

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD FEBRUARY 23, 2021, VIA GOTOMEETING.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Jon Bullock – Krisanna Clark-Endicott – George Endicott – Clifford Evelyn – Ed Fitch – Jay Patrick – Shannon Wedding

MEDIA PRESENT: None

Mayor Endicott called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. A quorum was established.

BLESSING

Pastor Rick Russell from Mountain View Fellowship led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Bullock led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

There were no comments from citizens at the meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Purchase Authorization for Vactor 2100i Combination Sewer Cleaner Truck; \$502,675.59**
- B. Purchase Authorization for 2020 Kenworth Heavy-Duty Service Truck; \$160,496**
- C. Purchase Authorization for Stertil-Koni Heavy-Duty Mobile Column Lifts; \$66,216.90**

Councilor Bullock moved, seconded by Councilor Patrick, to approve the Consent Agenda as presented, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

PROCLAMATIONS

A. Red Cross Month

American Red Cross of Central and Eastern Oregon Executive Director Nadine McCrindle addressed the Council regarding the services provided by the American Red Cross, adding that she has witnessed firsthand the community's outreach to the fire evacuees this summer. Mayor Endicott commented that he and Councilor Clark-Endicott visited the site at the Fairgrounds where those who were displaced by the natural disaster were being housed; he lauded the Red Cross for their work to alleviate the suffering of those who had been displaced. Councilor Clark-Endicott shared her recent experience in donating blood, describing the app that can be used to facilitate the donation process. She urged others to donate blood.

Councilor Clark-Endicott moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to approve the proclamation designating March 2021 as Red Cross Month, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

Mayor Endicott read the proclamation.

PRESENTATIONS

A. 2nd Quarter Financial Report

Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff provided the Council with the second quarter financial report. Dashboard highlights included:

- City's financial position (excluding the Airport) remains minimally impacted from COVID-19
- Airport is financially stable with CARES funding, but passenger activity is less than budget
- Development revenues from permits and system development charges have been strong this fiscal year (FY) and exceed FY 19/20 comparisons

- Property taxes continue to hold at 96 percent collection rate
- Lodging taxes are trending at 96 percent of prior year levels
- Year-to-date operating expenses are at 45 percent with year-end projections at 97 percent
- Public Works facility and the Timber Waterline bond were paid off in January, saving \$500,000.00 in interest
- PERS rate increase in FY 21/22 are 14 percent versus the 29 percent in the 5-year forecast

Key statistics covered were property tax collections, franchise fees, General Operating fund balance and balance change, utility sales, passenger facility charges, planning permit revenue, debt service coverage ratio, and assessed value growth. Mr. Neff reviewed the current and projected financial situation for various funds.

Mr. Neff addressed questions regarding Airport's parking revenue, potential uses for excess fund balances, Public Employees Retirement System rates and health insurance rates.

B. Airport Terminal Area Plan Concept Update

Airport Director Zachary Bass introduced Consultant Kevin Stockton who provided a presentation on the Terminal Area Concept Plan (TACP). Highlights included master plan recommendations, traffic increases, development considerations, a basic concept, growth rate, enplanement data, a scenario for recovery, and timeline for completion.

The purpose of the TACP is to serve as the first step in the design process. It validates and/or updates the forecasting information contained within the Airport Master Plan and a baseline is established for consideration of accommodating future growth. The TACP, which is planned for completion in September 2021, is also used to solicit full design services and establish a budget. Mr. Bass explained how a project such as the terminal expansion is funded.

C. State of Air Service Update

Air Service consultant Trina Froehlich gave the Council an overview of the air service industry. Ms. Froehlich provided various statistics on changes to the U. S. domestic seat capacity by year as well as by airline, and industry financial performance. Industry wide, flights are down 7 percent while seats are down 13 percent; however, reductions at Redmond's Airport have been far less but are inline statewide. While the number of onboard passengers has decreased, the decline has been less than the national and state average. She shared potential new service opportunities and is optimistic that bookings will return; although it could take until the fall to begin increasing.

D. State of the Airport Update

Mr. Bass provided a broad update on the Airport which now has small hub designation. He reviewed the aerial map, the various teams of staff that keep the Airport running, regional importance, the COVID-19 impact, Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security Act (CARES) funding, COVID-19 upgrades for passenger protection, projects completed in 2020 and upcoming projects in 2021. Mr. Bass commented on the capital improvement projects slated through 2025.

