

City of Falls City  
City Council Regular Meeting Minutes  
March 14, 2019 6:00 PM  
Meeting Location: 320 N Main Street, Falls City, Oregon 97344

**Council Present:** Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

**Staff Present:** Mac Corthell, City Manager; JoHanna Birr, City Clerk; Jamie Ward; Assist. City Clerk

**1. Call to Order**

Mayor Gordon called the meeting to order at 6:02 pm.

**2. Roll Call**

Clerk Birr took roll call.

**3. Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Gordon led the pledge.

**4. Motion to adopt the entire Agenda**

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and seconded by Councilor Meier to adopt the entire agenda. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

**5. Announcements**

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and seconded by Councilor Meier that the City Council of the City of Falls City affirm the appointments of Dana Showalter and Lynn Sampson- Bailey to the Falls City Budget Committee. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and seconded by Councilor Meier that the City Council of Falls City consent to the appointment of Gordon Hanson to the Falls City Public Works Committee. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

**6. Community & Government Organizations**

Eric Berry, Polk County Surveyor presented on the topic of the illegal state of Mitchell St. While working on the Dutch Creek Crossing project, Mr. Berry discovered discrepancies in the recording of Black Rock Road and Mitchell St. He stated most roads created prior to the 19<sup>th</sup> century were of low standards and full of inaccuracies making location somewhat suspect compared to the legal descriptions. The survey history in Falls City is ridiculously insane.

Black Rock Rd. began @ Lampbrecht's at 10<sup>th</sup> St. Plats of Falls City end at 10<sup>th</sup> St. Mr. Berry has met with Todd Whitaker, Director of Polk County Public Works during this design phase of Dutch Creek. He is hopeful it will go to construction phase this year. Council thanked Mr. Berry for his helpful presentation.

Mayor Gordon thanked Don Poe for working with the Public Works Committee and his extra time on the Master water Plan.

**7. Communications**

None.

### **8. Consent Agenda**

A motion was made by Councilor Flynn and Seconded by Councilor Meier to adopt the consent agenda. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

### **9. Public Comments**

Mark Jacques of Falls City requested permission for amplified music during his wedding in June. Manager Corthell said this was not the forum for this and there will be a form to fill out at City Hall. Clerk Birr apologized to Mr. Jacques as she was unaware of this change in policy until this conversation.

### **10. New Business**

#### **a. Resolution 06-2019 CDBG wastewater Lagoon Site Property Acquisition**

This resolution would allow the City Manager to bid up to \$136,000.00 in the purchase agreement for the identified property and only if all elements are approved- only then is the city required to purchase the land subject to these conditions. The owners declined the first offer of \$90,000.00 and when approached a second time, their asking price was stated as \$136,000.00. City Manager Corthell feels a counter offer would be an insult to the property owners and feels the best course of action is to offer asking price. Grant monies would pay for bulk of the purchase. The City would be on the hook for \$42,000.00 but could pursue a 50/50 grant lowering the City's liability.

A motion was made by Councilor Flynn and Seconded by Councilor Meier that the City Council of the City of Falls City adopt Resolution 06-2019, A RESOLUTION TO COMMIT TO PURCHASE LAGOON SITE. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn.

#### **b. Resolution 07-2019 Falls City Events Policy and Procedure**

This resolution would set policy for holding three (3) types of events; City sponsored, Community and social service events.

A motion was made by Councilor D. Sickles and Seconded by Councilor Flynn that the City Council of the City of Falls City adopt Resolution 07-2019, A RESOLUTION adopt resolution 07-2019, A RESOLUTION SANCTIONING CURRENT EVENTS, DIRECTIONING THE PARKS COMMITTEE TO REVIEW NEW EVENT PROPOSALS, AND SETTING A POLICY & PROCEDURE FOR SANCTIONING OF NEW EVENTS. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

#### **c. Resolution 08-2019 Surplus Property**

Amara Houghtaling presented a staff report on the City of Falls City's surplus properties. These items are not servicing the citizens and could be sold on the internet, the City-Wide Garage Sale or donation.

A motion was made by Councilor Drill and Seconded by Councilor Meier that the City Council of the City of Falls City adopt Resolution 008-2019, A RESOLUTION DECLARING CERTAIN CITY ITEMS SURPLUS PROPERTY AND AUTHORIZING THE SALE OR DISPOSITION THEREOF. Motion carried 6-0-0. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Jennifer Drill, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn.

#### **d. Resolution 09-2019 Weyerhaeuser Grant Policy & Procedure**

A motion was made by Councilor Flynn and seconded by Councilor L. Sickles the City Council of Falls City to adopt resolution 09-2019, A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE CITY MANAGER TO APPLY FOR THE 2019 WEYERHAEUSER GRANT POLICY & PROCEDURE. Motion carried. 6-0-0-. Ayes: Lori Jean Sickles, Tony Meier, Cliff Lauder, Dennis Sickles, Charlie Flynn

**11. Old Business**

None

**12. Manager's Report**

City Manager Corthell introduced Jamie Ward, the new Assistant City Clerk. Ms. Ward is working part time and will be learning utility billing and gradually work into all aspects of City Clerk. Ms. Ward has been a longtime resident of Falls City.

Councilors on committees will begin giving a report on committee activity during Council meetings. The advisory groups are not fulfilling their potential.

Property addressing corrections were brought up. Clerks Birr and Ward recently completed and address audit of the Urban Growth Boundary. A call from the County Clerk requesting confirmation for an address and the sheriff's office needing confirmation on an address and location spurred Clerk Birr to perform the audit. Staff identified nine (9) properties that do not match County records. Staff is rectifying the situation for emergency response purposes.

**13. Mayor and Council Reports**

Please see Exhibit A.

**14. Adjourn**

The meeting adjourned at 7:59 pm.

\_\_\_\_\_ Mayor, Jeremy Gordon

Attested: \_\_\_\_\_ City Clerk, JoHanna Birr

Mayor's Report  
Regular Council Meeting  
March 14, 2019

## **Community Visioning Project**

The Community Visioning launch event on March 2<sup>nd</sup> exceeded expectations in terms of attendance (67 participants), optimism, diversity of community representation, and number of volunteers signed up to help see the project forward. It is clear that Falls City is poised for a period of positive change and renewed energy and participation. Participants explored Falls City's past and key milestone events, took inventory of our many assets, and looked into the future imagining our collective potential.

RDI is currently in the process of forming a steering committee, organizing focus groups, including business, youth, fire, faith based, and other groups, and preparing to present on the myriad of information collected at the launch meeting and from surveys. RDI will share their presentation on Saturday, April 9 from 1-3:30pm at the Community Center. They hope to then work with attendees to connect assets and desires to resources and action. As always, all are welcome to attend and participate.

I could not be more thrilled to occupy this office during such an exciting time in Falls City's history. Endless gratitude goes out to all of the community members who are sharing their valuable time and ideas for the greater good of this project and our future.

## **Falls City Direct Connect (FCDC)**

In partnership with Polk County, I helped submit two grant proposals to Cherriots for the Falls City Direct Connect transportation program. We applied for two grants administered through Cherriots: a Special Transportation Funding grant to fund operations, and a federal 5810 grant to fund the purchase of a new vehicle. Before we wrote and submitted our proposal, Polk County representatives Commissioner Craig Pope, Brent Demoe, and Jesica Madronal and I met with Ted Stonecliffe and another Cherriots staff member to see if the FCDC project was in line with Cherriots' Coordinated Plan the intent of STF funds to help bolster transportation options for people with disabilities and seniors. Mr. Stonecliffe agreed the project was appropriate, encouraged us to apply and was impressed that the County ran the service for only \$28k/year.

During the grant writing process, led by Jessica Madronal, I learned from census estimates that roughly 30% of the Falls City population identifies as having a disability, compared with 14% of the County and State population. In addition, senior citizens represent a higher than average proportion of our population. The way these demographics intersect with geographic isolation and rates of low income prove devastating for riders of the FCDC who rely on the service for basic groceries (50% of riders cite this as the #1 use), medical appointments, and job services. In other words, Falls City is the ideal location for the intent of these dollars.