

MINUTES
Warrenton City Commission
March 14, 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 Chief Brian Alsbury, Interim Public Works Director Greg Shafer, Public Works Operations Manager Jim McCarthy, Finance Director April Clark, Water Treatment Facility Operator Mike Ulness, and City Recorder Dawne Shaw

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Commission Meeting Minutes – 2.28.23
- B. Monthly Finance Report – January 2023

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

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Baldwin met with the cub scout group last week, and it went great. He noted the cub scouts had a lot of questions regarding Camp Rilea.

Mayor Balensifer noted that the final elk collaborative meeting is on 3/23 at Camp Rilea at noon. This is going to be a meeting were all the project partners will meet and assign project management from PSU, Oregon Solutions and CREST.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Bert Little, representing VFW Post and Auxiliary 10580, spoke in regard to concerns about the concession stand fees. He noted they have no problem with the \$100 fee but would like exclusive use during baseball/softball season, because of all of the inventory they keep in the concession stand. The concession stand is run by all volunteers and 00% of the profits go to veterans, active duty military and their families within our community. If the concession stands fees pass with the \$100 application fee and an additional percentage rate fee is passed, he would recommend the VFW to then stop using the concession stand.

PUBLIC HEARINGS – None

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

Ms. Moberg reviewed an addendum agreement update to the original Scoular/SDYB agreement regarding SDC fees for the Scoular plant project.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to accept the addendum to the original Scoular/SDYB agreement in acceptance of SDC fees for this project. This will reduce the amount of SDCs for water. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Ms. Moberg discussed a concession stand agreement and fees, for all concession stands operation in city property. She noted her proposed fees are to help with the maintaining cost of the building. Mayor Balensifer asked for details on a past work session with the Parks Board that noted the need to establish fees. Discussion continued. Mayor Balensifer noted he is not in favor of gross or net profit fees, as there is not a way to audit, but instead having a predictable up-front cost. There are still policy questions from the Parks Board meeting. Commissioner Dyer would like to see the figures of what it actually costs to keep the building up, Ms. Moberg responded. Discussion followed on building maintenance. Mayor Balensifer stated that they need to determine what is fair and equitable for all current and future concession stands. Commissioner Baldwin commented on past city history with volunteers and that he does not agree with charging them and wants to find an alternate funding source. Mayor Balensifer asked if he had a recommendation for a funding source. Discussion followed. Commissioner Mitchell's suggestion to cover fees was to gain sponsorships to raise revenue to cover the city costs of running the building. The mayor suggested the tenant go out and get sponsors. Commissioner Baldwin suggested the Parks Board should be responsible for finding sponsors. Commissioner Dyer noted that we need to reward volunteers not to hinder or harass them. Mayor Balensifer summarized the commissions comments and opinions. Commissioner Poe discussed waiving fees for nonprofits like they do for the Community Center. Discussion followed. The City Manager will bring back the costs for the building and policy; will continue discussion on who will be responsible for getting sponsorships.

Mayor Balensifer noted the goals set at their annual retreat and goal setting session on March 7, 2023. He reviewed the proposed goals and wording suggestions. Amendments were agreed upon.

Commissioner Baldwin made the motion to adopt the City Commission Goals for 2023-2025 as amended by the City Commission at the March 7th annual Commission goal setting retreat, and as attached. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

DISCUSSION ITEMS – None

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Dyer noted he liked the discussion on their differences for the concession stands.

Mayor Balensifer stated that DEQ is putting pinch on seafood processors for effluent. He also thanked the fire department for their professional and long response to the High Life fire. He also publicly condemned some disparaging remarks that were made on social media. He stated his support for the fire department.