

CITY OF JOSEPH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, April 4, 2019

Community Center

102 East First Street

Joseph, OR 97846

1. **Call Meeting to Order and Pledge of Allegiance** at 7:06 by Mayor Teresa Sajonia. Attending councilors: Lisa Collier, Tanya Collier, Patty Bufford, Kathy Zacharias, Pearl Sturm, Marty Hamilton, Utility Clerk Crystal Bronson, Public Works Levi Tickner, Dennis Welch and City Recorder Belinda Buswell, recording.
2. **REPORTS:**
 - A. **Police Report** – Sheriff Steve Rogers – Reported with the snow melting people are starting to speed a lot through Joseph. He encouraged everyone to please slow down. Mayor Sajonia relayed that the new city liaison is now City Administrator Larry Braden. Reports will be available at City Hall. Finger printing needs to be done at LaGrande until further notice.
 - B. **Library Report** – Eric Shoudel –Presented Library report (Appendix A)
 - C. **Fire Chief Report** – Chief Jeffrey Wecks – No report. Zero calls this month. We have started our EMR classes and by end of May will take our EMR tests. 6 of us will be able to respond. CPR/First aid was completed two weeks ago.
 - D. **Public Works Report** – Dennis Welch –Public Dennis Welch- We have been bringing Levi up to date and have been doing a meet and greet. Will begin working on fire hydrants.
 - E. **Committee Reports** –
 - **Community Center Committee** – Patty Bufford- It has been going well with Raider Heck doing a lot of work. He has also brought in some volunteers. There was a meeting one time with only Raider and myself showing up. No minutes were completed. We did a walk around and decided what to do. Since then there have not been any meetings just work completed. Raider Heck-(601 N East) Said he would like to give a shout out to Scott Reinhardt, Mary Edwards, shay and Shane Tally, Arie Lamb, about 240 man hours in the last 6 weeks. They can get ahold of me, the City, and they will get ahold of me. Teresa-painting is 95% done, steam table, fire suppression system upgraded, flooring is coming together. Track lights are down and ceiling has been replaced.
 - **Zoning Ordinance Review Task Force Committee** – Raider Heck- The next meeting is scheduled for March 19th at 6pm at the Community Center Meeting room. Councilor Hamilton asked if anyone is interested please let them know, Chair Raider Heck said no that train has left the station but there is a period of open discussion for the public at the end of the meeting. Mayor Sajonia said no it is already in progress.
 - **Main Street Committee** – Mayor Sajonia stated the committee is herself, Becky Rushton, Raider Heck, Tyler Evans. Mayor Sajonia reported that last year’s main street employee Adrian is coming back this year and we have received two applications. Raider Heck reported that the issues Councilor Sturm reported with the box in front of the Main Street Market is due to root issues. The trees will have to be removed at some point. Don

Bronson (301 E Pine) I thought when the boxes were put in the businesses were supposed to take care of the boxes, now we are paying someone to take care of them? Mayor Sajonia reported that there is nothing that says they have to do that, the adopt a box, is gone now. Mr. Bronson then reported that they should be jerked out and how it is a pain in the butt to get onto the sidewalk. Don Bronson-We seem to add more on and take more care of it. Councilor Sturm-a lot of businesses do try to take care of the boxes. Councilor Collier – Is this main street group taking care of the triangle park. Mayor Sajonia reported that it hasn't been decided exactly who is taking care of triangle park but the City is taking the care back over.

- **Marijuana Law Committee** – Mayor Sajonia reported that the committee is not meeting anyone at this point but we have received the first Marijuana Tax Distribution of \$790.21 for opting in for a dispensary.
- **Budget Committee** – Mayor Sajonia appointed Lance Homan to join Jessie Michaelson and Scott Lanier on the budget committee. Larry Braden, Belinda Buswell, and Crystal Bronson attended a budget training where they learned that the budget committee needs an equal number of citizens as the governing body. Per Oregon Ethics Commission we still need 4 more citizens to match our governing body of 7. City Hall will be posting in the Wallowa County Chieftain and the post office, and City Hall for 10 days to help find additional citizens. Monday, April 15, 2019 at 6pm at the Joseph Community Center will be the first meeting.
- **Business License Committee** – Mayor Sajonia pushed this to May meeting. Councilor Sturm says she will help her with the committee.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

