

MINUTES  
Warrenton City Commission  
March 23, 2021  
6:00 p.m.  
Warrenton City Hall - Commission Chambers  
225 S. Main  
Warrenton, OR 97146

Mayor Balensifer called the meeting to order at 6:04 p.m. and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Balensifer, Tom Dyer, Gerald Poe, and Rick Newton

Excused: Commissioner Mark Baldwin

Staff Present: City Manager Linda Engbretson, City Recorder Dawne Shaw, Deputy City Recorder Rebecca Sprengeler, Police Chief Mathew Workman, and Public Works Director Collin Stelzig

Mayor Balensifer requested to add item 8-B to the agenda: Letter to the Board of Forestry. There were no objections.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Commission Meeting Minutes – 3.09.21
- B. Monthly Finance Report – February 2021
- C. Library Board Meeting Minutes – 12.11.20
- D. Library Director's Quarterly Report – March 2021
- E. Police Department Monthly Statistics – February 2021

Chief Workman noted an amendment to the Warrenton Police Department (WPD) statistics report: traffic stops were 107. He explained changes in calculations. Discussion followed on what the Commission would like to see reported. Chief Workman agreed an annual comparison of WPD stats and total call volume in the City would be do-able. Mayor Balensifer asked about elk calls. Chief Workman noted he would have to go back and review. Discussion continued. Mayor Balensifer would like to see more efforts to track elk events.

Commissioner Newton gave a report on the Monthly Finance Report figures, noting he spoke with Finance Director April Clark and reviewed several areas of the budget. He commended Kelsey Balensifer for pursuing education as the Library Board chair. He spoke briefly about approval for the plant at the airport.

**Commissioner Dyer made the motion to approve the consent calendar as amended. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Newton – aye; Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye**

### COMMISSIONER REPORTS

After reading a Proclamation, Mayor Balensifer declared the month of April 2021 as Child Abuse Prevention Month. Nakesha Womble from Clatsop CASA Program thanked the City for the proclamation and made brief comments. Commissioner Newton commented on the effects of child abuse.

Mayor Balensifer made comments on the benefits of the Library and noted an additional Proclamation for the week of April 4 – 10, 2021 as National Library Week. Commissioner Poe shared a story of the old Hammond Library.

Mayor Balensifer noted a complaint involving the North Coast Crisis Respite Center (NCCRC). He introduced Amy Baker (on Zoom). Ms. Baker gave information on the NCCRC and explained the situation. Chief Workman noted the statistics on the calls regarding the NCCRC.

Mayor Balensifer asked Commissioner Poe if he would like to attend the Lower Columbia Tourism Committee (LCTC) meetings as the City Representative. Commissioner Poe agreed.

Commissioner Dyer gave kudos to Warrenton Police Department regarding the recent car accident his daughter was in. They did a wonderful job.

Commissioner Newton noted the sign across the street at the Heritage Museum and gave a brief update. He noted an upcoming grant-writing class.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PUBLIC HEARING – None

### BUSINESS ITEMS

City Manager Linda Engbretson discussed the Fort Stevens Military Cemetery Road Deed. The Army and General Services Administration is surplusing a portion of the Fort Stevens Military Cemetery Road. Mayor Balensifer voiced concerns about accepting the gravel road and possibly having to pave it. Brief discussion followed. Ms. Engbretson noted it currently falls under the City's gravel road policy. There were no objections provided it does not have to be paved.

**Commissioner Newton made the motion to authorize the Mayor's signature on the Quitclaim Deed for the Cemetery Road. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Newton – aye; Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye**

Mayor Balensifer explained the letter to the Board of Forestry regarding the Habitat Conservation Plan and noted his concerns. Discussion followed.

### MINUTES

Warrenton City Commission

Regular Meeting – 3.23.21

Page: 2

**Commissioner Newton made the motion to authorize the Mayor's signature on the letter to the Board of Forestry. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.**

**Newton – aye; Balensifer – aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye**

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Newton discussed improvements to the volunteer firefighter roster. He also discussed vaccine sign-up, the Friends of the Warrenton Community Library board bylaws, and gave a reminder of upcoming community events.

Commissioner Dyer met a couple of Pacific Coast Seafoods workers, who commented on how welcoming Warrentonians are. He noted they were very pleasant and respectable individuals.

Ms. Engbretson gave a quick update on water and utility shutoffs. There were 28 shutoffs. Staff worked very hard on this. As of today, all but 10 were back on. Things went smoothly. Commissioner Dyer noted he received a water leak notice and complimented the City on their quick notification of the leak.

Commissioner Newton commented on SB330 regarding rent moratoriums. There was brief discussion.

Mayor Balensifer asked what a normal amount of water shutoffs is. Ms. Engbretson said 10-20. Mayor Balensifer noted he heard about positive experiences with staff and credited it to the City Manager's leadership. He said he has noticed an air of gratitude in the city; an uptick of people going out of their way to be grateful. He also gave a report on the Governor's Collaborative for Clatsop Plains related to elk. It is expanding into Eastern Oregon.

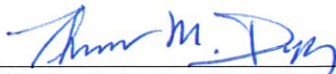
There being no further business, Mayor Balensifer adjourned the regular meeting at 6:50 p.m.

Respectfully prepared and submitted by Rebecca Sprengeler, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

  
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Dawne Shaw, CMC, City Recorder

APPROVED:

  
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Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor  
*Thomas Dyer, Mayor Pro Tem*