



MINUTES
KEIZER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Monday, November 14, 2016
Keizer Civic Center, Council Chambers
Keizer, Oregon

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the meeting to order at 5:47 pm. Roll Call was taken as follows:

Present:

Cathy Clark, Mayor
Marlene Parsons, Councilor
Amy Ryan, Councilor (6:00)
Kim Freeman, Councilor (5:51)
Bruce Anderson, Councilor
Mark Caillier, Councilor

Absent:

Roland Herrera, Councilor

Staff:

Chris Eppley, City Manager
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
Robert Johnson, Parks/Facilities
Division Manager
Shannon Johnson, City Attorney
Tim Wood, Finance Director
Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City
Recorder

DISCUSSION

**a. Parks Board
Recommendation
– Survey/
Funding**

Matt Lawyer from the Parks Advisory Board shared the work of the Parks Board which began in April of 2016. He explained that a concerned citizen had pointed out a need for repairs in area parks and that started the Board considering how to attain sustainable funding for the parks. The Board discussed using a bond, forming a district and developing a parks fee. They developed outreach and education materials and a survey to be used to get feedback from citizens.

Lengthy discussion followed regarding the method for collection of a park fee, distribution of educational materials and the survey, the process for implementing a fee, and the importance of educating the public so that they can respond with educated input. Further dialog took place regarding System Development Charges, grant opportunities, and limited staffing. It was noted that the City could apply for an OPRD grant utilizing some of the funds used to purchase the Buchholz property at Keizer Rapids Park as a match, but it was not feasible to do so because the only projects that could be funded through the grant would be sports fields and the City does not have staffing to maintain them and that is a critical piece of the grant application.

Chris Eppley urged that the Board be accurate in what they expect from the citizens by telling them up front that the 'survey', which would be more accurately described as 'homework', will take 15-20 minutes of

their time. Dylan Juran added that social media can be effectively used for education and outreach and a lot can be done with a 2-4 minute YouTube video with a link to the survey at the end.

Judy DeSpain in the audience voiced opposition to putting the fee on the utility bill noting that it seemed underhanded. She suggested that taxes be raised instead. Mayor Clark explained that several measures passed in previous years prohibit the raising of taxes so now cities have to find other creative ways to cover rising costs. She suggested that this information be included in the outreach materials so that citizens are made aware of the funding limitation.

Ms. DeSpain explained that she was not opposed to paying a fee, but that she did not want it put on her utility bill. Mr. Eppley suggested that perhaps the Utility Bill could be renamed 'City Services Billing' and show in detail all the different charges.

The timeline was then discussed with City Attorney Shannon Johnson suggesting that, if it was important to get the survey out quickly, staff be allowed to tweak the materials. All agreed that they would be willing to review the materials at the November 21 meeting and give direction on how to move forward.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

MAYOR:

APPROVED:

Cathy Clark

Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Councilor #1 – Mark Caillier

Councilor #4 – Roland Herrera

Councilor #2 – Kim Freeman

Councilor #5 – Amy Ryan

Councilor #3 – Marlene Parsons

Councilor #6 – Bruce Anderson

Minutes approved: _____