

REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING OF THE CITY OF REDMOND WAS HELD MAY 24, 2022, IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS.

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Krisanna Clark-Endicott – George Endicott – Clifford Evelyn – Ed Fitch – Jay Patrick – Cat Zwicker

COUNCIL MEMBERS EXCUSED: Shannon Wedding

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Keith Witcosky – City Attorney Keith Leitz – Public Works Director Bill Duerden – City Engineer Jessica MacClanahan – Deputy City Manager John Roberts – IT Specialist II Christian Armatas – Chief Financial Officer Jason Neff – Accounting and Financial Reporting Director Brooks Slyter – Communications Director Heather Cassaro – City Recorder Kelly Morse – Police Chief Devin Lewis – Wastewater Division Manager Ryan Kirchner

MEDIA PRESENT: None

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

BLESSING

Pastor Rick Russell of Mountain View Fellowship led the blessing.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Fitch led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS AT THE MEETING

Redmond resident and small business owner Rebecca Crawley addressed the Council regarding her safety concerns in Redmond namely in the downtown, at Hope Playground, and in other areas of the Dry Canyon. She asked Council to work with law enforcement to understand why the issues she enumerated continue to persist and if it is possible to get bike patrol in these areas so residents can feel safer.

Redmond resident Lena Berry concurred with the issues Ms. Crawley described, but opined more police is not the solution. Rather she encouraged the City to invest in more infrastructure and needed places for kids to go such as the Redmond Area Parks and Recreation District Activity Center. Ms. Berry also commented that a sweep of campers living near the Redmond Athletic Club and St Charles appears to have occurred, but service providers did not see any notices posted. She went on to raise concerns regarding the homelessness community and lack of shelter beds.

TNT Fireworks Regional Manager Jason Trout spoke to the Council regarding drought and the extreme circumstances in Redmond. He proposed solutions to determine when it is safe and unsafe to use and to sell fireworks within the community. TNT Fireworks wants to be part of the solution and is willing to help Redmond residents celebrate with fireworks safely by passing out informational flyers with each sale.

Redmond resident Bill Groesz congratulated the City on the passage of the Public Safety Facility ballot measure. While he did not know if there are plans for the former police building, he noted it can help protect the library that is currently housed in the Jessie Hill School which was built in 1929. The properties fit in nicely with City Hall and the surrounding park. Mr. Groesz opined that the proposed glass library would not fit in well with the neighborhood and added the library board's vote was not unanimous. He explained there was a unanimous was the vote of all 56 Redmond residents who attended the first meeting several years ago with the library board. All 56 residents stated that whatever was done, it should not harm the Jessie Hill School. The school was changed considerably on the inside when the library remodeled, which eliminates its ability to gain historic landmark status in order to save it. With the

old police station right next-door, the library can be connected with a corridor and other ideas could be considered. Mr. Groesz asked the City to let him know what the plans are for the old police building because it is the last resort for those who wish to save the Jessie Hill School.

CONSENT AGENDA

A. Minutes of December 7, 2021, Council Meeting

B. Resolution #2022-11 - A resolution of the City of Redmond declaring certain City property to be surplus. (Three City vehicles and a supply of pipe)

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

PROCLAMATIONS

A. National Foster Care Month

Councilor Zwicker moved, seconded by Councilor Clark-Endicott, to approve the Proclamation designating May 2022 as National Foster Care Month, motion passed. (Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

Mayor Endicott read the Proclamation.

Mayor Endicott shared that a very good friend of his, a former Oregon mayor, was in the foster care program and is known as being one of the best mayors in the history of the state. He came out of the foster care program as a shining star.

