



*Mayor*  
Patricia Smith

*Council President*  
Mark Clark

*Councilors*  
Stanley Dirks

Timothy Clark

Scott Harden

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**REGULAR MEETING OF THE  
WOOD VILLAGE CITY COUNCIL**

**July 24, 2012  
MINUTES**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Smith, Council President Mark Clark, Councilors Stanley Dirks, Tim Clark, and Scott Harden, City Administrator Peterson, City Attorney Condit, Finance Director Minter, and interested parties.

**ABSENT:** None.

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

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

There were none.

**PRESENTATION: GAMING IN OREGON**

Dick Johnson the Director of the problem gaming program at Volunteers of America, David Corse a Counselor for problem gaming at Volunteers of America, and Michael Smear a recovering mentor with Volunteers of America gave the presentation. Smear stated that he was affected by gaming by his family, and now he is a mentor for the program. He assists in the recovery process by acting as a direct support similar to a 12 step program sponsor.

Tim Clark stated that the Council has been getting questions about the proposed casino, and the Council is looking for facts regarding gambling issues. Johnson stated that they are neutral on gaming, and only a small portion of the population gets into trouble with gaming. The portion that does get into trouble gets into a lot of trouble with gaming. Johnson explained that there can be positives with gaming, but there are also negatives. Johnson presented the common traits of a problem gambler. Corse explained that about 2.7% of the adult population are problem gamers. The average debt for a problem gamer is \$34,000.

Smith asked if there is data on where the problem gamers are going to gamble. Johnson stated that their main clients were addicted to video poker. It is a genetic issue that they are born with, and overtime the gamer finds their venue. Johnson stated that the issues typically progress more over time. Corse stated that problem gamers will typically try to chase down their losses and double down as a means to get their money back.

Tim Clark asked about the 2.7% of problem gamers and if that number has increased overtime with the increased technology, games and venues. Johnson explained that the number has been around 2.7% for the past 20 years. Tim Clark asked if having a casino in the area would enable more problem gamers. Johnson stated that it would not, but it would desensitize the issues of gaming. Precautions would need to be taken to increase the awareness of gambling issues. Mark Clark asked about the ballot measure requiring a portion of the proceeds to go to problem gaming programs. Johnson stated that is a good thing, and while they cannot stop someone from gambling they can increase awareness of the issues.

Mark Clark asked how problem gamblers find information about their program. Johnson stated that they are funded with 1% of lottery proceeds. Each lottery machine has a 1-800 number that can direct them to get help for problem gambling. Corse stated that getting someone into the door is the first step. Tim Clark asked if the 2.7% of the population is just based on those that seek help, or does that number assume that there are more people out there. Johnson stated that the 2.7% comes from worldwide data and studies. Tim Clark asked how many people seek help. Johnson stated that they get about 2,700 people a year.

Mark Clark asked what the financial condition of the people who seek help is. Corse stated that they are typically struggling, and they are in a constant feeling of financial stress. Gambling is seen as a way for them to get out of their situation. Dirks asked what kind of funding do they get from the Indian casinos. Johnson stated that the Indian casinos do not fund treatment directly, but they do fund advocacy groups and research.

Smith asked if problem gamers typically commit crimes to enable them to gamble. Johnson stated that problem gamers can have issues from petty theft to violent crimes. Mixing drugs with gaming is a very dangerous combination. Harden asked if the 2.7% of problem gamers have other addictions. Johnson stated that about 30% of them do. Tim Clark asked if approving a casino will enable more gambling. Johnson stated that it will increase the opportunity, but not the 2.7% of problem gamers.

Mark Clark asked how Johnson and Corse would vote for the casino. Johnson stated that he would vote for it because the pros outweigh the cons, but appropriate measures would need to be taken. Corse agreed and there would be great benefits, but treatments measures would be needed.

Tim Clark stated that he has a hard time thinking that someone could go into a casino and loose \$75 and still walk away feeling satisfied or happy. Johnson stated that there are people that can do that, but it is not about winner or losing for problem gamers. It is the act of playing that excites the problem gambler, so their goal is to play for as long as possible. Johnson explained that most people set a limit, and then leave when that has been met.

