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**City of Florence
City Council Regular Session
Florence City Hall
250 Hwy 101, Florence, Oregon
Final Action Minutes
April 15, 2024**

Councilors Present: Mayor Ward, Councilors Sally Wantz, Bill Meyer, Jo Beaudreau, and Robert Carp.

Councilors Absent: None.

Staff Present: City Manager Erin Reynolds, City Recorder Lindsey White, Assistant City Manager Megan Messmer, Community Development Director Wendy FarleyCampbell, Police Chief John Pitcher, Human Resources Director Alex Ferguson, and Economic Development and Communications Analyst Chantelle Meyer.

Guests Present: Veterans of Foreign Wars Representative David Younce, FACC Board President Ken Gaylord and Environmental Management Advisory Committee (EMAC) members Vicki Philbin, Susan Fenton, and Ivy Medow.

Handout: 4.15.24 City Council Meeting Base Presentation

CALL TO ORDER - ROLL CALL - PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting called to order at 5:31 p.m.

PRESENTATIONS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Florence First Responder Awards.
 - Florence Police Department Communications Officer of the Year – Josh Thomas
 - Western Lane Fire Department Firefighter of the Year – Justin Mack
 - Western Lane EMS Authority Paramedic of the Year – Mackenzie Jeffcott

Start Time: 5:32 p.m.

Discussion: VFW Representative Younce presented the VFW Florence First Responder Awards.

- Proclamations for National Public Safety Telecommunications Week, Volunteer Appreciation Week, and Arbor Day.

Start Time: 5:39 p.m.

Discussion: Mayor Ward presented the National Public Safety Telecommunications Week proclamation.

Start Time: 5:43 p.m.

Discussion: Mayor Ward presented the Volunteer Appreciation Week proclamation.

Start Time: 5:46 p.m.

Discussion: Councilor Wantz introduced EMAC members Philbin, Fenton, and Medow. Mayor Ward presented the Arbor Day proclamation.

- Employee Recognitions by Human Resources Director Alex Ferguson.

Start Time: 5:51 p.m.

Discussion: HRD Ferguson introduced Police Chief Pitcher who recognized Police Officers who recently graduated from the Police Academy.

- Aaron Couture – Police Officer
- Isaiah Wilson – Police Officer

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

This is an opportunity for members of the public to bring to the Council's attention any item not otherwise listed on the agenda.

Start Time: 5:55 p.m.

Commenter 1: Ms. Jaime Taylor – Mapleton, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Ms. Taylor discussed...

- Introducing herself as a Rhododendron Festival princess and the purpose of the Rhododendron Festival pin sales.

Start Time: 5:57 p.m.

Commenter 2: Ms. Brenda Gilmer – Florence, OR

Handout: Speaker's Card and Written Comments

Discussion: Ms. Gilmer discussed...

- Withdrew her speaker's card.

PUBLIC HEARING ITEMS

2. NORTHWEST 9TH STREET REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION PUBLIC HEARING A. PUBLIC HEARING ON NW 9TH STREET REAL ESTATE TRANSACTION

Hear and consider written and oral testimony regarding the proposed sale of City owned property located between Greenwood Street and the undeveloped platted right-of-way (ROW) of Fir, 10th, and 11th Streets, north of 9th Street for Tax Lots 01100 and 01200, Map 18-12-27-31 in the City of Florence, Lane County, Oregon.

Start Time: 5:59 p.m.

Discussion: CM Reynolds introduced Agenda Item No. 2 giving a description of the property and the status of the negotiations of the proposed sale.

Discussion: Mayor Ward discussed preference of moving public hearing to May 6, 2024 City Council meeting. All Councilors were in agreement.

Discussion: CM Reynolds discussed transaction will be deferred to May 6, 2024 meeting to allow additional time for negotiation and meeting will be re-noticed for the Public Hearing.

Action: Moved to the May 6, 2024 meeting.

ACTION ITEMS

3. NO MOW MAY INITIATIVE 2024

Consider approval of **Resolution No. 6, Series 2024**, a resolution supporting the No Mow May initiative for 2024.

Start Time: 6:02 p.m.

Discussion: CDD Farley Campbell presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff Presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Clarification if approved, does this prohibit a property owner from mowing their lawn?
- Very supportive of this initiative.
- Many supportive community members of No Mow May.

Comments: Councilors Wantz and Beaudreau and Mayor Ward.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- This does not prevent you from mowing your lawn.

