

CITY OF SUTHERLIN
City Council Meeting
Civic Auditorium
Monday, November 13, 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 Captain, Kurt Sorenson
Fire Chief, Mike Lane
Livability Services Director/Library Director, Pat Lynch
City Attorney, Chad Jacobs (via Zoom)

Audience: Kristine Godbey, Dan Bartram, Chris Owens, Wayne & Michelle Ellsworth, Dani Vallotten, Karl Klese, Anita & Brent Huntsaker, Mike & Karen Meier, Bud Terry, Genevieve Lister, Dianne Good, Terry Brock, Barbara Irons, Gary Fadness, Del Rae Bodine, Heidi Gamboa, Maryanne Anderson, Sherman Hong, Carol Wilson, Bruce Pettengill, John Day, Kim & Darwyn Eder, Jim & Beth Houseman, David Mansfield, Kerry Miller, Sheri Esterbrook, Valerie Shepherd, Jessica Batchelor, Leon Reyes, John & Joan Herman, Gail Kuntz, Kevin Kline, Kathy & Ralph McManis, Bob Moczkonksi, Gene Coufal, Angie Wallis, Lynda Whitaker, Anthony Rosa

Via Zoom: Catherine Paul, Jack Strong, Larry Bahr, Peter Duncan, Scott Carroll, Chelsea, Eileen Smalley

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)

- City Council and staff heard testimony from the following community members regarding Hastings Village: Dani Vallotten, Karen Meier, Maryann Anderson, Kevin Kline, Mike Meier, Valerie Shepherd, Gene Coufal, Terry Brock, Dan Bartram, and Gary Fadness.

PRESENTATION

- **Homeless Response Team & Umpqua Heart Progress Update**
 - Livability Services Director, Pat Lynch, outlined the city's landscape with housing and homelessness. The City has designated a place for homeless individuals to be and is working on a plan to help those wanting to get out of homelessness. Hastings Village is a homegrown solution made possible by the City and incredible volunteers/nonprofit organizations. Funds are being sought after; however, no funds have been received to date.
 - Police Captain, Kurt Sorenson, spoke of the minimal police calls and police presence needed at Hastings Village. Problems do arise; however, they are easily managed. The Police Department has a good line of communication with the residents.
 - Umpqua Heart President, Wayne Ellsworth, provided details of the clean up process at Hastings Village and moving forward. Once a camp resident enters a program of care, they become eligible to live in a micro-

shelter. Services are being offered on a weekly basis to camp residents: substance abuse, therapy, peer support, harm reduction, case management, etc. A portable shower unit and transportation are now available.

CONSENT AGENDA

- **October 9, 2023 Minutes – Regular Meeting**

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

Discussion: None

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

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

COUNCIL BUSINESS

- **Seismic Grant Award**

Staff Report – Community Development Director, Kristi Gilbert – The City was awarded grants for seismic rehabilitation at Sutherlin Fire Station #1 in the amount of \$2,492,700 and Sutherlin Police Department in the amount of \$2,479,180.

Request for Proposals (RFP) were advertised and the City received two proposals. The review committee recommended awarding the contract to ZCS Engineering & Architecture. The scope of work will consist of Engineering, Architectural, and Construction Management Services for both stations.

MOTION made by Councilor Whitaker to approve Seismic Grant Award to ZCS Engineering & Architecture in the amount of and not to exceed \$354,700 and in the amount of and not to exceed \$357,300 for Engineering, Architecture, and Construction Management Services as presented; second by Councilor Groussman.

Discussion: None

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

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

- **Liquor Application Approval**

Staff Report – Police Captain, Kurt Sorenson – This application is for a change of ownership from Smitty's to Center Market #45. The Police Department has found no information that would be viewed as disqualifying by OLCC.

MOTION made by Councilor Hamilton to approve Liquor Application to Center Market #45 as presented; second by Councilor Whitaker.

Discussion: None

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

Opposed: Councilor Woods

Motion carried.

REPORTS (verbal)

- **League of Oregon Cities Conference (LOC)**

Councilor Woods – LOC is a great conference to see what's going on around the state. There were many opportunities to participate in seminars discussing a variety of topics.

Mayor Sumner – Homelessness is not only a state problem but a national problem. There were many discussions with different cities and their processes. Expressed appreciation of success for Sutherlin's plan.

- **Ford's Pond Construction Update**

Gilbert – Construction made great progress over the summer. Improvements include:

- Excavating
- Grading
- Construction of pavilions
- Restrooms
- ADA access ramps
- Sidewalks
- Concrete seating area

- Raised planters
- Playground equipment
- Bottle filling station
- Wetland mitigation (removal of blackberry islands)

Unfortunately, due to construction and irrigation disconnection, some vegetation was lost. During the winter construction, the playground site will be closed with barricades and signs posted. The two northern restrooms will be open for use and maintained by city staff. Due to multiple delays, construction will re-commence in spring 2024 with an estimated project completion by July 2024.

Friends of Ford’s Pond President, Jim Houseman, handed City Council and staff an outline of Capital Improvement Grants received (totaling \$3,200,072). Asked for city resources to help maintain the grounds.

- Councilor Whitaker – What is the purpose of Friends of Ford’s Pond? *The mission is to assist the city in the development and maintenance of Ford’s Pond property and provide environmental education to the public.*

CITY MANAGER REPORT (verbal)

- Jerry Gillham presented Council with a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) for the new partnership between the City and Sutherlin Area Chamber of Commerce to create a new committee.

CITY COUNCIL COMMENT

Councilor Dagerl

- Questions asked by the audience deserve to be answered.
- The City needs to create a committee that will generate solutions for homelessness.

Councilor Whitaker

- City staff, Wayne, and volunteers are doing what is required by the 9th Circuit Court. Appreciates the camp for providing homeless individuals a place to go.

Councilor Smalley

- Supports Hastings Village and appreciates the residents coming to Council meetings.

Councilor Groussman

- Nothing to report.

Councilor Hamilton

- Agrees with Councilor Whitaker. Suggested everyone come together to create a solution.
- Thanked Wayne for all his hard work.
- Thanked the village residents for attending Council meetings.
- Thanked the Lions Club for putting the flags up along Central Ave. for Veterans Day.
- Thanked the veterans.

Councilor Woods

- Thanked the veterans.
- This community needs to come together and have meaningful conversations to help those experiencing homelessness and houselessness.
- Thanked the village residents for attending Council meetings.

Mayor Sumner

- Thanked the audience for their input.
- Appreciative of Hastings Village.
- Liked the audience comment about people with trade skills in the community helping our villagers.
- December 2nd Coffee with the Mayor will be cancelled. Next one will be January 6, 2024.

PUBLIC COMMENT (Off Agenda Items)

- Karen Meier, expressed concern for several people living in one house.

- Bruce Pettengill, willing to help village residents that want it. Expressed dislike for how the City is spending funds.

**Mayor announced that Council will recess into Executive Session called under ORS 192.660(2)(i) – Performance evaluations of public officers and employees, to review and evaluate the job performance of a chief executive officer, other officers, employees, and staff, if the person whose performance is being reviewed and evaluated does not request an open hearing. Representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session called to order at 8:40 p.m.

Executive Session adjourned at 9:01 p.m.

Council reconvened regular session.

MOTION made by Councilor Whitaker to approve City Manager contract effective January 1, 2024 and ending December 31, 2025 as presented; second by Councilor Woods.

Discussion: None

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

Opposed: None

Motion carried unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business, meeting adjourned at 9:05 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 DECEMBER 11, 2023