

CITY OF JOSEPH COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Thursday, June 6, 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, City Administrator, Larry Braden, Public Works Supervisor, Levi Tickner and Utility Clerk, Crystal Bronson, recording.

- 2. REPORTS:**
 - A. Police Report** – Sheriff Steve Rogers – No oral report. Paper report attached. (See Appendix A).
 - B. Library Report** – Eric Shoudel –Presented Library report (See Appendix B)
 - C. Fire Chief Report** – Chief Jeffrey Wecks – (See Appendix C)
 - D. Public Works Report** – Levi Tickner – Councilor Hamilton mentioned he saw some pressure treated poles in the burn pile. As for Alder street, do you have any alternatives we can put it in the holes until it is fixed. Levi mentioned they would either add gravel or cold patch it.
 - E. Administrative Report** – Larry Braden – I’m figuring out what the health and sustainability is at for the City. In April the budget season, I was appointed as the budget officer. It has been a lot of fun and a lot of work. I can say confidently that our budget looks good. We have a lot of projects going on this summer. Our engineers are running crazy to keep up with all of our projects. It will take us strongly into the future. I’ve also been working on personnel. We have a lot of new folks. Trying to gage who is who and whose strengths fit where. Come together as a crew and how to move forward.

Committee Reports –

 - **Community Center Committee** – Patty Bufford/Raider Heck- Raider has been working on to get things tidied up. We discussed today that we will be adding blinds to all of the windows except the kitchen and here. It will make it look a lot better. Raider –The new fire suppression system is installed and inspected. We are trying to coordinate flooring replacement between rentals already scheduled. Then we will be moving outside to start on the outside.
 - **Zoning Ordinance Review Task Force Committee** – Raider Heck-It is not a lot to report. We are discussing how the Land Use Plan effect our zoning ordinances within the City. The process needs to be updated at periodic times and it is past time. It is a tedious task but it is plugging along. We have a lot of good thought processes going into it.
 - **Main Street Committee** – Mayor Sajonia- Adrian and Judy have rebuilt numerous damaged boxes and a lot of work. They send a weekly report to the committee. We drove through town and it looks beautiful. Raider – There is a boulder over by the Dog Spot. Those two gals moved it back into place after it was hit during the winter by getting moving bars. Councilor Sturm – I wanted to say thank you because they put spickets on the box I planted.

- **Budget Committee** – Mayor Sajonia- This budget committee has been amazing. I was scared going in and between the CPA Susan Gilstrap, Larry, Lance Homan, Scott Lanier, and the rest of the council. It will be coming in front of the council on June 18th here at pm for recommendations to the council and hopefully approval. Kathy Bingham, 406 E Third, I have been on the budget committee for 7-9 years and we really pulled it together. All with the goal to get a balanced budget. It was great Larry listened, kudos to Scott Lanier, Susan, Lance Homan, thanks to him it really came through in three meetings that were very productive. Crystal had a lot to add to it and it was well appreciated. It was a great pleasure and an honor to serve on it.

3. **PUBLIC COMMENT – ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

- a) **Ruby Boyd** – I live at 809 Engleside. The last five years since we had that great big wind and a lot of the willows came down. Mine are still standing but for the last five years I’ve gone to the City to see if they can top it because when the wind blows, I can see it moving. If this tree falls it will take my house, car, or Goshen’s fence down. They can take it down to the trunk to as willows will have all those suckers that come out wherever they want. It’s just gotten too tall. Like you’ve said the administration has changed over and so I’d like to ask again. It really needs something done to it. Larry Braden – I’ll get with you next week and we will come talk to you. Councilor Hamilton – I do know those trees need to be replaced by some maples.
- b) **Tyler Evans** – 83718 Russell Lane. The last time I was here was to object to spot zoning. The state of Oregon requires that I have to have legal standing so I am here to go on the record for future spot zoning so that I may have legal standing to take it further at that point.
- c) **Ruby Boyd** – I do have one more that comes off of main street. I think one of my tires is still in there. Is there a way to pave it a little further to prevent that pothole from forming? I do want to say I’ve been through a lot of small towns and the main street with all the boxes just looks wonderful with the cobblestones.
- d) **Angie Rubin** – 504 Mountain View Lane – I just wondered if we were having a cleanup day? And after this rain if they are planning on fixing fourth street. Mayor Sajonia – Unfortunately the volunteerism was just not there. If we have a community member that is willing to come in and take that over, we are willing to do that. Angie – Is there a place to take hazardous waste? Mayor Sajonia – yes you can contact the county for that information.
- e) **Randy Garnet** – 803 Mullen Lane – I would like to ask the council to adhere to the land use that is stated for the industrial area.
- f) **Kathy Norman** –808 N College – This is about the Farmer’s Market and I’m trying to get a point of clarification if I could please. The council had stated there were five years’ worth of complaints about the Farmer’s Market. I put in a FOIA request for those complaints and Belinda and Crystal have been great about trying to get me that information. There seems to be only one complaint. It’s really two-fold, one is when I worked for probation if it wasn’t written down it didn’t happen, and two if I went to court without my documentation I was in trouble. So, if we don’t want the same thing to happen again to where the market got pushed. I would like to get those complaints for the last five years. So, I guess my question is that if there is only one so how did we move the market for one complaint. Mayor Sajonia, I’ll just put myself out there and say this. You can’t go back and document a verbal complaint after I have received it, you just can’t. The complaints came to me from other citizens that didn’t want their names attached to the complaint for this obvious reason. Kathy – but it could have been identified so we could gather statistics. How do I know what the complaints were? Mayor Sajonia – So, what we need to do then is from this point forward do so. Kathy –But that doesn’t do anything now. Mayor Sajonia – We are trying to make changes Kathy, that’s all I can say. We are doing our very best to make changes so that these problems do not exist in the future. That is all I can say about that Kathy.

