

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD SEPTEMBER 28, 2021, VIA GOTOMEETING.

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

MEDIA PRESENT: Nicole Bales, Bend Bulletin

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

BLESSING

Pastor Brad Goeman from City Center Church led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Evelyn led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

Deschutes County Commissioner Phil Chang addressed the Council regarding the formation of a balanced partnership for funding of homeless services.

Trevor Johnson addressed the Council regarding enforcing the COVID-19 mask mandate and voiced support for the Bethlehem Inn and Oasis Village projects.

James Cook expressed support for Bethlehem Inn and Oasis Village and suggested two options for the Council to consider. Option 1 is to adopt the previously tabled budget adjustment for \$181,535 for Oasis Village and defer action on the remaining funds until a City/County framework can be worked out for cooperative efforts. Option 2 would earmark \$631,535, remaining after the Senior Center project and Safe Parking Program have been funded, to be utilized for shelter and infrastructure improvements on the east Redmond property that the County has proposed for the Oasis Village project.

Anne Bohac explained that as a volunteer with Jericho Road she receives a lot of questions regarding housing assistance. She described the needs of various callers but noted she is unable to provide resources due to a lack of available options in Redmond. She requested the Council become an investment partner in the two projects so they can start to address the needs.

Bethlehem Inn Executive Director Gwenn Wysling referred to an open letter sent to the Council in which 25 local organizations and 80 individuals expressed support for designating a portion of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) funds for Bethlehem Inn and Oasis Village. She explained how these two projects provide services that directly impact public health and public safety and requested the Council reconsider allocating a portion of ARPA funds to them.

Steve Schaefer addressed the plight of the homeless as the greatest challenge facing America. He stated how important this issue and urged that it be addressed.

Mark Karleskind voiced concern regarding nighttime business activity at a home on Badger Avenue across from his home. He described the noise and disturbance this activity creates as well as his efforts to get some assistance regarding the problem. Mayor Endicott asked City Manager Witcosky to follow-up with Mr. Karleskind.

Skipper Lay brought up the subject of the Confederate flag, racism, a recent Redmond parade in which a Confederate flag was displayed on a float, and the role of the City of Redmond in issuing a permit for the parade.

Lena Berry expressed disappointed at the Council's lack of designating ARPA funds for the houseless projects. She urged the use of these funds to the meet needs of citizens instead of funding the new Public Safety facility which already has the money to purchase the land and will benefit from a proposed bond.

Central Oregon Intergovernmental Council Executive Director Tammy Baney spoke to the report that she and service providers put together this past May at the Council's request, stating that the report listed a variety of investment options to impact various points along the continuum of needs for vulnerable citizens. Ms. Baney said that investing in some of these projects would have a positive economic impact on the City and address public safety issues. She asked the Council to reconsider designating ARPA funds for Bethlehem Inn and Oasis Village.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Minutes of September 14, 2021, Council Meeting**
- B. Authorization to Purchase a 2021 Cat 306 CR Mini Hydraulic Excavator, Public Works Wastewater Division: \$86,127.13**
- C. Authorization to Purchase a 2021 Kenworth Hook Lift Truck, Public Works Wastewater Division: \$216,941**
- D. Contract Award to Huber Technologies, Inc. for the Repair of the Water Pollution Control Facility Headworks Screen: \$75,453.15**
- E. Authorize a Three-Year Service Agreement for Information Technology Services Phone System & Hardware - GoToConnect: \$155,499.56**
- F. Grant acceptance from the Department of Land Conservation and Development: \$15,000 Planning Assistance Grant No. HA-23-165**
- G. Oregon Department of Transportation High Visibility Overtime Enforcement Grant Acceptance: \$21,500**

Councilor Clark-Endicott 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)

PRESENTATIONS

A. Special Events Policy

Mr. Witcosky and Urban Renewal/Economic Development Program Manager Chuck Arnold provided a brief introduction of the topic. Community Development Programs Coordinator Jackie Abslag addressed the policy's history, details of the current policy including requirements for street closure consideration, lessons learned and emerging issues. Mr. Arnold explained the difference in Redmond between 2013 and 2021 and shared alternative site options. Street Utility Manager Brad Haynes spoke to traffic impact from street closures including vehicles using side streets via detours. He discussed traffic control concerns and potential negative impacts to businesses. Ms. Abslag asked the Council to consider several items: should east and west connectors to 5th and 6th Streets be closed for events, should use of 5th and 6th Streets be limited to traditional events, and should other events be added to the list of traditional events. She asked Council to consider adding the Redmond Chamber of Commerce's Trick or Treat on 6th Street event to the list of traditional events noting the street closure for this event is required for safety reasons.