- a) **Kathy Bingham** – (406 E 3rd) I just have a couple of comments -I'm hearing there are a lot of land use zoning questions with people wanting to annex in. Has the City considered SDC charges, and another comment I sincerely appreciate you have a full staff however I see the City is only open for 20 hours a week? Administrator Larry Braden commented that the City is up against a lot of work and we cut those hours down we are still working behind locked doors to catch up on a lot of paperwork. We will be going back at some point.
- b) **Chuck Anderson** – Oregon Alpenfest- I want to thank the council for their generosity for giving us a grant and wanted to give you our new brochure.
- c) **808 N College** – There was recently a transformational housing recently approved. Where would we hear about this? Commission John Hillock addressed the issue and mentioned there is a Chris Bullat planning commissioner also here. It was not addressed as a convict type thing; it was an addiction self-help. It would be a family type rehabilitation. 808 N College I just want this to be on the record I'm concerned about the safety of our community and county.
- d) **Don Bronson** – You mentioned you were receiving a quarterly check from the marijuana distribution...is it earmarked for a particular item? Mayor Sajonia – There will be a minimum of four budget meetings and you are welcome to come and join the budget committee.
- e) **Kathy Bingham (403 E 3rd)** – Those budget meetings are open to the public correct and there will be time for public comment, right? Mayor Sajonia mentioned there will be a brief period for public comment but if someone has a lot of input, they should join the budget committee.

4 NEW BUSINESS -

- a) **Eastern Oregon Economic Development (EOED Grant) Public Forum – The economic advisory board (Belinda Buswell-Advisory Board Chair, Mayor Sajonia-City official,**

Larry Braden-City official, Diane Witherrite-Banking, Jim Zacharias-Industrial, Michael Junkins-Industrial, Charlie Kissinger-Industrial, Lisa Dawson-Eastern Oregon Economic Development, Franz Goebel-Land Planning)- Jerry Johnson- Johnson Economics is working with communities to try and assist local communities in assessing their land needs over the next 20 years and identify their current available employable lands to determine if the available lands will meet their development needs. There were a lot of questions and interest by the public with the most important being housing. There was a lot of support for jobs created in the timber industry. There was a question of what would come first is the housing or the jobs. Current unemployment rate, especially in Joseph, is extremely low right now. Natural resource-based jobs with agriculture, timber, tourism, arts are the top industries that the community supports. *[This is a brief summary of the EOED Grant open forum as it is an hour long. If you would like a copy of the recording, please see the City of Joseph and fill out a Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) form]*

- b) **Grant – Chief Joseph Days Rodeo – Diane Witherrite** – Chief Joseph Days will be celebrating 75 years next year and we are ordering new Chief Joseph Days flags. The Rodeo Board is seeking a grant of \$2000. A motion was made by Councilor Tanya Collier and 2nd by Councilor Lisa Collier to give the Rodeo Committee a grant for the full cost of the flags \$2082.50.
- c) **Chief Joseph Days Road Closure – Letter Request for ODOT** – Mayor Sajonia mentioned the dates are missing and insurance. We will address it on the May agenda.
- d) **Grant – Haunted House Summer Camp-** Summer school under the permission of the Joseph Charter through the summer and through October. Non-profit partners, Fish Trap, Josephy Center, 4 High Schools, Building Healthy Family, WV Arts Council, asking for \$2500 which is about 10% of the budget to put on this school. I have about \$4400 in in-kind contributions but small grants from the community will help support this program. 15 students. Motion made by Pearl for \$1000, patty 2nd. After discussion the council had concerns that the final event would not be held in Joseph. The council made a decision to table the grant until May meeting.
- e) **Relocation of Farmer’s Market** – Permit request for the Farmer’s Market-Kelsey Juve, Emily Aumann, and Nathan Slinker: Mayor Sajonia read a letter requesting relocation of the market submitted by Lee Trapp and Brady Voigt. Emily Aumann-presented her request to close the West Joseph Avenue from Main to the East side of the alley between Main and Mill streets between the hours of 7am-4pm from May 25th through October 12th. She mentioned they are a non-profit and want to present wholesome foods, unique local crafts to the locals. The appreciate the support from the City of Joseph and the residents and would like to find a solution that would work for all. Nathan Slinker stated the farmer’s market would like to work out the issues so everyone is happy. One issue has been the trash. The market now has their own garbage cans and they try to clean up when they are closing down to ensure they aren’t leaving a mess. He mentioned he did not know of vehicles being blocked in. Lee Trapp-(106 N Mill)- There are vehicles blocking my driveway and blocking the alley, our property, and along our house by our vehicles out front. Nathan Slinker commented they ensure their vendors are not blocking the alley and direct them where to park. We can certainly talk to our vendors; they do unload between 8-9am and as the president I can let them know they don’t need to be parking there. We do want to stay at that location and we have an agreement with the Baptist Church and they provide us with power and parking. Aumann- We have discussed the parking in the alley and to keep it open at all times and we do try to monitor it. The parking to the West of the alley we have felt that the booths are not over there and so we are not responsible for that area.

