

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD JULY 11, 2023, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Ed Fitch – Tobias Colvin – Clifford Evelyn – John Nielsen – Kathryn Osborne (left at 6:57 p.m., returned at 7:17 p.m.) – Shannon Wedding – Cat Zwicker

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith Witcosky – Deputy City Manager John Roberts – City Attorney Keith Leitz – Police Captain Jesse Petersen – Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan – Assistant City Engineer Lindsay Crowsigt – Accounting Manager James Wood – City Recorder Kelly Morse – Communications Director Heather Cassaro – Urban Renewal Programs Manager Chuck Arnold – Urban Renewal Program Analyst Meghan Gassner – IT Network Technician Christian Armatas – Airport Security Manager Jayde Hawkins

MEDIA PRESENT: None

Mayor Fitch called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm. A quorum was established.

BLESSING

Pastor Bill Cecrle, The Bridge Church, led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Fitch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Fitch announced the question of marijuana dispensaries in Redmond will go on the ballot in May 2024 rather than November 2023. This delay is due to there being a tight August deadline for the November ballot and a cost of approximately \$30,000. By waiting until the May 2024 Primary, there is no cost to the City.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

Redmond resident Charles Baer spoke about depopulationism, requesting political leaders discuss the issue.

Redmond resident Judy Dow thanked the Council for moving dispensaries to the May ballot because of the cost and appreciated their work on the issue.

Redmond resident Donna Abelein spoke about propaganda in Pride parades across the country, adding her prayer would be for Redmond never to allow one.

Redmond resident Stephanie Hunter stated she would like to hear more about how the City will address what it is like for people of color and other individuals who do not feel safe or welcomed in Redmond.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of the May 23, 2023, Council Meeting

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Colvin, to approve the Consent Agenda, motion passed. (Fitch-yes, Colvin-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-yes, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

PRESENTATIONS

A. Review of Calls for Service from Redmond Police Department for 4th of July Weekend 2023

Captain Jesse Petersen reported the Redmond Police Department responded to 388 total calls for service from June 30 to July 4, 2023, 78 of which were related to fireworks. Two people were cited for being in possession of illegal fireworks. A total of 14 arrests were made, unrelated to fireworks.

B. City Investment Update and Strategy Review

Accounting Manager James Wood and PFM Asset Management Managing Director Lauren Brant presented an economic and interest rate update regarding the City's investments. They addressed the investment strategy deployed in order to take advantage of the current interest rate environment, noting for Fiscal Year (FY) 2024, just shy of \$5 million in interest revenue is budgeted to be received.

C. Heart of Oregon Corps

Heart of Oregon Corps Board Member Greg Weilert spoke about his involvement in the organization.

Heart of Oregon Corps Executive Director Laura Handy provided an overview of the organization and the future project of a centralized campus located in Redmond, which is expected to break ground in late 2023. Forty-eight percent of the \$8 million project funding goal has been raised. Donations can be made through the campus campaign section of their website with additional ways to contribute.

Councilor Osborne left the dais at this point in the meeting.

BID AWARDS / BID REJECTIONS

A. Redmond Senior Center Kitchen Remodel Project bid award to Able General Contracting LLC, Project #SC2201: \$449,695.77

Public Works Director/City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan requested a bid award to Able General Contracting for the Redmond Senior Center Kitchen Remodel Project in the amount of \$449,695.77. The City only received one bid and after review, it was deemed responsive. The Engineer's estimate of costs was \$450,000.

Redmond Senior Center Board Co-President Diana Barker thanked the City and Deschutes County for the funds to complete this project and to staff for their assistance throughout the process. She expressed her hope the Council will approve the award.

Redmond Senior Center Board Member and Mountain View Community Development Board Member Ron Hagen explained that the Meals on Wheels and inside dining program will be relocated at Mountain View Community Church while the Senior Center's kitchen is closed from approximately late July to mid-October.

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Nielsen, to award a contract with Able General Contracting LLC in the amount of \$449,695.77 for the Redmond Senior Center Kitchen Remodel Project and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

B. Airport Camera System and Operating Agreement with LTT Partners: \$147,934.16.

Airport Security Manager Jayde Hawkins requested approval of a five-year contract with LTT Partners for a CCTV upgrade system at the Airport. Two quotes were received in response to an informal quote; a third vendor did not submit. After review, LTT Partners was the most competitive bid. She clarified the Airport is currently utilize the Ocularis and OpenEye systems which are non-compatible with each other.

Councilor Nielsen moved, seconded by Councilor Evelyn, to award a contract to LTT Partners in the amount not to exceed \$147,934.16 for the airport CCTV system upgrade and camera

installation, and authorize the City Manager to sign the contract, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

ACTION ITEMS

A. Convention Visitors Bureau Fiscal Year 2023-2024 Annual Service Contract: \$348,269

City Manager Keith Witcosky requested approval of the FY 2023-2024 contract with the Convention Visitors Bureau (CVB). The contract invests a percentage of transient lodging taxes received by the City for marketing and tourism by the CVB. Mr. Witcosky noted the City will also create a tourism and lodging committee that will work with the CVB to help make strategic decisions around marketing, promotion, branding of Redmond.

Councilor Colvin moved, seconded by Councilor Nielsen, to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 service contract in the forecasted amount of \$348,269 between the City of Redmond and the Redmond Convention Visitors Bureau for statutorily allowable tourism-related activities and expenditures, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

B. Redmond Economic Development Inc. Fiscal Year 2023/2024 Annual Service Contract: \$157,658

Mr. Witcosky requested approval of the FY 2023-2024 annual service contract with Redmond Economic Development Inc. (REDI). Funds for this contract were approved in the budget and come from the General Fund and the Airport Fund. The REDI Board through their Director Steve Curley, oversees the deployment of these resources. It was requested to approve the grant agreement effective from July 1, 2023, through June 30, 2024.

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Evelyn, to approve the Fiscal Year 2023-2024 service contract in the amount of \$157,658 between the City of Redmond and Redmond Economic Development Inc. for investment in economic development-related activities, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

C. Resolution #2023-15 - A resolution of the City of Redmond to make Budget Adjustments.

Mr. Wood requested approval of Resolution #2023-15 which authorizes a budget adjustment for FY 2023-2023 related to prepaying the City's 20-year loan for construction of facilities associated with the Redmond Air Center. Prepayment of the debt will save the Airport Fund an estimated \$60,000 over the next five years.

Councilor Nielsen moved, seconded by Councilor Colvin, to adopt Resolution #2023-15 to pre-pay Airport debt. The motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

D. Resolution #2023-16 - A resolution amending the Water System Development Charge Project List.

Assistant City Engineer Lindsay Crowsigt requested approval of Resolution #2023-16 which formally amends the Water System Development Charge (SDC) project list to add a line item to the project list for privately funded oversized infrastructure in the amount of \$4.8 million and removing the Obsidian Well project near Obsidian Avenue and Helmholtz Way. Adding the new line item will allow the City to seamlessly provide developers with SDC credits as projects are built.

Councilor Evelyn moved, seconded by Councilor Colvin, to adopt Resolution #2023-16, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Fitch-yes, Evelyn-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-absent, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

Councilor Osborne returned to the dais at this point in the meeting

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

Redmond resident Sally Griffin stated she is pro free speech, but opined that allowing hate speech against gay people during this meeting is wrong.

Redmond Resident Karin Stauder expressed concerned over the use of the word "propaganda" in reference to Pride parades. She added that in her 25-year tenure as a police officer investigating crimes against children, she never arrested a gay person for sexually molesting a child.

Redmond resident and head of the Redmond Pride Committee Trevor Johnson condemned Ms. Abelein's comments and apologized for breaking protocol. He expressed his disappointment that hate speech continues to be allow at Council meetings.

Ms. Abelein requested a police escort to her car tonight after experiencing what she considered a threat from Mr. Johnson.

Redmond Resident Patrick Howard spoke to his experience with being gay and how he believes Redmond should take baby steps in Pride celebrations, following Prineville's example rather than New York City's.

Mayor Fitch noted it is healthy to discuss such things and each person is a child of God deserving of respect and understanding. Councilor Evelyn urged everyone to focus on themselves and stop judging others.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Keith Witcosky announced there is a large musical festival occurring at the Deschutes County Fairgrounds on July 21-24 adding there will be traffic impacts including for those going to the Airport. He shared details on upcoming joint workshops with the Council.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Colvin commented that he was reminded of the cornerstone of free speech: "I disapprove of what you say, but I will defend to the death your right to say it." Council meetings are for City business, but if a citizen states their opinion, it can be discussed further after the meeting. He stated he loves an engaged population.

Councilor Osborne said speech may be protected by the First Amendment, but it does not make all speech acceptable ethically or morally adding that silence is destructive. She expressed her appreciation for citizens who speak in Council Chambers, reiterating the room is a space for safe and productive communication.

Councilor Wedding thanked all who presented and citizens for their passion and engagement adding that everyone needs to be respectful. She stated the Fourth of July parade was amazing, as was participation and attendance.

Councilor Evelyn thanked the parade coordinators and those who attended.

Councilor Zwicker appreciated the Fourth of July parade. She reminded everyone that words can hurt and cannot be taken back. She stated she is hopeful a new Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) will be finalized to move and will move management of the Coordinated Houseless Response Office to Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council.

Councilor Nielsen stated that while it is important for citizens to share their opinions, it is destructive to blast entire groups of people. He opined that the citizen comment portion of the meeting is not the appropriate venue for a civil rights discussion.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

A. Historic Landmarks Commission - Appointment of Megan Watkins term expiring December 31, 2025.

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Osborne, to approve the appointment of Megan Watkins to the Historic Landmarks Commission, motion passed. (Colvin-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Nielsen-yes, Osborne-yes, Wedding-yes, Zwicker-yes)

There being no further business for open session and no motions as a result of Executive Session, Mayor Fitch adjourned the meeting at 7:42 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Fitch convened the Council into Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. in accordance with ORS 192.660(2)(e) which authorizes executive session "to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions" and ORS 192.660(2)(h) which authorizes executive sessions "to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed."

Mayor Fitch adjourned Executive Session at 8:31 pm.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Services
Reviewed by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 8th day of August 2023.

/s/ Ed Fitch
Ed Fitch, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder