

City of Creswell
Council Minutes
March 19, 2007

The regularly scheduled council meeting was called to order by Mayor Ron Petitti and the pledge of allegiance given.

Council Present:

Nathan Marple
David Case
Alan Brown
Bob Millam

Bill McCoy
Ron Petitti
Tim Demanett

Staff Present:

Mark Shrives
Shelley Humble
Layli Nichols

City Administrator
Airport Manager
City Recorder

Council Absent: None

Press: 1

Audience: 3

1. Harvey Road Update

City Administrator Mark Shrives gave an update on the Harvey Road Project, and said that the project is back on the funding list for the upcoming year. The County is going to take money out of their reserves for this project. He is a little unclear on the level of funding to be budgeted by the County, and would bring another update back to Council when the revised Intergovernmental Agreement is received from the County.

A short discussion ensued and Bob Millam suggested contacting other utilities to see if they would like to upgrade their services at the same time, and Mr. Shrives said the County would be making those contacts.

2. Airport AIP Grant – Water Line Project

Airport Manager Shelley Humble provided an update on the fire suppression line for the Airport. City Administrator Mark Shrives said that the Public Works Director Roy Sprout recommended bidding the project to the edge of the Airport Property.

Mrs. Humble said that the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) distributed a handout at a conference she recently attended, and referred the council to slide number 20 which shows that an airport which houses over 100 airplanes would be eligible for AIP grants up to \$400,000, and criteria for receiving these grants would be broader. The grant match would stay at 5%, and indicated that fire suppression has not been removed from the list of eligible projects. She recommended waiting for the additional AIP grant rather than submitting a separate project for the money, as new environmental requirements would make the process more complicated. She explained the additional grant would be added to the existing project, and not subject to the new requirements. Mrs. Humble explained that the Oregon Department of Aviation (ODA) has no operating revenue, and as a result would be honoring existing Federal Aid to Municipalities (FAM) grants but would not be awarding new grants.

Discussion ensued regarding the options for providing fire suppression to the Airport and, council gave consensus to wait for the additional AIP grant money to become available before putting the project out for bid.

3. City Council decision regarding City position and expectations for Mayor to present to South Lane County Fire District Issues Committee

Bob Millam said he feels Council should be part of the solution and not part of the problem. He feels council should weigh all of the options, work together, stay unified, and work through the problem in the most professional way possible.

Ron Petitti said that he spoke to Fire Board Chair Mike Fleck over the weekend, and urged him to schedule a meeting for the special task force to meet as soon as possible. He noted that one change is the presence of an ambulance in Creswell if there are four people on shift in Cottage Grove. He said that Fire Board Member Jerry Settlemyer's move to have a Creswell member become part of the board is a courageous move. He also feels that the move to have an ambulance stationed in Creswell was a great gesture of the department's willingness to work through these problems.

Discussion ensued regarding the demographics of the Committee being formed and Ron Petitti noted that he would be representing the City of Creswell, Commissioner Faye Stewart would be representing the unincorporated areas of the district, the City of Cottage Grove would be represented by a Councilor, Mike Fleck, and Jerry Settlemyer would participate from the Fire Board.

Further discussion centered on the composite of the Fire Board members and Nathan Marple and Tim Demanett voiced concern that there is no representation from the City of Creswell on the Fire Board. Bob Millam said that if good people are elected to the board, the district is viewed as a whole and not divided into certain geographic areas. Those individuals should feel that if Creswell looks bad, the whole district looks bad. Mr. Millam said this is a golden opportunity for everyone to participate to correct the problems.

Council discussed the issue of dispatching service and whether changing to Cottage Grove for these services would be functional and cost effective. Another issue discussed was Fire Marshall Service. Mark Shrives said in order to continue to receive these services from the fire department they would need to collect a flat monthly fee from the areas using service. The cost would be about \$2,100 per month from Cottage Grove, \$800 per month from the City of Creswell, and about \$800 per month from Lane County. The other options would be to contract with the State to provide Fire Marshall Service, or to contract with an independent party, such as the Building Department LLC, for those services. Bob Millam and Tim Demanett expressed that they would not be comfortable paying a monthly fee for services which are needed sporadically.

Council discussed dispatching service again, and Mark Shrives suggested the City's position should be to keep the status quo. Further discussion centered on the equipment needed to provide adequate service in the northern area of the district, and Bob Millam noted that with the equipment being purchased, he does not think communication would be a problem, but is uncertain at this time. Alan Brown said he would like to see the cost differences in writing, until then he feels the status quo should be kept. Mr. Millam agreed saying he would also like to see the total cost of the upgrades, such as permits, leases, and hidden costs of changing to Cottage Grove for dispatching service.

Ron Petitti said he wanted to discuss what he feels is the most important issue, leadership. He views that as the main problem within the district. The Chief is well liked in Cottage Grove and completely absent in Creswell. He does not think it is possible to heal the district with the current chief in office. Mr. Petitti said it is his personal opinion that the district needs a change in leadership. David Case said the issue is the current leadership is not effective.

City of Creswell
Council Minutes
March 19, 2007

David Case said he thinks the City should keep adequate staffing in Creswell on the list of issues. Bob Millam noted that statements of that nature should be generalized as there are issues with union contracts and representation that you may have no control over. Mark Shrives suggested turning the issue into a positive and acknowledging the presence of the ambulance and additional personnel, by saying the City would be supportive of maintaining that presence. David Case said he feels the issue is that we do not have adequate volunteer services. Nathan Marple said it is a leadership issue, if you change leadership the problem of volunteerism is solved. Bill McCoy agreed.

Bob Millam said the list the City brings to the Issues Committee should be short and to the point. A long list could be overwhelming; being direct would be more manageable. Mr. Millam said this problem has been ongoing, and there is a renewed interest in resolving the problem. He would like to see resolve for this issue.

Tom Carroll 82361 Davisson Road said regarding the dispatching issue, he feels there is no question whether the new system would function; he feels the question is whether the system would work better coming out of Cottage Grove.

Bill McCoy moved, Nathan Marple seconded that the following list of 7 issues are the issues the Council as a whole, as a governing body support, and request the Mayor to present at the South Lane County Rural Fire Protection District Issues Committee:

1. The City supports the continuation of the existing South Lane County Rural Fire Protection District
2. The City feels the current leadership within the district is not effective.
3. The City supports the pursuance of equal representation on the South Lane County Fire Protection District Board
4. The Council will find its own solutions to Fire Marshall Services.
5. Provide technical and cost verification of proposed 9-1-1 dispatch changes.
6. Retain additional services that have recently been provided in Creswell, this is a positive step.
7. Provide test results and verification of technical communication problems that have been experienced.

Discussion ensued and Bill McCoy said numbers 5 & 7 should be combined, and Nathan Marple suggested including an example of additional services in number 6. Alan Brown said he would like to add the human impact in terms of quality of service to the dispatching issue, and Mr. McCoy said there is no measurement of whether quality of service would be provided, but would like to retain the same level of service.

Bill McCoy moved Nathan Marple seconded to amend the motion to add "such as ambulance service" to item 6 as an example, and to add "provide test results and cost verification" removing the word "technical" to item 5 and drop item 7 altogether.

Voted on and carried unanimously.

4. Develop City Council Rules

City Administrator Mark Shrives said he would like the Council to mark the sections in the Charter which refer to council rules. He noted sections: 8, 10, 11, 12, and 14. Mr. Shrives said that rules talk about state law, how rules are handled, it talks about a quorum among other things. He noted there are many cities that go into fine detail with the adopted rules. Bill McCoy suggested that the City of North Bend seemed similar to Creswell's need. Discussion ensued, regarding the need for council rules, and the City's need for content of those rules.

Bob Millam said that he would like to make sure that the Council macro manages and does not Micro manage. He said appropriate issues need to be brought to Council, and the Council as a whole should make a decision. He said he does not think people should not have their own opinions, he supports that. David Case asked if he was the reason why the Council needed to have this discussion. Mr. Millam indicated that may be part of the reason.

Discussion ensued regarding the development of council rules and Bill McCoy said the City of Boardman has an excellent code of ethics in their rules. Tim Demanett said he feels Creswell has an excellent City Administrator, so until and unless there is an issue, Council should allow him to do his job. Mr. Demanett said he also likes the code of ethics outlined by the City of Boardman council rules. Ron Petitti would like to give everyone time to review the rules and bring suggestions back to Council.

Tim Demanett said he would like to take a rough template and have councilors insert what they feel is necessary to discuss or include. City Administrator Mark Shrives said if Council would like to adopt rules in April, he feels it might be necessary to hold another work session. Bill McCoy suggested to Mr. Shrives to keep in mind the way the City conducts business when compiling information. David Case said that for those of us who would like to have an independent person review the document, he would like to have it at least three business days ahead of the council meeting.

Discussion ensued regarding how to proceed with the formulation of council rules and Bill McCoy suggested using the City of Boardman Council Rules as a base, and allow each Councilor to give input and or comments to Mr. Shrives to compile for the next Council Meeting. Council gave consensus to proceed as such and agreed to return comments to Mr. Shrives no later than March 30, 2007, in order to have a draft ready for review at the April 9, 2007 Council Meeting.

5. City Council Goals

City Administrator Mark Shrives said these are the goals and objectives compiled by Jim Johnson from the Council Retreat in February. Ron Petitti suggested that Council review the goals at a work session on April 23, 2007, and asked if Council could meet at 6:30 p.m. Council gave consensus to hold a work session as suggested by Mayor Petitti.

6. Other Business

City Administrator Mark Shrives said there is one more item to review, which was not on the agenda, which is the appointment of budget committee members. He reminded Councilors that Ron Hanson and Pete Nelson were suggested to fill the vacancies at the last Council Meeting. Bob Millam moved Nathan Marple seconded to appoint Pete Nelson and Ron Hanson to the Budget Committee. Voted on and unanimously carried.

Tim Demanett asked if there was progress toward improving signage and visibility for the I-5 Overpass project. Mr. Shrives said he met with Oregon Bridge Delivery Partners along with Sgt. Harrold, and feels the issues are being addressed.

There being no further business to come before the council, Mayor Petitti adjourned the meeting.

Ron Petitti, Mayor

Layli A. Nichols, City Recorder