Kathy – That’s sad. Councilor Hamilton – We also have a complaint form that you can fill out and that will help Larry the City Administrator out. Mayor Sajonia – That we never had in the past. Councilor Bufford – As far as the Farmer’s Market, I think we have heard a lot on both ends of what has happened in the past that this council can’t provide. Like the Mayor stated, we are just trying to move forward, that’s all that we want. We don’t want any negativity which is what this council gets, let’s give kudos to the Farmer’s Market and let’s move forward and let’s everybody be happy. Megan Bowen 808 N College – Just a suggestion being able to log a complaint online would allow you log it and track it more efficiently. It just helps us move forward from where we are now. Mayor Sajonia – I want to emphasize over, and over, and over again, that is the direction this council want to go and is striving to go that direction. Our main intent is to do things by the book and that’s what we are trying to do.

- g) **Cheryl Gilliard** – 200 East Pine – I would like to encourage you on your comments to move forward I think the new location for the Farmer’s Market to be at. There is more parking, a café there, and I’d like to commend you on your move forward.
- h) **Kathy Bingham** – 406 E 3rd – I’d like to say something about the new staff at City Hall. I’ve had a chance to work with Larry, Crystal, and Belinda quite often the last few weeks. I don’t think we have had a staff that is more willing, actually eager to learn their job, put their time in to learn municipal government and have discussions than ever before. I am totally impressed with all three of them. And Levi, I mean I want to really comment on Levi, he was at every budget meeting and provided input and I feel this team is really trying to work together. My hats off to the council for the job you did for choosing this staff and I’m not used to giving these types of comments. I also want to say what a great article they did on Belinda. It made you feel that you really could go in and talk to them and know them. I hope the Chieftain does articles on Larry, Levi on Wallowa, Lostine, all of them it was just a nice thing to do so kudos to the Chieftain for doing that.
- i) **Councilor Lisa Collier** – I just wanted to add something. I’m sure you didn’t forget it on purpose. But Dennis Welch works very hard and I see him everywhere working. I am going to my son’s baseball and he is not. He is working and working late. I wish he was here and he gives up a lot to work for the City.

4. NEW BUSINESS

- a) **OLCC License – Ashley Tackett** – Miss Tackett presented her application for the retail business Small County and it is part general store and part picnic store. We are excited about all of the products we are going to offer. We are wanting to feature local artists. With the picnic side we want to add some grab and go for picnics and a small selection of beer and wine. We are asking Joseph for your endorsement in our application. After some discussion, a motion was made by Mayor Sajonia to approve the application for the Small County, Councilor Sturm 2nd, the motion passed unanimously.
- b) **Chief Joseph Days – Road Closure** – Chief Joseph Days office would like both road closures for the kiddy parade Friday and also the main parade on Saturday. Councilor Sturm made a motion to approve both road closures, Councilor Hamilton 2nd, motion passed unanimously.
- c) **Conditional Use Permit - Facciuto** – After some discussion followed the quasi-judicial process, the council felt there was not enough clarity for the cart before the horse process of allowing a CUP before the business was actually “existing” as the ordinance states. Mayor Sajonia spoke that having legal counsel input and a written report would be required. Councilor Zacharias motioned to table and seek legal advice from attorney Wyatt Baum and have answers within the time frame allotted by our zoning ordinance, Councilor Sturm 2nd. Motion passed to table the CUP. Zac Hostetter – Sounds to me that it is prudent to get your legal counsel’s opinion. I am confident the council has quite a lot of authority over these permits and what is being requested

here is that there is a condition to the approval. That permit becomes effective only if that business is in place.

