

ASHLAND CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING DRAFT MINUTES

Tuesday, May 18, 2021

Held Electronically; View on Channel 9 or Channels 180 and 181 (Charter Communications) or live stream via rvtv.sou.edu select RVTV Prime.

Written and oral testimony will be accepted for public input. For written testimony, email public-testimony@ashland.or.us using the subject line: May 18 Business Meeting Testimony.

For oral testimony, fill out a Speaker Request Form at ashland.or.us/speakerrequest and return it to the City Recorder. The deadline for submitting written testimony or speaker request forms will be on Monday, May 17 at 10 a.m. and must comply with Council Rules to be accepted.

Note: Items on the Agenda not considered due to time constraints are automatically continued to the next regularly scheduled Council meeting [AMC 2.04.030.E.]

6:00 PM REGULAR BUSINESS MEETING

I. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Akins called the Business Meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

II. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Councilor Jensen led the Pledge of Allegiance.

III. ROLL CALL

Councilors' Graham, Moran, DuQuenne, Seffinger, Hyatt and Jensen were present.

IV. MAYOR'S ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mayor Akins read a statement regarding land acknowledgment.

V. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Study Session of May 3, 2021

DuQuenne/Moran moved to approve the Minutes. Discussion: None. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

DuQuenne/Moran moved to request for reconsideration for the motion that was made delaying the City Managers position. Discussion: DuQuenne spoke that she would like Council to move forward with the information already in place and giving constituents what they wanted with the new form of government. City Attorney David Lohman explained that this is a new agenda item that hasn't been added and a motion needs to be made to add to the Agenda Item.

Roll Call Vote to add to the Agenda reconsideration to the motion made regarding delaying the City Manager Position: Hyatt, Jensen, DuQuenne, Graham and Moran: YES.

Seffinger NO. Motion passed 5-1. Mayor Akins spoke that this would be added under New and Miscellaneous Business.

Graham/Hyatt moved to approve adding discussion under New and Miscellaneous Business regarding SB 762 relating to Wildfire and to send a letter of support to Senator Golden's office. Discussion: None. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

VI. SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS & AWARDS

1. Fiscal Year 2020 Single Audit or Report on Federal Programs

Finance Director Melanie Purcell introduced Moss Adams Partner Amanda McCleary-Moore. McCleary-Moore gave a Staff report.

2. Fiscal Year Third Quarter Financial Update

Moran/Graham moved to accept FY2021 Third Quarter Financial Update as presented. Discussion: None. Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

3. Police Annual Report to Council (Formerly Use of Force Report)
Police Chief O'Meara gave a Staff report.

Public Input:

Emily Simon – Ashland – Thanked Council and Chief O'Meara for all of the work done. She spoke regarding the STOP data. She spoke that she has submitted documents that describe efforts that should be done to make sure that the demographics and number of "Stops" are not out of proportion of the entire Ashland Community. She also spoke to the importance of community training.

4. Discussion on Continuing the COVID-19 Emergency Declaration

Interim City Manager Adam Hanks gave a brief Staff report.

Graham/Jensen moved to approve the proposed Declaration of Emergency Extension through July 6th, 2021. Discussion: None. All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.

VII. MINUTES OF BOARDS, COMMISSIONS, AND COMMITTEES

Airport	Budget	Conservation
Historic	Housing and Human Svcs.	Parks & Recreation
Forest Lands	Climate Policy	Cost Review
Planning	Public Arts	Transportation
Tree	Wildfire Mitigation	

VIII. PUBLIC FORUM

Business from the audience not included on the agenda. The Mayor will set time limits to enable all people wishing to speak to complete their testimony. [15 minutes maximum]

See note above for how to submit testimony for Public Forum.

IX. CITY MANAGER REPORT

Hanks went over the City Manager Report

X. CONSENT AGENDA

1. Appointments to the Social Equity and Racial Justice Commission

Council gave consensus to move this item to the first meeting in June in order to give Council more time to review applications.

2. Appointment of Dale Shostrom to the Historic Commission

Hyatt/Jensen moved to approve the appointment of Dale Shostrom to the Historic Commission with a term expiring April 30, 2024. Discussion: Jensen spoke in support of Shostrom. **Voice Vote: All Ayes. Motion passed unanimously.**

XI. PUBLIC HEARINGS

Persons wishing to speak are to submit a “speaker request form” prior to the commencement of the public hearing. Public hearings conclude at 8:00 p.m. and are continued to a future date to be set by the Council, unless the Council, by a two-thirds vote of those present, extends the hearing(s) until up to 9:30 p.m. at which time the Council shall set a date for continuance and shall proceed with the balance of the agenda.

XII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. Community Center and Pioneer Hall Update

Hanks gave a brief Staff report and introduced Public Works Director Scott Fleury. Fleury gave a brief Staff report.

Public Comment:

George Kramer – Ashland – Spoke regarding re-opening the buildings. He spoke that the committee spoke and suggested that there is something that could be done cost effectively to re-open the buildings. He suggested to create an Ad-Hoc Committee to help the City to find solutions to these issues.

Council discussed options and suggested creating and Ad-Hoc Committee.

Seffinger/Moran moved to develop a community group to the creation of an Ad-Hoc Committee to review existing reports and other work to date; evaluate the buildings provide feedback and recommendations to the Council for desired next steps. Discussion: Seffinger spoke that it is important to get the community involved in a solution. Moran spoke in support of the motion. Graham spoke in support but spoke in concern of goals and scope. She spoke that she would like to amend the motion to include the provision that the Council will give a general scope and goals to the ad-hoc committee.

Graham/Moran moved to amend the existing motion to add the elements of Council providing Scope and Goals to the Ad-Hoc Committee. Discussion: Graham spoke that is what is fundamentally at the core may be a difference of goals. Important that Council decide on the goals of this project. Moran spoke that this project is based on listening to the continuants. He spoke that the better approach is to have the ad-hoc commission come back and bring back information. He spoke that it is important to get the buildings open at the most cost efficient way. Hanks clarified what Staff will do for a Committee scope/charge. Mayor Akins clarified that she would be appointing the members of Ad-Hoc and Staff would bring back the scope of the work.

Graham/Moran withdrew the amendment.

Roll Call Vote to the original motion: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen, Seffinger, Moran and DuQuenne: YES. Motion passed unanimously.

XIII. NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Item added to the agenda:

Reconsideration to delay the hiring process of the City Manager.

DuQuenne spoke that she would to move forward with the advertisement already put in place for the City Manager position.

Moran spoke that it is important to move the process forward to get a City Manager and the reasons why.

Graham gave a point of order to make a motion on this topic.

City Attorney Lohman clarified.

Council discussed the City Manager recruitment process.

DuQuenne/Moran moved to request reconsideration of the motion made in the previous meeting May 13th delaying the City Managers position and to move forward. Discussion:

DuQuenne spoke that this was already voted in by our constituents and would like to move forward. Council and Staff discussed processes to move forward. **Roll Call Vote: Jensen, Seffinger, Graham and Hyatt: NO. DuQuenne and Moran: YES. Motion fails 4-2.**

1. Acquisition of Lot 100, a One-Acre Parcel for and Addition to the East Main Park

Parks and Recreation Director Michael Black gave a Staff report.

Jensen/Hyatt moved to approve the acquisition of the lot known as tax lot 100 for the price of \$100,000 as described in the Council Communication. Discussion: Jensen spoke in support of the motion. Hand raised motion: 5-1. Motion passed.

Jensen asked for a roll call vote. Request was denied.

2. Award of a Professional Services Contract: Dam Safety Improvement Project Final Engineering

Hanks introduced Public Works Director Scott Fleury. Fleury gave a Staff report.

Graham/Seffinger moved to approve a professional services contract with the attached scope of services with GEI Consultants for final engineering of dam safety improvements in the amount of \$698,718. Discussion: Graham spoke to the importance of maintaining the city's infrastructure. Seffinger spoke in agreement with Graham. Jensen thanked Staff. **Roll Call Vote: Graham, Seffinger, Jensen, Moran, DuQuenne and Hyatt: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND CONTRACTS

3. Approval of a Reimbursement Resolution No. 2021-04 for Capital Improvement Projects for the 2021-23 Budget Biennium.

Hanks gave a brief Staff report and introduced Finance Director Melanie Purcell.

Purcell gave a Staff report.

Jensen/Hyatt moved to approve the Reimbursement Resolution No. 2021-04. Discussion: Hyatt spoke in appreciation of the Staff discussion. Seffinger spoke that she was uncertain about this motion and appreciated Hyatt's explanation. **Roll Call Vote: Graham, Hyatt, Jensen and Seffinger: YES. DuQuenne and Moran: NO. Motion passed 4-2.**

Jensen requested to verify the motion regarding to approve the acquisition of the lot known as tax lot 100 for the price of \$100,000 as described in the Council Communication. It was confirmed: Jensen, Hyatt, Seffinger and Graham: YES. Moran and DuQuenne: NO. Motion passed 4-2.

4. First Reading of Wildfire Mitigation Construction Standards Code (R-327)

Community Development Director Bill Molnar introduced Fire Chief Ralph and both gave a Staff report.

Graham/Hyatt moved to approve first reading of an ordinance titled, "An ordinance amending chapter 15.04, Buildings and Construction, of the Ashland Municipal Code to acknowledge current versions of State building codes, and to locally adopt by ordinance construction standards for wildfire hazard mitigation set forth in section 327.4 of the Oregon Residential Specialty Code (ORSC)". Discussion: Graham thanked Chief and Staff for their work and spoke to the importance of this item. Hyatt spoke in agreement with Graham. Jensen thanked the Wildfire Safety Commission for their work. Seffinger echoed Jensen. **Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Jensen, DuQuenne, Moran and Seffinger: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

Council and Staff discussed the status of evacuation plan updates.

5. Second Reading of an Ordinance relating to Chronic Nuisance Properties; Amending AMC 9.18.020

Hanks gave a brief Staff report and introduced Assistant City Attorney Katrina Brown. Brown gave a brief Staff report.

Jensen /DuQuenne moved to approve Second Reading of Ordinance No. 3196 for enactment. Discussion: None. **Roll Call Vote: Jensen, DuQuenne, Seffinger, Graham, Hyatt and Moran: YES. Motion passed unanimously.**

XIV. OTHER BUSINESS FROM COUNCIL MEMBERS/REPORTS FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

Graham gave an update on Senate Bill 762.

Graham/Seffinger moved that the Ashland City Council support SB 762 and to direct Staff to communicate that support to Senator Golden's office. Discussion: None. Roll Call Vote: Hyatt, Graham, Moran, DuQuenne, Jensen and Seffinger: YES. Motion passed unanimously.

XV. ADJOURNMENT OF BUSINESS MEETING

The Council Business Meeting was adjourned at 9:23 PM.

Respectfully submitted by:

City Recorder Melissa Huhtala

Attest:

Mayor Akins

In compliance with the Americans with Disabilities Act, if you need special assistance to participate in this meeting, please contact the City Manager's office at (541) 488-6002 (TTY phone number 1-800-735-2900). Notification 72 hours prior to the meeting will enable the City to make reasonable arrangements to ensure accessibility to the meeting (28 CFR 35.102-35.104 ADA Title I).