

FALLS CITY CITY COUNCIL		MONDAY, MARCH 4, 2024	
The Falls City City Council met in regular session with Council President Houghtaling on Monday, March 4, 2024 at 6:01 p.m. in the Community Center located at 320 N. Main Street			
Council Members Present: Council President Amy Houghtaling, Councilor Nick Backus, Councilor Martha Jirovec, Councilor Tony Meier, Councilor Dennis Sickles and Councilor Lori Jean Sickles			
Staff Present: City Manager AJ Foscoli, City Recorder Jeremy Teal			
AGENDA		ACTION	
Announcements, Appointments, Appreciations & Proclamations		Council President Houghtaling stated that Mayor Bailey had injured himself and would not be attending the Council meeting tonight and that she would be running the Council meeting.	
Public Comment		<p>Council President Houghtaling opened the public comments at 6:03 p.m.</p> <p>Milan Miller, owner of 171 Dayton, noted his medical issues had waylaid the repairs on the house and City Manager Foscoli got him working on the repairs.</p> <p>Councilor Backus asked if the water and electricity were on in the house. Mr. Miller stated they were not and that no one was in the house that shouldn't be. He stated he had an attorney working on eviction of the tenants. He noted only one person was on the lease and that was Mr. McKibben. He mentioned the situation was very frustrating. He advised that there was no fire investigation done on the fire, but that was what you get when you don't pay for insurance and no rent received. He stated the this was his chance to get the house done and get new tenants.</p> <p>Shane Compton, Mr. Miller contractor, stated he was contracted by Mr. Miller and inspected the house. He noted there was some structural damage and some siding that needed to be repaired, but the top plates and the exposed framing looked good. He advised he would open it all up and would fix anything that needed it.</p> <p>Mr. Miller thanked the Falls City Fire Department for their quick work on the fire at his house.</p>	

Tracy Young stated Mitchell Street was being paved by Polk County and she wondered what the 10,000 was for. She indicated the city didn't know how to take care of a dirt road. She stated that once a month when the road was wet was when it should be graded, and the city employees don't have skill to grade roads. She advised Polk County was contracted to put in a speed bump on Mitchell. She noted there would be more speeders on the newly paved Mitchell and that continued through town. She stated the streets needed real speed bumps.

Tina Thompson noted she was informed by a parent that Mayor Bailey, while involved in a confrontation during an athletic event, was not acting like a leader or teacher and as a consequence she was going to ask for his resignation.

Nikki McKee noted she lives on East Ave off Sheldon and the residents put out boxes to make people slow down. She stated that long term residents had heard the road was to be paved and the families there would like to pitch in and help do it. She mentioned she needed a new water meter cover and had been waiting for a while.

Boyd Lamprecht noted that speeders through town don't respect the speed in town and the county and city agreed to put in a speed bump while Mitchell paving was being completed.




Mr. Foscoli noted that Ms. Young and Mr. Lamprecht brought up good points regarding the streets and speeds in town. He stated the street budget was \$70,000 per year and there were a lot of streets over the entire city. He mentioned he had a conversation with Polk County regarding the speed bump.

Roxi Barnhart asked if the elementary gym could be used for events. Council President Houghtaling stated she had met with City Manager and events were allowed at the gym. She noted the limitation was the small amount of parking.

	<p>Linda Axford asked if the homeless shelter was still in the works and when it would come to a vote for Council. Council President Houghtaling there was no homeless shelter proposed, no plans, no infrastructure to support that. Mr. Foscoli noted the resource center would have the same services, but not housing.</p> <p>Council President Houghtaling closed the public comments at 6:36 p.m.</p>
<p>Consent Agenda</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) February 5, 2024 Minutes b) Historic Landmark application 	<p>It was moved by Councilor D Sickles to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Meier and CARRIED with a vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus, Jirovec, Meier, D sickles, LJ Sickles and Council President Houghtaling voting YES.</p>
<p>Reports or Comments from Mayor and Council Members</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) Mayor's Report b) Councilor Comments 	<p>Mayor Bailey was absent.</p> <p>Councilor Jirovec applauded Mr. Teal for capturing the breadth of the meeting minutes.</p> <p>Councilor D Sickles stated that speeding was a huge problem in the community. He noted that complaining was not the best action to solve the problem. Boyd Lamprecht stated that cameras and speed bumps work.</p> <p>Councilor Backus asked what the Falls City Utility Tax was on the Pacific Power bill. He noted he couldn't find anything in the city records regarding the tax. Mr. Foscoli noted he knew nothing about a Falls city tax on the power bill and would investigate.</p> <p>Councilor Backus also asked about the repeal of backflow device fee. He mentioned it was still on the water bills. Mr. Foscoli stated he would look into that and get it taken care of.</p> <p>Councilor LJ Sickles advised the Falls City Easter Egg hunt would be held on Saturday, March 30 at 11 am at the upper park. She noted baskets would be put together on Friday, March 29 around noon at the Boondocks.</p>

<p>c) Public Works Committee</p>	<p>Council President Houghtaling announced the resource center building was picked out, and the land use permit would be at the April Council meeting. She noted that several resources had agreed to be in the center. She stated a possible Ribbon Cutting in May and the center would have a full time staff person. She mentioned the center would have medical and dental.</p> <p>Linda Axford asked about the cleanup day. Council President Houghtaling noted the location was changing to the empty half of the lagoon property. She stated it would be a longer drive for residents and volunteers, but hopefully more resources with the space. She thanked the Falls City Fire Association and Department for Chief Young's retirement party.</p> <p>There were no comments.</p>
<p>Reports from City Manager & Staff</p> <p>a) City Manager's Report</p>	<p>Mr. Foscoli gave his report regarding the wastewater treatment plant and the football field filtration system and the resources that were being worked on before the drainage field could allow for use. He noted an alternative practice facility at the baseball field in the upper park for practice was being proposed. He reported on towing services, the Pacific Power E-Mobility grant, the Mitchell Street project, and the Resource Center project. He advised that a potential MINET Franchise agreement under Polk County would be brought before Council soon. He mentioned that MINET was going to connect to the new wastewater plant, and they were considering coming into town on North Main Street to the City buildings and that would create a franchise agreement.</p> <p>Councilor Backus asked if MINET would run lines all through town. Mr. Foscoli stated no. Councilor Backus commented that it was evidently more economical to run down dirt roads instead of into a town. Mr. Foscoli advised that Polk County paid to get the fiber out to the rural areas and to run lines all through Falls City would cost about</p>

	<p>\$1.5 million. He noted that North Main Street was a straight line.</p>
<p>Resolutions Resolution 05-2024 – Business Oregon Loan Agreement</p>	<p>Mr. Foscoli advised the City agreed to the grant funds for the water system improvements including upgrades to lines, the water plant, and the reservoir. He noted this resolution allows the City to enter into a financial agreement with the Oregon Infrastructure Finance Authority for a loan amount of \$1,075,218.</p> <p>Council President Houghtaling noted the estimated cost of 3 million with the city payout of \$1 million dollar over 30-year loan.</p> <p>Mr. Foscoli noted the payback for the loan would be an increase in \$10 over all customers and over many years.</p> <p>Councilor Jirovec asked when repayment would start. Mr. Foscoli noted that repayment would not need to happen until after the project was completed in 2025.</p> <p>It was moved by Councilor Meier to approve Resolution 05-2024 authorizing and approving the Safe Drinking Water Revolving Loan Fund financing contract s24003 loan amount of \$1,075,218 for financing the design, engineering, permitting and construction of this project. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Backus. The motion was carried with a ROLL CALL vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus, Jirovec, Meier, D Sickles, LJ Sickles, and Council President Houghtaling voting YES.</p>
<p>Ordinances a) Ordinance 565-2024 - Garbage</p>	<p>Mr. Gilbert stated that due to the activity at the schools and the community center with people rummaging through garbage decided to use the Salem ordinance that states the garbage was still the owner’s property until it was dumped. He noted the Polk County Sheriff needed the ordinance to enforce.</p> <p>It was moved by Councilor Meier to approve Ordinance 565-2024. The motion was duly seconded by Councilor Backus. The motion was</p>

	<p>carried with a ROLL CALL vote of 6-0 with Councilors Backus, Jirovec, Meier, D Sickles, LJ Sickles, and Council President Houghtaling voting YES.</p>
<p>Good of the Order</p>	<p>Councilor Jirovec noted she was looking for library volunteers to bring books and things and help develop the program.</p> <p>Mr. Gilbert stated he had a book bin at the school he would be willing to deliver wherever needed.</p> <p>Council President Houghtaling asked the Fire Department to help identify dangerous buildings with the city staff. She noted the staff would send out letters to all of the owners and give them the ordinance and information.</p> <p>Mr. Gilbert noted the Fire Chief's retirement party had around 180 people attend and there were Fire Chiefs from all over the area. He noted there was food, drinks and a good time had by all. He mentioned the Chief received a desk lamp with signatures on the shade and a Henry 22 Rifle that was a 911 Tribute with his name on the stock.</p>
<p>Adjourn</p>	<p>There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:21 p.m.</p>
<p>Read and approved this <u>1</u> day of <u>April</u> 2024.</p> <p>Mayor: <u></u></p> <p>ATTEST: <u></u></p> <p>City Recorder: <u></u></p>	