Comments: CDD FarleyCampbell

Action: Approve Resolution No. 6, Series 2024 as presented.
Motion: Councilor Wantz
Second: Councilor Meyer
Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

4. SIUSLAW RIVER SLOPE SLIPPAGE MITIGATION DESIGN CONTRACT AMENDMENT

Consider accepting the contract amendment from RH2 Engineering, Inc. of \$97,212 for professional engineering services for Siuslaw River Slope Slippage Mitigation Design.

Start Time: 6:12 p.m.
Discussion: PWD Miller presented the staff presentation.
Handouts: Staff Presentation
Discussion:

- Mayor Ward – Is this a sheet-pile wall? **PWD Miller - This is a secant-pile wall which is a different type of wall. It involves drilling down and pouring concrete.**
- Councilor Carp – Will groundwater be able to pass through a sheet-pile wall? **PWD Miller – This is step one of a larger project. A secant-pile wall is a temporary solution. It will take years of permitting with Army Corp. of Engineers and DSL approval to put in additional rip rap. Coast Guard has a project that they have been working on for many years to do the same thing. For us, starting at square one, it will take five years or longer for permits. The secant-wall is to preserve what we have so that we do not lose additional bank and to stabilize so there isn't additional impact to the properties to the south.**
- Councilor Carp – Does the secant-wall cover the area shown in your diagram? **PWD Miller – It covers from the Coast Guard property line to about 50 feet south.**
- Councilor Beaudreau – Are we receiving any funds from the Cold Weather Impact funds from the January storm? – **PWD Miller –**

We did apply with the County and it is going through the process for FEMA monies. We are also looking for other resources to pay for this project.

- **ACM Messmer – We inquired with the Lane County Emergency Management and it is in the FEMA review process. Once it goes through the preliminary damage assessment for FEMA approval, it is returned to the State or County level for final damage assessment.**
- **CM Reynolds – The best part of receiving that designation is a reimbursement grant so that the costs that the incurred costs could be considered for reimbursement.**
- **Councilor Wantz – Understanding that this isn't a stormwater problem, however the funds are coming from the stormwater budget? PWD Miller – It is not a stormwater issue; it is a groundwater issue. The stormwater fund is the appropriate funding source for this issue.**

Action: Accept contract amendment from RH2 Engineering, Inc. of \$97,212 for professional engineering services for Siuslaw River Slope Slippage Mitigation Design.

Motion: Councilor Carp

Second: Councilor Meyer

Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

5. 2024 COMMITTEE, COMMISSION, AND BOARD RECRUITMENT PROCESS

Review and consider the recruitment process for the 2024 City Committee vacancies.

Start Time: 6:34 p.m.

Discussion: CR White presented the staff presentation.

Handouts: Staff presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Understanding the reason for the Community and Economic Development Committee not being active.
- Appreciate having Council involvement for selection of Committee members.

Comments: Councilor Beaudreau.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- The city economic efforts were tied up with the housing and transportation system plan. Those were two significant long term planning efforts. At this time, we do not have staff capacity to staff another committee while we were doing two large long range planning efforts that also had their extra committees.

Comments: CM Reynolds

Action: Begin recruitments for City Committee vacancies.
 Motion: Councilor Wantz
 Second: Councilor Beaudreau
 Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
 Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
 Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
 Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
 Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
 Motion passes 'unanimously'

CONSENT AGENDA

6. THREE RIVERS FOUNDATION GRANT APPLICATION

Consider ratifying staff's decision to apply to the 2024 Three Rivers Foundation Grant for the Florence Events Center Lighting Board Capital Purchase of \$18,000.

7. OREGON RESILIENCE HUBS AND NETWORKS GRANT

Consider authorizing staff to submit an application to the Oregon Resilience Hubs and Networks Grant for the purchase of three portable emergency generators, for an estimated project cost of \$180,000 to support resiliency and provide emergency power for City wastewater pump stations in the event of power outages. *(removed from consent agenda)*

8. AUDIT ACTION PLAN

Consider approving plan of action for the 2022-2023 audit.

9. APPROVAL OF MEETING MINUTES

Consider approval of the March 4, 2024 and March 18, 2024 City Council Regular Session.

Start Time: 6:43 p.m.
 Discussion: City Council discussed...
 • No discussion.
 Action: Approve the consent agenda as amended.
 Motion: Councilor Beaudreau
 Second: Councilor Wantz

Roll Call: Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

ACTION ITEM

7. OREGON RESILIENCE HUBS AND NETWORKS GRANT

Consider authorizing staff to submit an application to the Oregon Resilience Hubs and Networks Grant for the purchase of three portable emergency generators, for an estimated project cost of \$211,000 to support resiliency and provide emergency power for City wastewater pump stations in the event of power outages.