Not parking in front of people's driveways and on private property, also to not block To Zion and the Outlaw. Councilor Zacharias-It's awesome that you are encouraging them to do that, but your vendors are a small percentage of the issue. I feel there is a larger percentage parking there and attending the Market, I attend it. I feel the parking lot seems a better spot and there are bathrooms and I feel people will find you there. Aumann- I perspective I have about that parking lot is that the lot is getting used a lot in the summer. Those cars wouldn't be able to park there would be pushed elsewhere. So, I don't see necessarily how the parking will be mitigated by moving it to the parking lot. Bradi Voigt- If you move to the parking lot then the boats and trailers would park in the old location. My problem is we are trying to mitigate the risk of people harassing our dog and possibly being bitten by teasing our dog. We don't want to lose the market just have it relocate it to a better location that isn't in residential area. Music and setup in the morning quiet time is an issue. Councilor Hamilton- We all want to keep the market and privacy is important. Becky Rushton what do you think about it being relocated across the street by your business? Becky Rushton-I'd have to consider that. I do feel it is important for downtown that it be on the main street. So how would their folks make sure the public parking lot would ensure the parking lot is clear for each Saturday? Larry Braden- That would fall on the Public Works and they would just barricade the lot off Friday evenings. Councilor Hamilton-It seems it would be good for the businesses in downtown although I feel the people would go another block. Councilor Lisa Collier-I feel you have the best intentions, but you can't control the people. No matter where you are you will still have the people find you. The foot traffic for the businesses is good, I'm sure the people attending walking through private property too. If I lived right, there I could have a way different opinion. Councilor Tanya Collier-The City Park doesn't have enough parking and there are kids running around and it's not safe. You can't take the public parking lot and fill it up with the farmer's market. The water rafting place takes up space there too. Mayor Sajonia-I don't believe the entire lot would be filled up. I know you are trying to grow. Nathan Slinker- We try and find new vendors and grow in certain areas. Overall numbers growth is good. Aumann- I don't feel we are trying to grow the number of vendors, our numbers fluctuate, to me I feel the space we have been in has been nice to fill the space that is appropriate each week. Councilor Bufford- The community center has the Christmas Bazaar held her and the parking lot here is limited. Councilor Collier mentioned they have the USFS parking across the street. Councilor Bufford agreed and said the amount of parking would be moved to the side of the streets but they can use the sandwich boards to direct people to their new location. Nathan-One concern I have is for the City, we have a lot of foot traffic and we have people turning at the sandwich board then we end up with parking issues along their properties on Lake street. A bigger point is that we thought we were coming here...I didn't not know that we would be talking about relocation but we have advertised and moving now creates quite an issue. Mayor Sajonia-placed adds in main street joseph? If the council allows you to keep it there for this season, then we need to still address the parking issues. Councilor Hamilton-I definitely believe we should keep the market there for this season but I am concerned about the resident's privacy and blocking their driveway is an issue. Bradi Voigt-We have been there for nine years and it has been our summers for the last nine years. This could be a great year to see how that works out and if it doesn't work out then

you have a better idea where it would. Kathy Bingham (403 East 3rd) I find that Saturday is the busiest day and it's a real safety issue with kids running out across main street but I would love for it to be moved to the parking lot. It does possibly move a problem to another neighborhood but it makes it a walking neighborhood and an option. I can understand if it were in my yard and not being able to get your vehicles out would be a problem. There needs to be a solution that allows the citizens to enjoy the market and get their safely. Councilor Lisa Collier-I see what you're saying, I'm in favor of having it moved too, but since you weren't aware of it, I understand. There was a lot of discussion and a motion was made by Councilor Hamilton to keep the market in the same location for this year with proper signage to protect the residents to make their lives a bit easier this summer, no 2nd. Motion failed. Councilor Sturm made a motion to relocate the Farmer's Market to the Joseph City parking lot, 2nd by Councilor Bufford. Vote 5-2 with Councilors Lisa Collier, Patty Bufford, Kathy Zacharias, Pearl Sturm and Mayor Sajonia in favor of relocation and Councilors Tanya Collier and Marty Hamilton in opposition. The motion passed. Nathan-We may not want to have our market there, but it is an option for us. Larry Braden-I'd like to talk to you guys about this later. Nathan agreed.

