

MINUTES
Warrenton City Commission
Work Session – November 23, 2021
5:00 p.m.
Warrenton City Hall - Commission Chambers
225 S. Main
Warrenton, OR 97146

Mayor Balensifer called the work session to order at 5:00 p.m.

City Commissioners Present: Mayor Henry Balensifer, Tom Dyer, Mark Baldwin, Rick Newton, and Gerald Poe

Staff Present: City Manager Linda Engbretson, Finance Director April Clark, Public Works Director Collin Stelzig, Public Works Operations Manager Kyle Sharpsteen, Planning Director Scott Hazelton, Police Chief Mathew Workman, and City Recorder Dawne Shaw

Finance Director April Clark reviewed a presentation that explained the American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) including figures for the distribution of the funds, details about the City of Warrenton's funds, deadline for expenditures, an outline of prohibited uses, and details about permitted uses for the funds. Appropriate uses include responding to the public health emergency and its economic impacts, providing premium pay to eligible workers, recovering lost revenue, and investing in water, wastewater, or broadband infrastructure. Ms. Clark explained each category further. It was noted staff does not recommend using funds for payroll of personnel dedicated to COVID response. It was noted the city is responsible for tracking the use of funds by subrecipients. Discussion followed about premium pay; Ms. Clark noted restrictions. Discussion continued. Ms. Engbretson noted staff does not want to spend time and money on lost revenue calculations. Discussion followed. Staff recommended the funds be used to focus on infrastructure. Ms. Clark noted the whatever the commission decides will be vetted by legal. Public Works Director Collin Stelzig reviewed the list of recommended water and sewer projects outlined in the presentation. He noted the bolded projects are the most likely to meet the criteria for the funds. He recommended the Ridge Road water main project. Brief discussion followed about project details.

Mayor Balensifer feels sewer is an urgent need. Mr. Stelzig agreed and discussed the list of sewer projects. Discussion continued on water mains and advanced financing districts. Discussion followed about stormwater and sewer. The general consensus was to consider stormwater projects if possible. The commission is supportive of using the funds for infrastructure. Mayor Balensifer would like to see the funding allocation for each project when they do the prioritization.

Brief discussion followed on the status of the 7th and N Main sewer and road project. Commissioner Newton noted it is difficult to collect money from the federal government. Mr.

Stelzig discussed concerns about pipe shortages with the pending influx of water and sewer projects. There was brief discussion.

There being no further business, Mayor Balensifer adjourned the work session at 5:38 p.m.

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

APPROVED:


Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor

ATTEST:


Dawne Shaw, CMC, City Recorder