

CITY OF SUTHERLIN
City Council Meeting
Civic Auditorium
Monday, October 9, 2023 – 7:00pm

COUNCIL MEMBERS:

Gary Dagle, Joe Groussman, Debbie Hamilton, Shawn Smalley, Larry Whitaker and Lisa Woods

MAYOR: Michelle Sumner

CITY STAFF: City Manager, Jerry Gillham
City Recorder, Melanie Masterfield
Finance Director, Tami Trowbridge
Finance & Administrative Asst., Lindsay Priest
Public Works Director, Aaron Swan
Community Development Director, Kristi Gilbert
Police Chief, Troy Mills
Police Captain, Kurt Sorenson
Fire Division Chief, Brandan McGarr
City Attorney, Chad Jacobs (via Zoom)

Audience: Kristine Godbey, Carolyn Barnett, Melva Bratton, Mike & Karen Meier, Chris Owen, Maryanne Anderson, Dianne Good, Bob & Karen Moczowski, Tadd Held, Sheri Esterbrook, Danielle Vallotten, Valerie Shepherd, Bruce Pettengill, Kerry Miller, George Bonney, Shawn New, Thane McCareley

Via Zoom: Brian Dunsing, Peter Duncan, Pat Lynch, Larry Bahr, Courtney, Austin

Meeting called to order by Mayor Sumner at 7:00 p.m.

Flag Salute:

Roll Call: All present

Introduction of Media: None

****Mayor Sumner made an announcement for Zoom attendees****

PUBLIC COMMENT (agenda items only)

- Karen Meier introduced herself and felt that more information should have been included in the minutes regarding the Hastings Village update during the Council meeting on September 11, 2023.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **September 11, 2023 Minutes – Regular Meeting**

MOTION made by Councilor Hamilton to approve Consent Agenda as presented; second by Councilor Whitaker.

Discussion: None

In favor: Councilors Woods, Dagle, Whitaker, Smalley, Groussman, Hamilton and Mayor Sumner

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

- **Ordinance 1093 – Regulating Occupancy of Recreational Vehicle (second reading & adoption)**

City Recorder read ordinance by title only: *“An Ordinance of the City of Sutherlin adding a new chapter 8.30 to the Sutherlin Municipal Code – regulating the occupancy of recreational vehicles.”*

Staff Report – Community Development Director, Kristi Gilbert, let the staff report stand.

MOTION made by Councilor Groussman to approve Ordinance 1093 – Regulating Occupancy of Recreational Vehicles (second reading & adoption) as presented; second by Councilor Whitaker.

Discussion: Councilor Dagle voiced his dislike for this Ordinance.

In Favor: Councilors Woods, Whitaker, Smalley, Groussman, Hamilton and Mayor Sumner

Opposed: None

Abstained: Councilor Dagel – Due to a conflict of interest.

Motion carried.

- **Public Hearing & Resolution 2023.13 – Supplemental Budget Adjustment**

Staff Report – Finance Director, Tami Trowbridge -This budget adjustment is needed due to cost inflation on current projects and adding additional funds to the Urban Renewal Fund for future projects. Instead of seeking outside funding sources (at an additional cost) for Urban Renewal, funds are available in the Enterprise and General Funds to provide short term loans that will be reimbursed. Reserve Fund funds are earmarked for infrastructure. No operational funds will be expended.

- Parking lot improvements behind Backside Brewing, the Body Shop and Sol De Sutherlin (\$250k)
- Water Control District impact reimbursement (\$25k)
- Downtown improvements, including façade grants (275k)
- Remaining work on the old bank building renovation (\$60k)
- Independent audit (\$10k)
- Administrative support (\$24k)

These total more than \$550,000, however reimbursements are still being received from the Mainstreet Grant program.

- Councilor Woods asked for clarification of funds for the old bank building renovation. *Trowbridge explained.*
- Councilor Groussman asked for clarification of the partnership with the school district for a digital sign. *City Manager, Jerry Gillham – In partnership with the Sutherlin School District, Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce and the City, utilizing Transient Lodging Tax (TLT) funds to install a new digital sign to replace the one installed at Central Park.*

Mayor Sumner opened the Public Hearing at 7:17 p.m.

Mayor Sumner asked for public comment.

- Shawn New introduced himself and advocated his dislike for putting another homeless camp in town. *Mayor Sumner – There will not be another homeless camp in town. This public comment is for budget adjustments for Urban Renewal funds.*
- Karen Meier questioned comments previously stated regarding buying property for a tiny home village for homeless individuals. *Gillham – The exploration of land and the use of Urban Renewal funds to create affordable housing will be available to all community members, not just homeless individuals.*
- Bruce Pettengill introduced himself and spoke against using reserve funds for anything other than the intended use. *Trowbridge – These are short term loans that will be reimbursed. These are not for permanent distribution. Reserve funds are specifically for infrastructure, equipment, and vehicles. Public Works Director, Aaron Swan, explained further details of the water treatment plant.*

Mayor Sumner closed the Public Hearing at 7:25 p.m.

- **Resolution 2023.13 – Supplemental Budget Adjustment**

MOTION made by Councilor Whitaker to approve Resolution 2023.13 – Supplemental Budget Adjustment as presented; second by Councilor Hamilton.

Discussion: Councilor Groussman reiterated that these funds are being used for short term loans and will be reimbursed with interest.

In Favor: Councilors Woods, Dagel, Whitaker, Smalley, Groussman, Hamilton and Mayor Sumner

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

REPORTS (verbal)

- **Solar Bees Update**

Public Works Director, Aaron Swan – The Solar Bee mixers have been in use since June 2023 at Cooper Creek Reservoir to combat the high manganese levels which make the water more difficult and costly to treat. Manganese levels are down roughly a third from normal this time of year. The six month trial lease ends in December 2023 at which time purchasing is an option.

- Councilor Hamilton – Is there an estimate of cost savings? *Swan – Not at this time. The Cooper Creek plant has only been run a few times to check the manganese levels.*

Further discussion ensued.

CITY MANAGER REPORT (verbal)

- Sutherlin’s Homeless Response Team and the Umpqua Heart board will be presenting information and answering questions at the November 13, 2023 City Council meeting.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Woods

- Nothing to report.

Councilor Dagle

- When Gillham says “we” when speaking about Hastings Village, who is being referred to? *Gillham – The City’s Homeless Response Team and Umpqua Heart.*
- Having a haunted house at his property on October 31, 2023 from 7-9:30 p.m.

Councilor Whitaker

- Nothing to report.

Councilor Smalley

- Encouraged community members to attend Council meetings to be better informed and involved, and to call City Hall when questions arise instead of spreading rumors.

Councilor Groussman

- Agreed with Councilor Smalley.

Councilor Hamilton

- Thanked Thomas Smalley and family for the Oregon Truck Show on Saturday. A great venue for October.

Mayor Sumner

- Oregon Truck Show was a great event.
- Good turnout on Saturday at ‘Coffee with the Mayor’
- Community members have suggested installing a fence at the end of Hawthorne St. to keep homeless individuals from walking through the neighborhood at night. *Swan – The possibility can be researched.*
 - Further discussion ensued between Gillham and audience members.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Off Agenda Items)

- Carolyn Barnett introduced herself and expressed concerns for people riding their bicycles on sidewalks.
- Karen Meier referred to the Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between the City and Umpqua Heart and questioned the lack of property lease agreement as stated in the MOA. *Gillham – A lease is not warranted until steady funding is being received to aid in combating homelessness. Discussion ensued further.*
- Thane McCareley introduced himself and informed Council of the speed dangers on N. State St. He strongly pointed out the need for a speed limit sign and crosswalk at the intersection of N. State St. and Second Ave. due to the volume of people crossing the street. *Swan – Staff can look into it.*

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

Approved: Jerry Gillham
Jerry Gillham, City Manager

Respectfully submitted by,

Melanie Masterfield

Melanie Masterfield, City Recorder, CMC

Michelle Sumner

Michelle Sumner, Mayor

APPROVED BY MAYOR AND COUNCIL ON NOVEMBER 13, 2023.