- f) **Blythe Cricket – OLCC License** – Requested their OLCC permit be signed and approved by the City of Joseph. Mayor Sajonia addressed the conflicting hours for permit versus open hours of operation. They replied they would update their application to reflect the correct hours. A motion was made by Mayor Sajonia and Councilor Lisa Collier 2nd by to approve the Blythe Cricket OLCC license. Vote passed unanimously.

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a) **Resolution 2019-04 – Water & Sewer Fee-** Motion was made by Councilor Bufford, 2nd by Councilor Zacharias, vote passed unanimously.
- b) **Resolution 2019-05 – Receiving Marijuana Tax Distributions-** Motion was made by Councilor Sturm, 2nd by Councilor Zacharias. Vote passed unanimously.

5. Action Items

- a) **Mayor ProTem** – Motion was made by Councilor Bufford, 2nd by Councilor Collier to appoint Councilor Kathy Zacharias as Mayor ProTem. Councilor Sturm asked if this is required to be an elected official, Mayor Sajonia brought out the City Charter book under page 4 Mayor ProTem, at its first meeting at each odd year the council will appoint a Mayor ProTem and nowhere does it say it has to be an elected official. Vote passed unanimously.
- b) **Budget Committee – Still need 5 more citizens for the budget committee**

6. CONSENT AGENDA

The items on the Consent Agenda are considered routine and all will be adopted by one motion unless a Council Member or a person in the audience requests, before the vote on the motion, to have any item considered separately. If any item is removed from the Consent Agenda, the Mayor will indicate when it will be discussed.

- a. *City Council Minutes Regular Meeting*
 - 1. *March 7, 2019*

Motion was made by Councilor Bufford to approve the consent agenda, 2nd by Councilor Sturm. Vote passed unanimously.

7. STAFF ITEMS

- a) **Belinda-** Please confirm tomorrow that you have filed your SEI
- b) **Larry-** none
- c) **Crystal-** none
- d) **Levi-** none
- e) **Dennis-** none

8. COUNCILORS' and MAYOR'S ITEMS

- a) **Councilor Collier** – None
- b) **Councilor Collier** – None
- c) **Councilor Bufford** – None
- d) **Councilor Zacharias** – None
- e) **Councilor Sturm** – None
- f) **Councilor Hamilton** – We are working on the junk cars downtown. Larry Braden- Letters should be going out certified by the end of the week.
- g) **Mayor Sajonia** – **1. Rodeo-**I was contacted about mowing the encampment area. The public works is responsible for mowing and the rodeo committee will be placing the water. The Blackburn field is also public works. Councilor Collier inquired about the softball field. Belinda-Dustin Larison will be taking care of that field. **2.** I have asked Lance Homan for a junior councilor to join us for a year, they will be able to listen, observe, and keep the Robert's Rules of Order. They won't be able to vote.

9. CORRESPONDENCE

- a) None

10. PUBLIC COMMENT

- a.) **Kathy Bingham** (403 E 3rd) I am curious about the grant process. Is there a time where you can submit for a grant? Mayor Sajonia replied it is on a case by case basis but they will be going back to the standard times after this budget season. Kathy-Am I right Marty that you said you are going to enforce the Junk Ordinance? Councilor Hamilton replied yes that three of them. One more. Thank all seven of you for showing up and doing your job, all of you, staff and council.
- b.) **Becky Rushton-** Did we change the 1000 ft. between dispensaries. So tonight, you voted just to put the money in the general fund.
- c.) **Councilor Hamilton-** Since we have Mr. McCormick here there are several concerns that you will be selling marijuana out of it. Jim Justice-It is a building we can secure things in while we do the OLCC process. The OLCC will come and inspect it. Mayor Sajonia- Is it your intent to use it as a retail space? Jim Justice- No. Larry-The state fire marshal has told us at City Hall that structure is not a legal structure to sell out of it. Jim Justice replied I didn't say it was, no, but it is enough for the OLCC. Becky Rushton-I would hope that the City would look at the ordinances that would identify what buildings to keep the look of main street. We now have an orange building and another one that isn't even a building.
- d.) **Kathy Bingham-** Western motif is a broad definition and is hard to nail down. Is it legal to park a trailer by Jennings for over a week? Mayor Sajonia- stated she had been on vacation and that it would not be happening again.

11. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT Motion was made to adjourn by Councilor Sturm, 2nd by Councilor Bufford. Motion passed unanimously at 9:57pm.

Attested:

