

MINUTES
Warrenton City Commission
January 10, 2023
6:00 p.m.
Warrenton City Hall - Commission Chambers
225 S. Main
Warrenton, OR 97146

Mayor Balensifer called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and led the public in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioners Present: Mayor Henry Balensifer, Mark Baldwin, Tom Dyer, Gerald Poe, and Paul Mitchell

Staff Present: City Manager Esther Moberg, Police Chief Mathew Workman, Fire Chef Brian Alsbury, Interim Public Works Director Kyle Sharpsteen, Planning Director Jay Blake, Finance Director April Clark, Public Works Utility Worker Jim McCarthy, Public Works Utility Worker Mike Ulness, and City Recorder Dawne Shaw

OATHS OF OFFICE

Henry Balensifer was sworn into office for Mayor and Paul Mitchell was sworn into office for City Commissioner, Position No. 4; by City Recorder, Dawne Shaw.

SELECTION OF MAYOR PRO TEM

Per City Charter, the Mayor Pro Tem is selected by ballot by the Commission at its first meeting each calendar year. Commissioner Baldwin stated he would like to serve as Pro Tem for one more year.

City Recorder Dawne Shaw collected the cast ballots and read them aloud:

Commissioner Poe voted for Commissioner Baldwin
Commissioner Baldwin voted for Commissioner Baldwin
Mayor Balensifer voted for Commissioner Baldwin
Commissioner Mitchell voted for Commissioner Poe
Commissioner Dyer voted for Commissioner Baldwin

By majority vote, Commissioner Baldwin was elected Mayor Pro Tem for the calendar year 2023.

Mayor Balensifer noted public comments received by email in regard to the Fowler/Big Game Fishing lease. City Recorder Shaw noted that twenty emails were received, and read the names as follows: Jonathan Berkompas, Beverly Zapffe, Caleb Vineyard, Roger Rolan, Michael Niece, Antionette Rehnert, Roger Newton, John Jagosh, Jesse Vassar, Rick Armstrong, Peter Stutheit, Corey Larner, Mike Halicki, Nathan Farmer, Madeleine Starks, Brian Liebert, Jack Vondeling, Sara Rehnert, Victoria Rehnert, and Butch Fielder.

Mayor Balensifer also noted a correction to the motion for Business Item 9-C.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Commission Meeting Minutes – 12.13.22
- B. Building Department Quarterly Report – Oct. – Dec. 2022
- C. Warrenton Community Library Board Meeting Minutes – 9.14.22

D. Monthly Finance Report – November 2022

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to approve the consent calendar as presented with the amended minutes. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Mayor Balensifer noted that if there are any boards that the commissioners would want to be on or would like to step down from to let him know, that this will be on next meetings agenda.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Via Zoom – Edward Chin spoke in support of the Big Game Fishing lease. He noted that without a bait business in the Hammond Marina his business would suffer greatly.

Via Zoom – Gordy Webster also spoke in support of the Big Game Fishing lease. He also wanted to make the commission aware of how vital it is to his business that there is a bait shop in the Hammond Marina, and how there not being one will affect not only business but the community as well.

Jim Fowler spoke in regard to a letter he received from the city noting the intent to not extend their lease. He noted all the work they have put into the business and community, and he believes that their business can grow and become better. He stated that he and his wife are true Warrenton community members.

Tony Faletti thanked Public Works, Police Department and Fire Department for all their work during the last few storms. He also noted concerns of the erosion at Seafarer’s Park.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

City Manager Esther Moberg presented her staff report explaining the process to move forward with transferring the Head Start building to Community Action Team of Columbia County. There being no questions for staff, Mayor Balensifer asked for a motion.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2638, a Resolution Declaring Certain Property to Have No Real Market Value. Motion was seconded.

City Recorder Dawne Shaw noted a point of order and informed Mayor Balensifer that he needed to open the public comment period for this hearing, because it is a public hearing. Mayor Balensifer apologized, and declared Commissioner Dyer’s motion out of order, which made the motion null and void.

Mayor Balensifer opened the public hearing on Resolution No. 2638; Declaring Certain Property to Have No Real Market Value. Formalities followed. No conflicts of interest or exparte contacts were reported. City Manager Esther Moberg noted that the staff report is in the record. No one spoke in favor or opposition to the Resolution. There being no further comments or discussion, Mayor Balensifer closed the hearing.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2638, a Resolution Declaring Certain Property to Have No Real Market Value. Motion was seconded.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

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Mayor Balensifer opened the public hearing on Ordinance 1260; Renaming a Portion of SE 19th Street in Section 27 of the City of Warrenton. Formalities followed. No conflicts of interest or ex parte contacts were reported. Planning Director Jay Blake presented his staff report, noting the updated name, per commission consensus. No one spoke in favor or opposition to the Ordinance. There being no further comments or discussion, Mayor Balensifer closed the hearing. Mayor Balensifer asked for clarification on other streets naming's that have the same scenario as the to be Ironwood St. Mr. Blake responded with, he is aware of these streets and is looking into them. Discussion continued.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to conduct the first reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 1260; Renaming a Portion of SE 19th Street in Section 27 of the City of Warrenton. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Mayor Balensifer conducted the first reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 1260.

BUSINESS ITEMS

Ms. Moberg discussed a Field Use Agreement with Warrenton Kids Inc. (WKI) for use of the ballfields at Quincy Robinson Park. It was noted that WKI has reviewed the agreement.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to approve the Warrenton Kids Inc. agreement for use of the City ball fields. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Mayor Balensifer noted several resolutions authorizing appointments and setting terms of office to various advisory boards.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2633; Authorizing Appointments to Fill Positions on the Warrenton Community Center Advisory Board and Setting Terms of Office. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2634; Authorizing Appointments to Fill Positions on the Warrenton Marinas Advisory Committee and Setting Terms of Office. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2635; Authorizing Appointments to Fill Positions on the Warrenton Parks Advisory Board Warrenton Planning Commission and Setting Terms of Office. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt Resolution No. 2636; Authorizing Appointments to Fill Positions on the Warrenton Planning Commission and Setting Terms of Office.” Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

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Interim Public Works Director Kyle Sharpsteen presented Resolution No. 2637; Adopting Construction Review fees; Establishing February 24, 2023, as the Effective Date. Mayor Balensifer noted this is Mr. Sharpsteen's last meeting as a city employee. Commissioner Baldwin asked for clarification on the fees; Mr. Sharpsteen clarified these fees are for public works projects.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to conduct the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2637; Adopting Construction Review fees; Establishing February 24, 2023, as the Effective Date. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

Baldwin – aye; Balensifer - aye; Dyer – aye; Poe – aye; Mitchell – aye

Mayor Balensifer conducted the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2637.

Mayor Balensifer stated he was sad to see Mr. Sharpsteen go but will look forward to seeing him at the fairgrounds.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Mayor Balensifer gave an update from the January 6, 2023, Work Session regarding City Land and Building Inventory, and the future needs of the city. He noted this agenda item was set by the Commission last year. He summarized the work session discussion. Ms. Moberg noted her understanding of the direction going forward and is making an action plan. Mayor Balensifer also noted about having standardized clauses that are clear in any new leases.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Dyer is looking forward to having a good, productive year.

Commissioner Mitchell is looking forward to serving his new term.

City Manager Moberg gave comments regarding the departing of Mr. Sharpsteen. She also noted the work session input from police and fire about future departments that will come back as a work session in a year from now.

Mayor Balensifer spoke in regard to Tony Faletti's comment and noted his concerns at the Hammond marina. He also noted the great job Public Works did dealing with the recent storms/heavy rains. Commissioner Baldwin also noted the awesome job Public Works, Police Department and Fire Department has done as well.

There being no further business, Mayor Balensifer adjourned the meeting at 6:42 p.m.

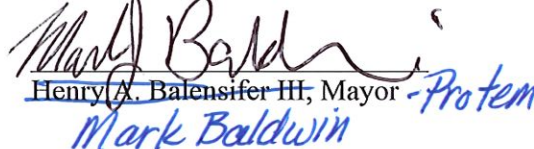
Respectfully prepared and submitted by Brittney Johnson, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:



Dawne Shaw, CMC, City Recorder

APPROVED:



Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor -Protem
Mark Baldwin

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