- d) **Resolution for Street Project** – Mayor Sajonia – Resolution to borrow funds to complete the City’s street paving project and allow the City council and staff to sign the documents to execute the loan. A motion was made by Councilor Bufford to approve resolution 2019-04 authorizing the city to borrow funds for the street project. Councilor Hamilton 2nd. Motion passed unanimously.

5. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

6. **Action Items**

7. **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. ***May 2, 2019***

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

8. **STAFF ITEMS**

- a) **Larry** – One of the issues we have been working on is the nuisance ordinance and getting ready to hand it over to the Sheriff’s department for enforcement.
- b) **Belinda** – Out of office-training
- c) **Levi** – None
- d) **Crystal** – None

9. **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** – None
- g) **Mayor Sajonia** – Once again we would like to recognize a citizen that works hard to make Joseph look wonderful. This lady tackled flower boxes and the community parking lot. Numerous citizens and city staff were impressed were her time and efforts. I would like to take this opportunity for Cheryl Gilliard to come forward and present her with this award for Excellent Volunteerism. Cheryl – Thank you Larry and Dennis Welch. He is a wonderful boss and Mayor Dennis Sands gave me permission to clean up the leaves and my landlord Terry DeSpain that gave me my home right in the middle so I can do my work. And my cats whom people identify me with, Bubba, Island, and Georgeo.

10. **CORRESPONDENCE**

- a) **None**

11. **PUBLIC COMMENT**

- a) **Donna Bronson** – I couldn’t hear what Larry said. Larry – Anything that is an esthetic nuisance will be addressed.
- b) **Megan Bowen** –Thank you for that I couldn’t hear it either. Great news we have hard working people for cleaning the city up.

- c) **Matt Soots – 500 Mountain View** – When is the project going to begin. Larry – It is out for bid and I believe it is July 11th we are closing the bids. We will have to see what comes back to us.
- d) **Cheryl Gilliard** – I’d be willing to work with someone who has a truck and we can work together to remove that hazardous stuff.
- e) **Tyler Evans** – 83718 Russell Lane – Is there somewhere we can have the agenda posted online so we can all see it ahead of time. Mayor Sajonia – I will make sure it is posted online next month.
- f) **Angie Rubin** – 500 Mountain View Lane – The McKee rezone is that a dead thing or is it going to come back up again? Mayor Sajonia – As far as I know he just removed it, and he has well everyone has a right to do that. Angie – Another question I have is the zoning for the industrial thing is that the building for the business would be there but the residence the other building wouldn’t be permanent. If this business goes belly up then it would be removable for someone to come back in and put some industrial there.
- g) **Ruby Boyd** – 808 Engleside – I was wanting an update on the mobile home being put in on Engleside and was wanting an update. Larry – A plan has been submitted to modify the structure for it to meet setbacks. That is what we are waiting on for them to put that into effect. That is between the owners and the City and their lawyers. Mayor Sajonia – Has the cease and desist order been lifted? Larry – They are working to become compliant.
- h) **Kathy** – 406 E Third – I would like to know if the council has declared the Chieftain as the newspaper of record for this fiscal year? Mayor Sajonia – No we have not. Kathy – Can the council make that declaration at the next meeting and also have it on the website? Mayor Sajonia – Yes, the council will make sure we do that for this fiscal year starting July, 1, 2019.
- i) **Megan** – I would just like to bring up the barrels in the lake. We have been designated a superfund site. I would just like the council to think about how we are going to handle this in terms of tourism if it goes bad. How we can address the tourists saying I’m not going to get in that lake. It’s going to be in a lot of publications. Mayor Sajonia asked Public Works Supervisor Levi Tickner to address the question. Levi – I have had plenty of conversations with the EPA, DEQ, and Oregon Health Authority. We already test for these chemicals every three years. We have a plan moving forward we are testing every month. All have passed. Megan – Thank you for that information that is very reassuring. Mayor Sajonia – Megan I will say this, just this afternoon, we haven’t had a chance to post it but we will, we will be having a town hall meeting on June 25, 2019 for an update on what has been found. We are all moving forward and wanting this resolved.

12. MOTION FOR ADJOURNMENT Motion was made to adjourn by Councilor Sturm 2nd by Councilor Tanya Collier. Motion passed unanimously.

Attested:

Teresa Sajonia, Mayor

Crystal Bronson, Utility Clerk