs, that will have an effect on the homeless people here. Peterson stated that people migrate towards effective programs.

Harden asked about the benefits that Home Forward pays instead of a property tax. Peterson stated that Home Forward directly pays for two Fairview police officers, and a direct equivalent to fire and 911 service. Clark asked about inclusionary zoning. Condit stated that there are a lot of restrictions on that type of zoning, but there is a push to revise some of those laws. Condit stated that while there have been successes to house homeless veterans, there are still a lot of issues with homeless people with mental disability or addiction problems. Condit explained that Los Angeles spends hundreds of millions a year on homeless programs, and they still have a lot of issues with the homeless.

Harden asked about ways to encourage affordable housing units such as SDC waivers based on the number of affordable units. Condit stated that incentive programs are okay, and do seem to work. Peterson stated that the City has the vertical housing development zone which provides an additional property tax abatement for affordable housing units. Smith asked what price range is an affordable housing unit. Peterson stated that it is around $500-600 a month for a two bedroom unit. Smith stated that if a person cannot afford $500, then it does not matter if there are units available. Peterson explained that a lot of the units in the City are affordable by definition, and there is no vacancy. There is a demand for these units.

Harden stated that we cannot increase wages or supply mental health services, but there are people out there that need help. Peterson stated that the City is fairly aggressive in homeless enforcement. We do not allow camping in the park, and we actively monitor RV's on the street. Clark stated that it might be better to enforce the regulations here, so people will go where there are services. Nissen stated that does not fix the issue, but we also want people in the area to feel safe.

Harden asked if it would be beneficial to have a homeless advocate to present issues and solutions to the Council. Clark stated that he agrees, and stated that the Council should have more information on the subject. Nissen stated that there is a large mental health component as well.

Peterson stated that he will arrange for a series of speakers over the next several months.

ADJOURN

With no further business coming before the Council, and upon motion by Clark, seconded by Nissen and passing 5-0, the Council adjourned at 8:35pm.

Patricia Smith
Mayor

2-9-16
Date

ATTEST:

Greg Dirks
Recorder