The Council thanked Johnson and Corse for the presentation.

## **LEAGUE OF OREGON CITIES LEGISLATIVE PRIORITY ADOPTION**

Peterson presented the item and explained that the League of Oregon Cities has a series of policy committees which develops several options for legislative priority. Each city then picks their top four choices and sends them back to the League to compile and set their legislative agenda. Peterson stated that the League is already committed to advocating for local ten year tax levies that can operate outside compression, and revising the urban growth boundary process for population growth estimates.

Peterson presented the items for consideration, and stated that he will act as the facilitator as the Council selects their top four priorities.

Harden stated that he likes eliminating the 3% discount for the early payment of property taxes, passing legislation renewing the 9-1-1 tax, supporting the creation of a dedicated, non-roadway transportation fund, and the recapitalization of state municipal infrastructure funds.

Tim Clark stated that he likes supporting the efforts of the Governor's office and Department Energy to submit and obtain a \$2 million grant to pursue a statewide public building energy efficiency strategy, amending the public contracting code to remove costly requirements that do not aid in the delivery of public improvements, and eliminating the requirement that public employers provide subsidized health insurance for retirees.

Dirks stated that he likes jobs and economic development support, amending the public contracting code to remove costly requirements that do not aid in the delivery of public improvements, clarifying that binding arbitration decisions may be overturned when those decisions violate public policy interests as defined by a local government, and legislation to supplement and perhaps eventually replace the gas tax as the principle road user fee.

Smith stated that she likes jobs and economic development support, amending the public contracting code to remove costly requirements that do not aid in the delivery of public improvements, supporting the creation of a dedicated, non-roadway transportation fund, and legislation to supplement and perhaps eventually replace the gas tax as the principle road user fee.

Mark Clark stated that he likes jobs and economic development support, amending the public contracting code to remove costly requirements that do not aid in the delivery of public improvements, legislation to supplement and perhaps eventually replace the gas tax as the principle road user fee, and restoring equity in our property tax system by resetting assessed value to real market value when a property is sold or constructed.

Harden explained that he chose some options in part because they have measureable outcomes. Harden asked if supporting jobs and economic development has any measureable outcomes. Peterson explained that there are performance measures for that category. Harden asked where the funding for that would come from. Peterson stated that funding would come from dedicated funds from the lottery that have been siphoned off to go towards education.

Peterson stated that he is surprised that the Council was not more supportive of restoring equity in our property tax system by resetting assessed value to real market value when a property is sold or constructed. Condit explained that the current system indefinitely locks in inequitable tax values for homes. Condit stated that with revisions, the tax value can be capped, but then trued up at the point of sale which will restore equity overtime. Peterson stated that the largest value in terms of dollars is in the commercial sector where properties are centrally assessed. Harden asked why measures 5 and 50 would not be repealed if there are so many issues. Peterson explained that the League has conducted a series of poles, and a direct repeal will not occur. People seem willing to support a change if it is perceived as fair.

Upon motion by Mark Clark, seconded by Tim Clark and passing 5-0, the following items were selected by the City Council:

- Jobs and economic development support
- Restoring equity in our property tax system by resetting assessed value to real market value when a property is sold or constructed
- Amending the public contracting code to remove costly requirements that do not aid in the delivery of public improvements
- Legislation to supplement and perhaps eventually replace the gas tax as the principle road user fee

#### **ORDINANCE 11-2012 SENIOR CITIZEN DISCOUNT RATE**

Peterson presented the ordinance and stated that it would extend the current benefits that apply for water and sewer to the new street utility fee. Peterson explained that the discount is not based on age or income, but retired status. Peterson stated that the entire cost to the City for the discount including adding the street utility fee would be about \$1,000 a year. Peterson explained that there are a series of alternatives, but reviewing the alternatives in detail would be a substantial project and would have to be an APP item. Peterson stated that the request is to apply the discount to the street utility fee.