Every Child Central Oregon Executive Director Melissa Williams and Oregon Department of Human Services' Emily Kitesh thanked the Council for recognizing May as Foster Care Month in Redmond. It is an important time for the community to come together to recognize and honor local resource families and learn more about foster care in the community.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Preview and Coordination Efforts for the 2022 Fire Season: Part II

Deschutes County Emergency Services Manager Sergeant Nathan Garibay provided a presentation on preparation for the upcoming fire season. He opined the most important thing to do in terms of preparation is to develop relationships and partnerships because emergency responses often require involvement from multiple federal, state, and local agencies. Sergeant Garibay reviewed the current drought situation in Oregon noting that as of May 10, 2022, a significant portion of Central and South-Central Oregon is in exceptional drought. The drought monitor from about a year ago showed the drought situation has worsened for much of Central Oregon. Sergeant Garibay noted that despite a snow water equivalent percentage of normal, and a late snow season with cooler spring, the snowpack will not offset the impacts from drought. Sergeant Garibay highlighted the 30-day forecast from the National Weather Service Climate Center and the seasonal outlook for the area for July, August, and September which is the peak of the "fire season".

The significant wildland fire potential outlook for May, June, July, and August was pretty high for this time of year in the desert Southwest and Southern Plains. As the season progresses, additional risk or chance of significant wildland fire is seen in Northern California, the Pacific Northwest, and Northern Rockies. It was of note that an above-average chance has been forecasted in Central and South-Central Oregon. In addition, he spoke to the passage of Senate Bill 762 which allocated \$220 million this biennium for additional resources to support the protection of Oregon communities from wildfire.

Sergeant Garibay reviewed some of the activities Emergency Services has been working in collaboration with a number of agencies for 2022 and described how the community can prevent damage to property and mitigate the spread of fire. He addressed questions throughout his presentation.

Mayor Endicott revisited the previous meeting's discussion on fireworks. He recalled that Council decided to allow safe and sane fireworks and will not allow fireworks that are illegal in Oregon. He emphasized the police department and fire department are going to enforce rules and will not issue warnings. If people are caught with illegal fireworks, they will receive citations.

Mr. Witcosky confirmed the City is working on a public outreach campaign with Redmond Fire and Rescue regarding the safe use of fireworks. The target is mid-June to have all of the public service announcements completed.

Councilor Fitch reiterated his written comments in which he expressed his belief that fireworks should be banned in the Canyon and on airport property, particularly the old Juniper Golf Course. He recalled a fire in 1981 that started near the Negus station. With the Dry Canyon and Juniper Golf Course being difficult to access, if there was a fire with high temperatures and wind, it could be a significant problem. While he supports the use of fireworks to celebrate the Fourth of July, the risks outweigh any reward. He added city parks should perhaps also be restricted to allow no fireworks.

City Attorney Leitz confirmed that any changes to the fireworks rules would require an ordinance but that an emergency ordinance could be done at one meeting or two meetings if the decision were not unanimous.

Councilor Clark-Endicott opined an ordinance was not needed if there has been only one incident in the last 40 years. What is most important is information, education, and ensuring the police department is patrolling.

Councilor Patrick disagreed with limiting what people can do on the Fourth of July. He noted the last time the Fire Marshal spoke to the Council it was confirmed that most of the small number of fireworks-related fires are caused by not putting the expired fireworks in a bucket of water. Councilor Patrick concurred that education is key. Mayor Endicott noted there was a total of five citations last year.

Councilor Evelyn concurred with both opinions but is concerned about the Dry Canyon and Airport area opening safety is most important.

Councilor Zwicker stated there is nowhere in the Dry Canyon where fireworks would be appropriate, other than some of the greener park spaces. However, a child with a sparkler near the dry brush or a teenager throwing crackling fireworks into the cheatgrass could be a problem. She did not think this would be an ongoing issue, but she emphasized the area is in the third year of a drought.

Mayor Endicott did not like the idea of putting a restriction on people. He could not recall anyone going to the old golf course or to Dry Canyon to light fireworks. They tend to light them at home or watch the fireworks at the fairgrounds. He noted Council did give direction on the matter last week, and what he was hearing was to move forward with what Council had in place.

Councilor Evelyn pointed out despite how things were in the past, there are new people moving to the city who may not understand the complexity and danger of the Dry Canyon.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

A. Ordinance #2022-02 – An ordinance concerning the vacation of a portion of the alley through Block 34, Townsite of Redmond.

City Attorney Keith Leitz stated staff is still attempting to get consent from the last remaining property owner and therefore asked that the public hearing be continued.

Mayor Endicott reopened the public hearing and continued the item to the June 14, 2022.

ACTION ITEMS

A. Amendment #1 and increase to the Anderson Perry & Associates Inc. contract for Redmond Wetlands Complex Final Design and Construction Management Services (WW2001): \$5,911,670

Wastewater Division Manager Ryan Kirchner requested approval of Amendment #1 to the engineering services contract with Anderson Perry & Associates. On March 9, 2021, Council awarded the predesign of the Redmond Wetland Complex project. The predesign brings the project to the 30 percent design phase which is the first phase of the project. The first phase brought the project to a moderate construction cost confidence. If the contract amendment is awarded tonight, it would bring the project into the final design phase, which is critical because it will take the project from a moderate cost confidence to a high-level, optimal cost confidence. This ultimately reduces the uncertainty of the overall cost for the project. Next step will be to submit a land use application to Deschutes County.

Another critical portion of the project is land use application which will be submitted to Deschutes County if tonight Council approves to move forward with final design with around a 180-day turnaround time frame. If Council provides Staff with direction to proceed with the bid award, Staff will go out for competent contractors and then return to Council again with the selected contractor which will give Council another opportunity to provide Staff with direction on how to proceed. Once the City is provided a bid by the contractor, that will be the highest-level construction cost confidence.

Councilor Clark-Endicott moved, seconded by Councilor Patrick, to authorize the City Manager to amend the contract with Anderson Perry & Associates Inc. in the amount of \$5,911,670 to provide engineering services for the final design and construction management for the Redmond Wetlands Complex project. Motion passed. (Clark-Endicott-yes, Endicott-yes, Evelyn-yes, Fitch-yes, Patrick-yes, Wedding-absent, Zwicker-yes)

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Endicott explained that the Council called up a hearing on the Cottages on Helmholtz decision. The Council intends for its decision to be made de novo, so there will be a full hearing on the project. Mayor Endicott reported on an open house ceremony at BASX.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

A. Councilor Fitch's Written Comments

This item was discussed at the conclusion of presentation by Sergeant Garibay.

Councilor Clark-Endicott reported on the National League of Cities' Risk Information Sharing Consortium (RISC) conference she recently attended as a board member for CityCounty Insurance Services.

Councilor Evelyn reported that Arome is now open in downtown. He found it to be a beautiful shop and encouraged people to shop there and spend their money locally. He added many other businesses are opening up as well. Forever Sunshine has expanded and now has the Shalom Coffee Shop.

Councilor Fitch shared that over time he has learned that when ideology trumps common sense, bad decisions tend to follow.

Councilor Patrick announced that he is running for Mayor. He invited anyone with questions or suggestions on city operations to contact him. He hopes his years on Council have shown how much he cares for the city and wants to see it succeed. He asked everyone to keep the Uvalde, Texas, grade school, all of the families, and the community in their thoughts and prayers.

Councilor Zwicker echoed Councilor Patrick with heartfelt prayers and concerns. She thanked Pastor Russell and Rogue Retreat for the opportunity to participate in their poverty simulation this last week. It

gave her a whole new insight and level of understanding as to how simple it is, especially in today's economy, to be homeless when something goes awry.

CITY MANAGER COMMENTS

City Manager Keith Witcosky reported Local Paws opened on 4th Street and Evergreen Avenue. He shared that Transportation Division employees Preston Romanik and Hank West bravely responded to a fire while working in the vicinity of 16th Street and Newberry Avenue. Seeing smoke, they drove towards the location and saw a panic-stricken mother with her two small children. Mr. Romanik and Mr. West ran to the backyard where a storage shed was on fire. They grabbed garden hoses and put the fire out before it was fully engulfed, thus saving the shed from burning to the ground. The fire department arrived shortly thereafter and took care of the cleanup. The ODOT grant was submitted per the discussion last week for \$110 million to help go toward some major transportation improvements. Mr. Witcosky shared information regarding upcoming Council meetings.

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 7:18 p.m.

Prepared by ABC Transcription Service and reviewed by Kelly Morse, City Recorder

APPROVED by the City Council and SIGNED by the Mayor this 12th day of July 2022.

/s/ George Endicott
George Endicott, Mayor

ATTEST:

/s/ Kelly Morse
Kelly Morse, City Recorder