

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SISTERS CITY COUNCIL
520 E. CASCADE AVENUE
May 14, 2009

MEMBERS PRESENT:

Lon Kellstrom Mayor
Bill Merrill Council President
Sharlene Weed Councilor
Pat Thompson Councilor
Jerry Bogart Councilor

STAFF PRESENT:

Eileen Stein City Manager
Steve Bryant City Attorney
Eric Porter Comm. Dev. Director
Brad Grimm Public Works Director
Lisa Young Finance Director
Kathy Nelson City Recorder

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kellstrom at 7:04 p.m.

II. VISITOR COMMUNICATIONS

III. CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes

1. April 02, 2009 – Quarterly Workshop with County Commissioners
2. April 23, 2009 – Joint Workshop with Committee for Citizen Involvement
3. April 23, 2009 – Regular Meeting

B. Bills to Approve

1. May Accounts Payable

Manager Stein stated a payment to Habitat for Humanity in the amount of \$625.50 would be moved from the consent agenda to the Accounts Payable not on the Consent Agenda to be voted upon.

Councilor Merrill moved to approve the consent agenda as amended. **Councilor Bogart** seconded the motion.

Councilor Weed asked that the workshop minutes of April 2, 2009 with the County Commissioners reflect she distributed a report from Central Oregon Landwatch on the economic impacts that destination resorts have on local jurisdictions and that there was discussion on the matter. **City Recorder Nelson** stated she would add the information to the minutes.

The motion carried unanimously.

IV. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE NOT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

A. May Accounts Payable

Councilor Thompson and **Councilor Weed** stated they would refrain from voting due to a conflict of interest.

***Councilor Merrill** moved to add an invoice in the amount of \$625.50 payable to Habitat for Humanity to and approve the accounts payable not on the consent agenda. **Councilor Bogart** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

V. STAFF REPORTS

A. Eileen Stein, City Manager

Manager Stein highlighted the following:

Phase 1 of the utility rate study is completed with the adoption of Resolution 2009-11. Staff met with representatives from Sisters School District to discuss these changes and how it might impact the district. She stated that staff is reviewing all of the districts utility accounts in order to determine the net effect to the district.

Notice was received that the Lazy Z effluent project that the City applied for economic stimulus funds to complete was rated as project number 124 on the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) project list. The City was also notified that the funding available will only fund the first 37 projects on the DEQ list. She stated the City was informed it would need a National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) study and the cost of \$30,000 to \$50,000 for the study was not financially practical due to the low priority the project was given by DEQ. She stated this was a disappointing turn of events and the City will not be pursuing the project any longer with America Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) funding at this time. However, if the project is on the State Special Public Works Program list and ready to go if the City decides to pursue loan funding through the state at a future date.

Councilor Weed asked what this means with regard to sewer capacity for the City. **Manager Stein** stated it means the City will fall back to the original plan to pay for the effluent trunk line with system development charges (SDC's) funds. She stated the project was only being considered at this time because of the possibility of ARRA funds to pay for the project as there is still adequate sewer capacity. **Councilor Thompson** asked if the NEPA study will still be needed in order to apply for a loan. **Manager Stein** explained that the NEPA study is only necessary when there are federal funds tied to the loan.

Councilor Thompson asked what other projects the City has that could be funded with ARRA funding to create jobs for the city. **Manager Stein** stated the City was applying for a

project on Larch Street from the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) through the ARRA small cities program.

Manager Stein reported the Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO) Transportation Planning Rule legislative bill passed the House by a wide margin. She stated she will travel to Salem on Monday to testify when the vote will come before the Senate. She stated it will benefit the City by relaxing ODOT's mobility standards that will allow for more congestion.

B. Lisa Young, Finance Director

Director Young asked for questions on her staff report.

Councilor Weed asked if the 58 shut-off notices for the month of April was higher than normal. **Director Young** stated the number is on the higher side of normal for the month.

Mayor Kellstrom complimented Director Young on the clean up efforts that took place in the back storage area of City Hall and the addition of the three new workspace cubical areas.

C. Captain Tim Edwards

Captain Edwards reported on the number of patrol hours provided, incidents, citations, warnings and business checks for April. He stated the Sheriff's Department is readying itself for increased patrols for the upcoming Sisters Rodeo.