Councilor Evelyn thanked Mr. Bass for the recent Airport tour. In response to Councilor Bullock, Mr. Bass stated that lessons learned from the shut-down include the utilization of technology to train the Transportation Security Administration staff to the extent that all training has been moved to a virtual format. Mayor Endicott stated that he noticed enhanced sanitation stations and cleaning procedures in progress due to pandemic requirements.

BID AWARDS/BID REJECTIONS

- A. Maple Avenue Staircase Construction Award Contract to Cascade Civil Corp (PK2101): \$327,372**

Parks and Facilities Manager Annie McVay requested approval of a bid award for the Maple Avenue Staircase project. Four proposals were received in response to a formal bidding process. Cascade Civil Corp was deemed the lowest responsible bidder at \$327,372.00. The staircase, which will be located on the east side of the Maple Avenue Bridge, will have approaches from the north and south thus eliminating the need to cross Maple Avenue. The project will commence in spring 2021 with completion by late summer 2021.

Ms. McVay addressed questions regarding expectations of usage and parking concerns.

Councilor Bullock moved, seconded by Councilor Patrick, to award the Maple Avenue Staircase project to Cascade Civil Corp in the amount of \$327,372.00 and authorize the City Manager to execute the contract, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

ACTION ITEMS

A. Amendment 3 to the Murraysmith South Redmond Water Facility Design Services Contract (WA1902); \$445,477

City Engineer Mike Caccavano requested approval of Amendment #3 to the Murraysmith contract for the South Redmond Water Facility. The amendment, in the amount of \$445,477.00, is to the design contract for construction and oversight services during construction. Mr. Caccavano noted this amendment was planned and is part of the project totals that Council members have previously been given. A project update was also provided.

Councilor Clark-Endicott moved, seconded by Councilor Fitch, to authorize the City Manager to sign Amendment #3 to the Murraysmith, Inc. contract in the amount of \$445,477.00 for construction oversight services during construction of the South Redmond Water Facility, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

B. Pacific Power Blue Sky Grant Acceptance - \$100,000 for Solar Panels at the Senior Center (SC2101)

Ms. McVay requested acceptance of the Pacific Power Blue Sky Grant in the amount of \$100,000.00. The grant funds will be used to install solar panels on the City-owned Redmond Senior Center. Any energy cost savings will be redirected to the Senior Center for programs that serve older adults such as essential home services, and activities and support groups aligned with national standards set for community based senior centers. Teresa Hogue thanked the City and stated they look forward to a continued relationship.

Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Patrick, to authorize the City Manager to sign the Grant Agreement with Pacific Power in the amount of up to \$100,000.00 for the installation of solar panels at the Senior Center, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

A. Redmond Airport Committee - Appointment of Deschutes County Commissioner Tony DeBone as the Deschutes County Representative, term expiring December 31, 2021, and Bend City Councilor Melanie Kebler as the Bend Representative, term expiring December 31, 2024.

Mayor Endicott recommended the appointment Deschutes County Commissioner Tony DeBone as the Deschutes County Representative, term expiring December 31, 2021, and Bend City Councilor Melanie Kebler as the Bend Representative, term expiring December 31, 2024, motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

COUNCIL COMMENTS

- A. Councilor Clark-Endicott's Written Comments**
- B. Councilor Fitch's Written Comments**

Councilor Patrick shared his appreciation of the Public Works Department, noting he saw a truck out plowing snow off the roads. He also voiced appreciation to the cemetery staff. Councilor Patrick raised the issue of landlord/tenant restrictions that was addressed by the state during the pandemic, the possibility of the state order being removed in the near future, and what, if anything, the City of Redmond can do to assist in this issue. Mr. Witcosky explained the previous Council determined the issue would be difficult to address and thus chose not to pursue it. Mr. Witcosky added that this Council can address the issue if they wish, potentially encouraging landlords to create a payment plan for tenants but, he said, Council would not be able to require landlords to do so. Councilor Patrick encouraged the Council to find a way to meet in person as soon as possible. Mr. Witcosky explained how staff is working towards that direction. Councilor Patrick thanked Councilor Clark-Endicott for her letter in the Council packet acknowledging Councilor Evelyn's and Councilor Wedding's willingness to serve on the Council. He also thanked Councilor Fitch for his comments on transportation in Redmond's future. Councilor Patrick stated he looks forward to Council having the opportunity to discuss the COVID relief funds and have some influence how they should be spent.