Smith asked if the homeowner receives the discount, or the person living in the home. Minter explained that everyone in the home has to qualify in order to receive the discount. Harden stated that he would like to see the item on next year's APP, and perhaps make the discount based on a sliding scale. Peterson stated that he likes the approach of tying the discount to income, and having the rate less than the current discount of 25%. Mark Clark asked if the \$1,000 was the total cost of the discount program, or if that was per person. Minter stated that is the cost for the entire program.

The Council requested that the discount be brought back next year for consideration as an APP item.

Upon motion by Harden, seconded by Dirks and passing 5-0, the first reading by title only of Ordinance 11-2012 revising the discount rate to include the street utility fee was approved.

Minter gave the first reading by title only of Ordinance 11-2012 revising the discount rate to include the street utility fee.

Upon motion by Dirks, seconded by Harden and passing 5-0, the second reading by title only of Ordinance 11-2012 revising the discount rate to include the street utility fee was approved.

Minter gave the second reading by title only of Ordinance 11-2012 revising the discount rate to include the street utility fee.

Upon motion by Tim Clark, seconded by Mark Clark and passing 5-0, Ordinance 11-2012 revising the discount rate to include the street utility fee was adopted.

### **NITE OUT RECAP**

Records Manager/HR Specialist Greg Dirks presented the report. Greg Dirks stated that the total cost of the event was about \$4,400, and donations totaled about \$3,600. There were also substantial in-kind donations from Wal-Mart, the Baptist Church and Waste Management. Greg Dirks explained that the expenses included the rental items, the band, custom balloons, pony rides, banners and food.

Greg Dirks stated that there was an estimated crowd of over 2,000 people, and over 1,600 hot dogs were consumed as well as over 1,200 cotton candy cones, and 3,000 beverages. Greg Dirks explained that there was a record of 22 vendors with some providing free items and face painting. Secure Kid gave out 61 child ID kits, and their goal for events like ours is 12. The Red Cross also had 21 donors for the blood drive.

Greg Dirks stated that overall the event went well, and areas for improvement include adding more garbage cans, and highlighting the City's booth more. Tim Clark stated that a banner on the City's booth would be good, and the bands speaker system was a bit quiet. Mark Clark stated that the band has a smaller system, and was out powered by the City's system. The Council thanked Greg Dirks for the report and the work on the event.

### **PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Peterson stated the gazebo has finally arrived, and the coordination for the construction of it will begin soon. Peterson explained that the large meter replacement program is underway, and the new meters have been ordered. Peterson stated that the valve exercising program is set to begin, and new water sampling stations have been installed. Mark Clark asked if he could see a demonstration of the valve exerciser. Peterson stated that can be arranged.

### **FINANCE DIRECTOR'S REPORT**

Minter presented the report and stated that the yearend numbers are in. Minter stated that the largest percentage increase was in state shared revenue, but the gas tax revenue went up by over \$55,000. The interest earnings are still low, but the City has saved over \$2,500 in banking fees so far this year. Minter stated that the funds were well managed this year, and no money was spent out of the General

Fund contingency. There was contingency spending in the Sewer Fund, but not in the Water or Street fund. Mark Clark asked if the reservoir painting will include cathodic protection. Peterson stated that there has not been a significant level of deterioration, and simple levels of protection are adequate for this system.

### COUNCIL REPORTS

Mark Clark stated that the PDX Citizen's Noise Advisory Committee discussed the use of the NextGen system at Seattle airport, and it has apparently worked flawlessly. The major airlines are gearing up to use the system.

Smith stated that the CCRD had an update on the USS Ranger project, and they also discussed how they can piggyback their needed transportation projects to the East Metro Connections Plan. Smith explained that the Steering Committee will be meeting one more time to discuss project prioritization before the plan goes to the East Multnomah County Transportation Committee for review. Once the EMCP has gone through EMCTC, then it will go to Metro for the final vote. Smith stated that Gresham did approve the plan, and it looks like the 242<sup>nd</sup> right of way will be removed shortly.

### ADJOURN

With no further business coming before the Council, and upon motion by Tim Clark, seconded by Harden and passing 5-0, the Council adjourned at 8:10pm.



Patricia Smith  
Mayor

8-22-2012

Date

ATTEST:



Greg Dirks  
City Recorder