

REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
SISTERS CITY COUNCIL
520 E. CASCADE AVENUE
MARCH 25, 2010

MEMBERS PRESENT:

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

ABSENT:

Pat Thompson Councilor

STAFF PRESENT:

Eric Porter Comm. Devel. Director
Laura Lehman Associate Planner
Paul Bertagna PW Project Coordinator
Liz Majury Finance Assistant
Kathy Nelson City Recorder

ABSENT:

Eileen Stein City Manager
Lisa Young Finance Director
Brad Grimm PW Director
Steve Bryant City Attorney

I. CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Kellstrom at 7:00 p.m.

II. PROCLAMATION – CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH

Elaine Knobbs, Kids Center Director of Prevention & Education

Ms. Knobbs stated Kids Center is a regional non-profit agency dedicated to the prevention, evaluation and treatment of suspected victims of child abuse. She stated the agency provides both medical and abuse therapy. She reported Kids Center saw over 700 suspected victims last year and some were from Sisters noting that unfortunately, abuse happens in every community. She stated it is important for adults to take responsibility by talking about and raising awareness of the issue. She stated April is national Child Abuse Prevention month and has been recognized in Deschutes County for the last 14 years. She voiced her pleasure that the City of Sisters was participating in the awareness program for the first time and asked that everyone show support by wearing a blue ribbon. She stated the agency works with many partners throughout the community.

Blue ribbons were distributed to the Council, staff and audience members.

Connie Rada, Deschutes County Commission on Children and Families Board Member

Ms. Rada stated the Deschutes County Commission on Children and Families works with agencies through-out the county and advises the County Commissioners on issues related to children and families. She reported the Commission provides support to private and public agencies through a variety of ways. She stated the agency is currently working on an initiative to adopt a specialized license plate that would raise awareness and provide funds to

be used within the community. She stated one good preventive measure the Commission supports is community schools where mental health and physical therapy are provided to children at the school site.

Councilor Weed asked if the Kids Center has seen an increase in abuse with the current economic climate. **Ms. Knobbs** replied there has been a 40% increase in physical abuse, within the last two years while sexual abuse has remained constant. She stated incidents of physical abuse increase when families are stressed. She stated that next year the agency will approach the City to see about placing a *Tree of Hope* in the community to honor those victims of abuse.

Mayor Kellstrom stated the City would be happy to write a letter of support with regard to the license plate initiative and to provide City Recorder Nelson with the appropriate information.

Mayor Kellstrom read the *Child Abuse Prevention Month Proclamation*.

III. VISITOR COMMUNICATION

There was no visitor communication.

IV. CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes
 - 1. March 04, 2010 - Workshop
 - 2. March 11, 2010 - Workshop
 - 3. March 11, 2010 - Regular Meeting

- B. Bills to Approve
 - 1. March Accounts Payable

Councilor Merrill moved to approve the consent agenda. **Councilor Weed** seconded the motion. *The motion carried unanimously.*

V. ACCOUNTS PAYABLE NOT ON THE CONSENT AGENDA

- A. March Accounts Payable

Councilor Merrill moved to approve the accounts payable not on the consent agenda. **Councilor Weed** seconded the motion. *The motion carried unanimously.*

VI. STAFF REPORTS

A. Brad Grimm, Public Works Director

Public Works Project Coordinator Bertagna, filing in for Director Grimm, provided updates to the Council. He reported the asphalt patching and final clean-up of the Southside water line improvement project was completed and the final walk-through would be occurring in the next few days. He stated the new lines are in use. **Councilor Weed** asked if the project had taken longer than anticipated. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** stated it had, attributing the extra time it took to the complexity of the project, constructing water lines in the public right of way, and the need to work on private property in moving the lines. He stated both contractors working on the job ran across miles of abandoned cable, television and phone lines which also slowed the project.

Project Coordinator Bertagna reported work has begun on the Overnight Park showers with an anticipated completion date of April 15th.

Councilor Merrill stated that electrical work by Central Electric Cooperative (CEC) on Forest Service land at the corner of Elm Street and Tyee Drive began several months ago and remains unfinished. He reported the orange netting overlaying the project is unsightly and asked if Project Coordinator Bertagna had any information on the project. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** stated he had received a call from a citizen on the same matter and had called CEC to determine why the project was at a standstill. He stated he had not received a call back so far but would follow up to get an answer. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** stated he and Director Grimm were also going to look at the parking area situation for the trail head and work with the Trails Committee on signage. **Councilor Merrill** stated the Forest Service was suppose to be moving the parking area for the trail head off the residential area of Tyee Drive to further down Elm Street onto Forest Service land. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** stated he would also check the status of that project.

Councilor Weed asked about the wiring around the horse sculpture of running horses on the Lazy Z property. She stated it is unsightly. She reported that a few of the horses in the sculpture also appear to be at odd angles. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** stated he would check on why the wire was placed and straighten any mis-aligned pieces.

Councilor Weed asked if the improvements on the high school softball and baseball fields where Public Works staff was assisting was completed. **Project Coordinator Bertagna** reported work on two of the four fields has been completed. He stated Turface, an engineered soil, still needs to be spread and a warning track still needs to be cut on the other fields.

B. Eric Porter, Community Development Director

Community Development Director Porter stated the resolution before the Council later on the agenda was one of four requirements necessary for the City to meet the criteria for receiving the Microenterprise Facilitation grant.

Director Porter stated a presentation on the Quick Response Plan will be forthcoming. He stated the end result will be a conceptual plan for the Forest Service property. He reported information from the charette held in 2007 was given to the Forest Service to aid in the creation of a concept for the property.

VII. COUNCIL BUSINESS

A. Discussion and Consideration of Ordinance No. 396: AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF SISTERS AMENDING THE SISTERS DEVELOPMENT CODE CHAPTER 4 BY ADOPTING REGULATIONS THAT ALLOW AN AUTOMATIC EXTENSION OF TIME FOR CERTAIN TYPES OF LAND USE PERMITS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY

Associate Planner Lehman stated the ordinance is an amendment to the Development Code that will provide a blanket extension to December 31, 2011 for approved land use applications that were valid on October 1, 2009. She added that any other extensions normally provided in the Development Code that are due to the applicant will also be retained after this extended timeframe has passed.

***Councilor Merrill** moved for the first and second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 396. **Councilor Weed** seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.*

City Recorder Nelson read Ordinance No. 396, by title only, twice.

***Councilor Merrill** moved to adopt Ordinance No. 396 amending the Sisters Development Code Chapter 4 by adopting regulations that allow an automatic extension of time for certain types of land use permits and declaring an emergency. **Councilor Weed** seconded the motion.*

Councilor Weed asked if the applicants affected by this ordinance had requested extensions. **Planner Lehman** reported they had not, but were very pleased when informed that the ordinance was under consideration by the Council. She stated Senior Planner Hardie discovered the trend to adopt this type of ordinance for blanket extensions when she was researching development codes in other cities.

The motion carried unanimously.

**B. Discussion and Consideration of a Resolution No. 2010-06: A
RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SISTERS PROHIBITING THE USE OF
EXCESSIVE FORCE BY LAW ENFORCEMENT PERSONNEL AT CIVIL
RIGHTS DEMONSTRATIONS**

Councilor Merrill moved to adopt Resolution No. 2010-06 prohibiting the use of excessive force by law enforcement personnel at civil rights demonstrations. Councilor Weed seconded the motion.

Councilor Weed requested Director Porter explain the need for the resolution for the benefit of the audience. **Director Porter** explained that adoption of a resolution prohibiting excessive force by law enforcement personnel during civil rights demonstrations was one of four requirements necessary to meet the criteria for a Microenterprise Facilitation grant. He stated this stipulation is tied to receiving the funding from HUD. He stated Deschutes County Sheriff's Department already has an ordinance in place that prohibits excessive force under any circumstances.

The motion carried unanimously.

VIII. OTHER BUSINESS

There was no other business.

IX. MAYOR/COUNCILOR BUSINESS

There was no Mayor/Councilor business.

X. ADJOURN – 7:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Kathy Nelson, City Recorder

Lon Kellstrom, Mayor