Start Time: 6:44 p.m.
Discussion: ACM Messmer presented the staff presentation.
Handouts: Staff presentation

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- Is this for the state resiliency funding?

Comments: Councilor Carp.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- Yes, this is the state program.

Comments: ACM Messmer.

Action: Authorize staff to submit an application to the Oregon Resilience Hubs and Networks Grant for the purchase of three portable emergency generators, for an estimated project cost of \$211,000 to support resiliency and provide emergency power for City wastewater pump stations in the event of power outages.

Motion: Councilor Beaudreau
Second: Councilor Meyer
Roll Call: Councilor Carp, 'Aye'
Councilor Wantz, 'Aye'
Councilor Meyer, 'Aye'
Councilor Beaudreau, 'Aye'
Mayor Ward, 'Aye'
Motion passes 'unanimously'

REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

10. GENERAL REPORTS – Council Question and Answer Only – No Presentations

- March Committee, Commission, and Volunteer Reports

Start Time: 6:50 p.m.
Discussion: The City Council discussed...

- No discussion.

Comments: All Councilors present.

11. DEPARTMENT DIRECTOR UPDATES

Start Time: 6:51 p.m.
Discussion: The Department Directors discussed...

- Update on Heceta Beach Road project which is not a City project. It is in the final stages of paving.
- We have received 1.61 inches of rainfall for April. March rainfall was 11.73 inches.
- Update on Rhododendron Drive project – completion of water line installation today. Access to Humane Society and Lane County Transfer Station is still from the south via 9th Street.
- Reporting two new F150 Super Crew cab 4x4 full hybrid pickup trucks for the police Department have arrived and are waiting to be outfitted with lights, siren, radio, radar, etc. Trucks are Police Chief and Police Officer approved.
- Two new F150 Super Crew cab 4x4 full hybrid pickups for the Public Works Department arrived at the dealership today. These vehicles are not plug-in hybrids.
- Two officers graduated from the Police Academy.
- Recent traumatic events handled by officers.
- Upcoming EMAC events consisting of planting pollinator garden at 18th Street Pocket Park and Arbor Day celebration at the Senior Center.
- Upcoming Transportation Committee meeting.
- Ordinance No. 1, Series 2024 supporting missions, emergency shelters, and transitional housing has successfully gone through the state noticing period without any appeals and that code is now in effect.
- Recruiting for Senior Planner or Planner Manager.
- Attending economic development luncheon with Mayor and Mrs. Ward.

- Planning for Coastal Career Fair at the Florence Events Center on April 25th with thirty participating employers from the Central Coast region.
 - Update on committee recruitments through the website, newspaper, and social media.
 - Applying for Resilience Hubs and WELOG (West Lane Emergency Operations Group) is offering letters of support for other agencies.
 - Providing weekly updates on social media, email blasts, and City website for Rhododendron Drive Improvement Project.
 - Upcoming events at the Florence Events Center.
- Comments: PWD Miller, Police Chief Pitcher, CDD FarleyCampbell, EDCA Meyer, CR White, and ACM Messmer.

12. CITY MANAGER REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Start Time: 7:19 p.m.

Discussion: Staff discussed...

- Signage available for “No Mow May” and a webpage dedicated to this initiative.
- Advising businesses that Annual Parking Café Permits available starting May 1st.
- Upcoming Yard Debris collection on Saturday.
- Upcoming City Council meetings and agenda items.
- Upcoming Special Meeting for public input on April 29th at the Florence Events Center on temporary sheltering.

Comments: CM Reynolds

13. CITY COUNCIL REPORT & DISCUSSION ITEMS

Start Time: 7:23 p.m.

Discussion: The City Council discussed...

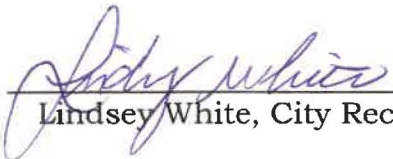
- Gratitude to all volunteers that help in the City.
- Upcoming Siuslaw Watershed Council estuary cleanup on April 20th.
- Coordinating art show with Siuslaw Play Shop event on April 27th.
- Kudos to ACM Messmer and FEC staff Tim for assisting with the very successful Rotary Auction raising over \$92,000 at the Florence Events Center.
- Appreciating the recognition of the Police and First Responders tonight. We have a wonderful group of First Responders that we can be very proud of.

- Upcoming Volunteer Luncheon at the Florence Events Center and how important volunteers are to our community.
- Comments: All Councilors present.

Meeting adjourned at 7:27 p.m.

ATTEST:



Rob Ward, Mayor

Lindsey White, City Recorder