Councilor Fitch asked whether a survey of the businesses on the streets involved had been conducted, and what the stance of business owners is regarding closures as well as any problems or concerns they may have. He voiced support of the Trick or Treat event added to the list of traditional events.

Ms. Abslag addressed the traditional closures, usually for parades, stating the streets are closed for a maximum of four hours and everything disperses quickly thereafter.

Councilor Evelyn has spoken with many downtown business owners who express concerns about street closures. Because they do not make money during those times, and people generally only want to use

their bathrooms, they have told him they do not see a benefit from closures. He addressed the changes in Redmond in which 6th Street is a main artery and wondered why there would be closures on such an important street. Councilor Evelyn did voice support for closures due to traditional events and urged thinking ahead to future growth and needs.

The Council unanimously supported adding the Trick or Treat event to the list of traditional events.

Mayor Endicott asked staff to conduct a survey of downtown business owners regarding street closures to include comments on the different types of events. Mr. Arnold will follow-up.

B. Fiscal Year 2020/21 - 4th Quarter Financial Report

Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff provided the Council with the 4th quarter financial report for Fiscal Year (FY) 2020/21. Highlights include the following:

- Operating expenses were substantially lower than budget.
- General Operating Funds increased the fund balance in FY 2020/21.
- Development revenues from permits and System Development Charges are on par or higher than budget.
- The Airport is financially stable with CARES funding; but passenger activity was 80 percent of budget.
- Golf Fund was \$226k positive for 2020/2021 boosting the operating contingency for 2021/2022

Mr. Neff reviewed key statistics regarding property tax collections, state shared revenues, water sales, sewer sales, the General Operating Fund balance, passenger facility charges, and planning permit revenue.

ORDINANCES

A. Ordinance #2021-09 – An ordinance amending the Redmond City Code Chapter 5, adding a Safe Parking Program and Vehicle Camping section as a means to help address homelessness and declaring an emergency.

Deputy City Manager John Roberts requested approval of Ord. #2021-09 which amends the Redmond City Code and adopts a Safe Parking Program. Mr. Roberts reviewed the purpose of the proposed program which is to allow for overnight camping and traditional overnight parking accommodations on a limited basis for emergency or traditional shelter purposes. He described the types of properties allowed to provide services via this program and the number of vehicles allowed to park at each site.

Mayor Endicott stated that recreational vehicles (RVs) use propane with an open flame and requested that staff research and include language allowing such. Councilor Clark-Endicott recommended adding language requiring the propane cooking components be permanently installed in the RV.

Councilor Fitch expressed concern with the ordinance as written opining that Safe Parking sites should not be allowed in commercial areas, particularly downtown and suggested replacing the provision for commercial properties with M1 and M2 zones. He questioned the inclusion of non-profits as well. Councilor Fitch explained his concern regarding setbacks and stated he disagrees with a 10-foot setback for sanitary facilities if, for example, a sanitary facility is located 10 feet away from a nearby resident's kitchen window. In response to clarifying questions on setback distances from Councilor Bullock, Councilor Fitch stated his overarching concern is that the ordinance and potential sites do not create unnecessary conflicts for nearby residents.

Mr. Roberts stated that the standards listed in the ordinance are not fixed standards but are merely for guidance and that the ordinance allows City staff to have discretion in reviewing a proposed plan to mitigate potential issues.

Mayor Endicott summarized the discussion in terms of two points: change the ordinance to allow open flames and sites are not be allowed in commercial zones. Councilor Fitch also requested language be inserted to allow the City Manager to have discretion regarding standards such as setback allowances.

In response to questions from Councilor Clark-Endicott Mr. Roberts explained the ordinance's wording does reflect that of the other six jurisdictions in Oregon. Councilor Clark-Endicott asked about funding the REACH project and whether the passage of this ordinance obligates the City to commit funds to it. Mr. Roberts commented that the ordinance does not include that provision.

Councilor Bullock moved, seconded by Councilor Evelyn, to have a first and second reading of Ord. #2021-09 by title only as amended.

Councilor Fitch requested having a first reading only so the amendments could be made and brought back to the next meeting for a second reading. Councilor Bullock said that his goal is to keep from stalling this project and that his preference is that it come back sooner rather than later.

Motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

City Attorney Keith Leitz provided the first and second reading of Ord. #2021-09 by title only.

Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Bullock, to approve Ord. #2021-09, motion failed. (ROLL CALL: Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-no, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

ACTION ITEMS

A. Resolutions of the City of Redmond to make Budget Adjustments in Fiscal Year 2021/22 for the Allocation of American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) Resources: \$931,535.

Mayor Endicott announced that the County Commissioners met last night and deferred their vote on motions until tomorrow night regarding the City's request that the County contribute more funds to the homeless initiatives in Redmond. He stated that the City's resolutions were tabled at the last meeting to await the Commissioners' decision, and since they have not yet voted, he suggested leaving them on the table until next week when the Commissioners' decision will be known.

Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Bullock, to take from the table Res. #2021-26 and Res. #2021-27, motion failed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-no, Endicott-no, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-no, Wedding-no)

Mayor Endicott said that Resolution #2021-28, 2021-29, and 2021-30 cannot be considered until Council considers Resolution #2021-26 and 2021-27, which are still on the table. Councilor Fitch referred to the agenda which still contains a budget adjustment item. Mayor Endicott reiterated that Council can not go forward on items until the tabled items have been considered. Mr. Leitz clarified that the Safe Parking resolution and the Senior Center resolution are allocating different funds, so those two resolutions would not be affected by the two tabled resolutions.

Councilor Bullock asked Mr. Leitz to clarify whether the expenditures as represented in the two tabled resolutions and the two new resolutions are from the same funds or separate. Mr. Leitz said that the resolution proposing to allocate the \$631, 000 would use more funds than what was tabled. Councilor Bullock stated this speaks to the broken nature of the process that the Council went through and pointed out that Council cannot move forward because there are now multiple parties competing for the same pool of money. Mr. Leitz concurred adding the Council can still proceed with Resolution #2021-28 and 2021-29.

Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Clark-Endicott, to approve Res. #2021-28.

Councilor Bullock opined allocating ARPA funds to renovate the Senior Center kitchen is an appropriate use of the funds; however, he does not think the process by which this proposal came about was not inclusive of considering other worthwhile projects in the City.

Councilor Clark-Endicott is supportive of this resolution because this is a City-owned property and will serve many citizens.

Councilor Evelyn received a walk-through of the kitchen at the Senior Center and concurs that updating the facility is an appropriate use of funds. He added that the homeless issue needs to be addressed, and opined Council is making a mockery of the process. Councilor Evelyn urged the Council to serve Redmond's citizens who are expressing concerns about the number of homeless people and the need for action to meet some of those needs.

Motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-yes)

Councilor Fitch moved, seconded by Councilor Bullock, to approve Res. #2021-29.

Councilor Patrick referred to the proposed Safe Parking budget that was submitted and asked if the consultant is the REACH coordinator from Bend. He indicated his understanding was this project would be church led. Mountain View Fellowship Pastor Rick Russell stated the funds would be managed by REACH with the bulk allocated for a case manager to serve as a liaison between the churches/host sites and the guests. The tasks to be completed by the case manager include doing background screening, dealing with property issues, etc. In response to additional questions from Council Patrick Pastor Russell stated that churches do not have adequate staffing to perform background checks and handle conflict resolution.

Mayor Endicott stated his understanding from a previously made presentation is that the project organizers had various means to raise the necessary funds. Pastor Russell explained grant requests have been submitted to the Central Oregon Health Council (COHC); however, COHC's program for emergency funds has been suspended for the time being. He noted another grant proposal has been submitted, but approval is an extended months long process and would delay the start of the Safe Parking project until next spring. Pastor Russell explained that the City's funding would enable the project to start in the near future. Councilor Patrick asked if Pastor Russell thinks the Safe Parking program can have its own funding in two years given the City's funding would be a one-time allocation. Pastor Russell said that he understands that the money is a one-time allocation, and the organizers will work to find broader funding sources for future needs.

In response to questions from Councilor Clark-Endicott, Pastor Russell indicated the total number of recipients served by the program will depend upon the number of sites they can recruit. The goal for the remainder of 2021 is to have three locations with three individuals or family units per site. He expects other sites will become available in the near future as success is demonstrated. Councilor Clark-Endicott expressed support for the program; however, will be voting no in order to see the amendments added to the ordinance before its adoption. She added that she does not support the City funding the project because the benefit will go to individual recipients and not the common good. She alluded to many letters she received from citizens urging her to support the City allocating funds for homeless initiatives, but reiterated her stance that homelessness is a social issue and should be dealt with by Deschutes County, who receives tax dollars for that purpose. Councilor Clark-Endicott predicted that the City will have to raise taxes if the City ventures into supporting social service agencies and, as a result, she said, she will not support allocating funding to this project.