Councilor Bullock reported that, as a member of the Council, he has been given the opportunity to serve on the Redmond School District Equity Taskforce. The Taskforce has set three priorities. One way they are considering is for Redmond to seek the designation of being a "Welcoming Community." As the Council liaison on the Juniper Golf Committee, Councilor Bullock reported that he gave the oath of office to the two new committee members. He reported that the golf business is doing well as people can socially distance while playing. The Committee is looking at a feasibility study regarding expansion with an eye to the wedding/event industry. Councilor Bullock stated he is anticipating the upcoming meeting in March during which Council members will discuss Council rules and responsibilities of the liaisons. He opined an ad hoc committee looking at those rules every two years after an election, plus adding some processes, could help provide structure for clear communication. Councilor Bullock addressed the reopening of schools, urging people to drive safely as children are out and about and to be patient with educators during this process.

Councilor Clark-Endicott provided updates from the Citycounty Insurance Services board meeting including tracking legislative bills and House Bill 3115's need for tort immunity regarding homeless people camping on public property. The Joint Committee for Public Safety is considering adding one circuit court judge for Deschutes County although according to the growth of the county since 2003, there is a need for three additional judges.

Councilor Evelyn also thanked Councilor Clark-Endicott for her letter and voiced his appreciation for what she wrote. He added that he is looking forward to serving as liaison on the committees to which he was appointed as well as working on issues that are of concern to the citizens of the City.

Councilor Fitch commented on a recent Bend Bulletin editorial regarding a comprehensive solution on the north end of Bend near Cooley Road. Councilor Fitch opined the Council needs to ask itself if we need a reroute through the middle of Redmond. He explained the importance of protecting undeveloped land along a potential corridor on the east side adding that the Oregon Department of Transportation cannot protect undeveloped land due to their requirement to do extensive environmental studies. Councilor Fitch stated that the City can protect the corridor and there are funding sources that can be explored. He voiced his concern regarding how important and urgent this topic is and not taking action now will be short-changing Redmond in the future. Councilor Fitch raised the topic of having a grade separated crossing of the railroad tracks within Redmond and put forth his ideas and rationale about having one located at the re-route or at ODEM Medo. Councilor Fitch opined he has no way of getting these concerns on the agenda for a Council workshop so that they can be discussed. He listed other ideas he would like to have discussed among Council members such as the Juniper Golf Course pavilion, marijuana dispensaries locating downtown, extending sidewalks in older neighborhoods, and concerns about St. Charles. Councilor Fitch spoke to his views on the role of Council liaisons and the need for periodic joint meetings with each of the committees and commissions.

Councilor Wedding concurred that communication still needs to be addressed further. She urged caution as the Council moves forward in discussing the role of liaisons on Committees and Commissions in order to not communicate to volunteers that they are not wanted or needed. Councilor Wedding

echoed Councilor Patrick's appreciation to the Public Works Department for their tireless efforts to take care of the City. Councilor Wedding voiced appreciation to staff for the presentations made to Council on various topics and the tremendous amount of work that goes into preparing those presentations. She addressed the Airport and her appreciation to the staff there for all their work. Councilor Wedding joined Councilor Bullock in urging caution and safety when driving through school zones now that schools are reopening. She agreed with Councilor Evelyn that this has been a very positive meeting with a different tone than last week.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Keith Witcosky Mr. Witcosky thanked Economic Development/Urban Renewal Project Program Coordinator Chuck Arnold and Ron Osmundson for distributing 23,000 pieces of Personal Protective Equipment to the community. He said that he has received a report, "Latinos in Central Oregon," which he will be forwarding to Council members to read in advance of a presentation the Latino Association wants to make in the future. Mr. Witcosky reminded Council members that the second Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion discussion will take place on March 16, 2021. Staff are working with legislators on a time-sensitive appropriations request for 19th Street and Quarry Road. Mr. Witcosky reported that the City of Bend has a process that gives City Councilors the opportunity, once every month or two, to pitch an idea. If enough Council members vote in favor, the topic gets scheduled for a future discussion. He echoed appreciation for staffs' efforts to clean up streets and plow snow.

In response to Mayor Endicott's questions regarding speeding in school zones, Police Chief Dave Tarbet stated the focus thus far has been reminding citizens but stated he does not have enforcement data at this time.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

There were no additional comments from citizens at the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Prepared by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 14th day of July 2021.

/s/ George Endicott
George Endicott, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder