

MINUTES
Warrenton City Commission
June 13, 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, Paul Mitchell, Tom Dyer, and Gerald Poe

Staff Present: City Manager Esther Moberg, Police Chief Mathew Workman, Public Works Director Greg Shafer, Acting Harbormaster Don Beck, Finance Director April Clark, Fire Chief Brian Alsbury, and City Recorder Dawne Shaw

Mayor Balensifer noted the Constituent Report, dated June 12, 2023, regarding tax lot 81022CB06300 and the Galena neighborhood suggestion to hold off on selling it. He asked if a commissioner wishes to put it on the agenda or to make a motion to that effect. The commission did not choose to take action and the report will be entered into the record and ceases for lack of action.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. City Commission Meeting Minutes – 5.23.23
- B. Monthly Finance Report – April 2023
- C. OLCC License Application – Chipotle Mexican Grill

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

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

COMMISSIONER REPORTS

Commissioner Baldwin spoke about the Oregon Department of Forestry Habitat Conservation Plan meeting. He noted there were four options, and they chose option three, which will harm our county and schools the most. He briefly reviewed the different options, and the meeting/voting process that took place. He stated with the chosen option, 56% of Oregon's timber lands are for recreation, and not the timber industry which will greatly impact our community.

City Manager Esther Moberg noted the work session presentation by Portland State University students and the boat tour that Mike Balensifer took them on this afternoon. She mentioned the Parks Advisory Board and their upcoming Cornhole Tournament on August 19th.

Mayor Balensifer attended the FEMA ESA (Endangered Species Act) Impacts briefing and also the public forum that followed. He explained the impacts of the FEMA ESA Impact Biop and encouraged everyone to pay particular attention to this, as it affects flood insurance and could be quite severe. He summarized the various restrictions and impacts it will have. He noted he will be asking the commission to rejoin into the lawsuit when the time comes. Brief discussion continued.

PUBLIC COMMENT – None

PUBLIC HEARINGS - None

BUSINESS ITEMS

Police Chief Mathew Workman presented Ordinance No. 1265 for its second reading and adoption. Mayor Balensifer noted his previously emailed comments about the camping code amendments and asked for clarification on several sections of the ordinance. Chief Workman responded to his concerns and comments. After discussion on Section 12.28.030 - B.1, it was noted that pending legal opinion, ‘back yard’ would be defined in the policy; and that a ‘good neighbor’ policy will be outlined in the policy, and on the back of the permit as well. Discussion and review of the Mayor’s comments continued. Ms. Moberg stated a policy for a camp location is being discussed, and she will bring an update to the commission within the next 30 days. Chief Workman confirmed the concerns will be addressed in the policy, and the rules will be listed on the back of the issued permit.

Commissioner Mitchell made the motion to conduct the second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 1265, amending the various sections of the City of Warrenton Municipal Code Chapter 12.28 as stated. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Balensifer conducted the second reading, by title only, of Ordinance No. 1265.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to adopt Ordinance No. 1265. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

City Manager Esther Moberg noted the rate increase instituted by Recology Western Oregon. Recology General Manager Chris Carey spoke in regard to the recycling collection services and the rates. Commissioner Baldwin asked about the voucher expiration dates. Discussion continued on the vouchers, and it was noted staff will look at the date range and will revisit the two voucher system – 1 per 6 months.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to conduct the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2648; Adopting and Setting New Rates for Residential Recycling Services; Establishing July 1, 2023, as the effective date; and repealing all resolutions in conflict. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Balensifer conducted the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2648.

Public Works Director Greg Shafer discussed a 4% rate increase for sewer rates, as outlined in Resolution No. 2650. He noted this increase was reviewed and approved by the Budget Committee. Mayor Balensifer noted 4% does not keep up with inflation or the cost for a sewer plant and asked the commission’s opinion if the rate should be increased more than 4%. Commissioner Baldwin noted his opinion on the sewer treatment plant; brief discussion continued. Commissioner Baldwin requested staff to bring back how the varied rates were assessed.

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Commissioner Dyer made the motion to conduct the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2650; Adopting Sewer Department Monthly Rates, Establishing July 1, 2023, as the effective date; and repealing all resolutions in conflict. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Balensifer conducted the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2650.

Mr. Shafer presented Resolution No. 2651, authorizing a 4% increase in water rates. He noted this was also reviewed and approved by the Budget Committee. Mayor Balensifer noted other jurisdictions that buy water from Warrenton and have not kept up with their rate increases. Brief discussion followed on infrastructure and out of city water rates.

Commissioner Dyer made the motion to conduct the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2651; Adopting Water Department Rates and Fees, Establishing July 1, 2023, as the effective date; and repealing all resolutions in conflict. Motion was seconded and passed unanimously.

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

Mayor Balensifer conducted the first reading, by title only, of Resolution No. 2651.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Police Chief Workman discussed revisions to the RV ordinance and noted this ordinance addresses RVs on private property. He stated legal counsel has reviewed the amendments. Chief Workman noted the current RV issues and violations in the city and reviewed the amendments as outlined in the agenda item. Brief discussion followed the time length for the temporary parking permits, and there was consensus on 3 & 7 days – not 14/30. Discussion continued on the permit, fees and fines, and the possibility of an online permit form. There was consensus that the permitted time length should not exceed a total of 14 out of 60 days, and not the 3-7 days as previously discussed. There was also consensus to not charge a permit fee; the fines should be as follows: failure to permit or violating the terms of the issued permit - up to \$300/a day; over two recreational vehicles on a site - \$500/a day; illegal dumping fine - \$1000/a day plus any additional costs incurred by the city. Chief Workman stated that after legal review, he will bring the amended ordinance back for adoption.

GOOD OF THE ORDER

Commissioner Poe requested to continue the Galena property issue to next meeting; Mayor Balensifer noted the commission decided to take no action, but he may bring it up any time he wants.

There being no further business, Mayor Balensifer adjourned the meeting at 8:05 p.m.

ATTEST:



Dawne Shaw, CMC, City Recorder

APPROVED:


Henry A. Balensifer III, Mayor

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