Councilor Weed questioned if the use of methamphetamine is a problem in Sisters.

Captain Edwards reported it is a wide spread problem in the entire region but there are no known major dealers in Sisters. He stated that deputies have made arrests during traffic stops in Sisters when the drug has been found in the vehicle.

VI. COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Consideration of Ordinance No. 386: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SISTERS AMENDING SISTERS MUNICIPAL CODE SECTION 2.30.020 PERTAINING TO THE COMPOSITION OF THE COMMITTEE FOR CITIZEN INVOLVEMENT (CCI)

Councilor Merrill moved for the first and second reading by title only of Ordinance No. 386. Councilor Bogart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

City Attorney Bryant read Ordinance No. 386, by title only, twice.

Councilor Merrill moved to adopt Ordinance No. 386 to amend Sisters Municipal Code pertaining to the composition of the Committee for Citizen Involvement. Councilor Bogart seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

B. Discussion and Consideration of a Motion to Approve a Change Order to the Contract with Knife River, Inc. in the Amount of \$41,485 for the Highway 242 Bike Path Project

Councilor Merrill moved to approve a change order to the contract with Knife River, Inc. in the amount of \$41,485 for the Highway 242 bike path project. Councilor Bogart seconded the motion.

Councilor Thompson asked if the change order included the costs for surveying. **Director Grimm** stated the City paid for the necessary surveying separately.

Councilor Weed asked if the City consulted with the Sisters Trail Committee with where this path should be placed. **Director Grimm** explained that with the Quick Fix Grant funds being used on this project, the path must be adjacent to a state roadway only.

The motion carried unanimously.

VII. OTHER BUSINESS

Manager Stein reported she had attended a Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO) video-telephone conference (V-Tel) with State legislators and a Central Oregon Area Commission on Transportation (COACT) meeting that day. She stated the focus of both meetings was discussion on the transportation funding package that the legislators are working on and that will likely be passed. She stated there are various fee increases in the bill and a six cent state gas tax is being proposed. She stated once the gas tax takes effect, there will be a four year moratorium on local gas taxes. She stated that when the four year moratorium is over there is the possibility that any local gas tax will need to go to a vote of the people. She stated this provides a brief window of opportunity for the City to impose a local gas tax if it chooses. **Mayor Kellstrom** stated that if the gas tax is passed at the state level, it will take effect by January 1, 2011 or after there are two quarters of positive economic growth in the State, which ever comes first.

Mayor Kellstrom stated he had a conversation with Gary Farnsworth, ODOT Region 4 Area Manager, about the ruts on Cascade Avenue and the City's desire to have them leveled out for pedestrian safety. He stated Mr. Farnsworth indicated he is aware of the City's concern with the ruts and that with other road projects coming in under budget there might be some funds available to smooth out the road by next summer. Mayor Kellstrom

stated this could hold the City over until the redesign and streetscape work for Cascade Avenue takes place in the future.

Manager Stein discussed that the transportation funding package could also include some earmarks, which is unusual on the state level. She stated the City's applications for \$1.6 million was not on the earmarked list but that Bend and Redmond projects were. She stated that Redmond may receive one million more in earmarks than it requested and there will be negotiations to see if the extra earmark can be transferred to the Sisters project request.

VIII. MAYOR/COUNCILOR COMMENT

A. Committee Reports

Mayor Kellstrom stated that a presentation by Manager Stein, Councilor Bogart, Chamber Director Erin Borla, Chamber Board President Patty Vandiver and he was given to Economic Development for Central Oregon (EDCO) earlier in the day. He stated the presentation was well received and the City was complimented on its efforts with regard to economic development.

Councilor Weed reported she attended a meeting to discuss a ten year plan to end homelessness in the region with the County taking the lead on the project. She stated that one discussion point was there are more first time homeless individuals as opposed to chronic homeless individuals.

Mayor Kellstrom reminded the Council of the campfire and BBQ that will take place on Friday evening, May 15th, and invited everyone to attend.

Mayor Kellstrom stated the *Sisters Cleanup Day* will take place on Saturday, May 16th with a City sponsored BBQ after the cleanup in the Village Green for all the participating volunteers.

IX. ADJOURN – 7:38 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nelson, City Recorder

Lon Kellstrom, Mayor