Councilor Fitch addressed basic humanitarian needs and compassion and his belief that not allocating any funds for the homeless initiative projects is short-sighted. He opined that the ARPA funds are not tax dollars but rather grants from the Federal Government to address community needs and one such eligible issue is that of homelessness. Councilor Fitch addressed the Council's responsibility to protect the livability of the City, the number of citizens who have stated their concern about this issue and asked the

Council to allocate funds for it, the City asking the County to contribute more for services to homeless persons and potential future repercussions on the working relationship of the City and County, and the bond that is forthcoming in 6 months to request voter approval for the new Public Safety Facility.

Councilor Patrick urged Council members refrain from moral attacks and defended the City's request that the County contribute more because it will save Redmond citizens from paying more taxes. He concurred with Councilor Fitch's statement that the ARPA funds are a grant from the Federal Government and are not the same as tax dollars. Councilor Patrick said he believes homeless initiatives are an appropriate use of ARPA funds but that not all of the funds should be spent on homeless projects.

Councilor Evelyn asked the Council where the homeless are going to go? He disagrees with those who say this is not a City issue because homeless people are in Redmond. He urged Council to avoid putting a price tag on human life.

Motion passed. (Bullock-yes, Clark-Endicott-no, Endicott-no, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-no)

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Endicott reported the Public Works Department recently held an open house at the irrigation fields northwest of town. Mayor Endicott stated that he, Councilor Clark-Endicott, and Councilor Fitch attended, and received a full briefing on the project. Those present expressed the desire to see a more positive use of the Bureau of Land Management land rather than the current unsanctioned activities. In addition, they had questions about whether the Wetlands Project will lead to issues such as mosquitoes and odor. Staff later attended the Tetherow Crossing Homeowner's Association meeting where similar issues were discussed such as current unsanctioned activities on the property. Mayor Endicott shared details about the recent Honor Flight that went to Washington D.C. and stated that there were 23 Korean and Vietnam veterans who had participated; they were welcomed with great fanfare upon their return.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilor Clark-Endicott stated she attended the honor flight return and the patriotic blanket each veteran received was handmade by the Redmond Quilters Guild. She shared that the Economic Development for Central Oregon board recently received information on an Executive Order issued by Governor Brown in March 2020 that may limit the City's ability to expand the Urban Growth Boundary which could impact the land supply for future housing. The Order included provisions to eliminate use of carbon-based fuels which could negatively impact Redmond's economic development and ability to attract or keep businesses; the Department of Environmental Quality will take testimony on October 4, 2021. Councilor Clark-Endicott concurred with Councilor Patrick adding that it is appropriate to disagree on policy, but it is not appropriate to be personal. Councilor Clark-Endicott then addressed comments by Councilor Fitch which referred to her as the Mayor's wife.

Councilor Evelyn thanked everyone who attended the meeting. He opined the Council are leaders of the city and urged everyone to think about what they say before they say it.

Councilor Fitch commented that there is a moral component in having compassion and helping those who are less fortunate and the Council is not seeing the big picture. He reiterated that for the past two months, the Council has heard from a large portion of the community asking for help with capital improvements for homeless initiatives. To deny the funding, then ask the community for their support of a Public Safety Facility bond campaign, does not make sense. He described the process of the past few months regarding the homeless issues as dysfunctional and pushing the issue off to the County is short-sighted. He said it has been a sad journey. Councilor Fitch apologized to Councilor Clark-Endicott and anyone he offended.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Keith Witcosky provided the Council with an update on upcoming Council meeting topics. The Airport will receive a new flight to Reno/Lake Tahoe by ExpressJet. He referred to the lengthy public

process on the Police Chief recruitment and announced that Captain Devin Lewis will be the new Police Chief starting January 1, 2022.

ADDITIONAL COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

There were no additional comments from citizens at the meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Endicott convened the Council into Executive Session at 8:27 p.m. in accordance with Real Property – ORS 192.660(2)(e) authorizes executive session “to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to negotiate real property transactions.”

Mayor Endicott closed the Executive Session portion of the meeting at 8:43 p.m.

The regular portion of the meeting was called to order at 8:43 p.m.

MOTIONS AS A RESULT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION

There were no motions as a result of Executive Session

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:43 p.m.

Prepared by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this October 26th day of October 2021.

/s/ George Endicott
George Endicott, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder