

City of Prairie City  
**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
October 8, 2014

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Attended: Gary Waterhouse, Mayor  
Carole Garrison, Councilor  
Les Church, Councilor  
Georgia Patterson, Councilor  
Viola Rose, Councilor  
Henry Goslin, Councilor  
Taci Philbrook, City Recorder  
Kathy Smith, Museum Director  
Bob Miller  
Mike Springer, Benchmark Land Surveying, Inc.  
Chris Camarena, Public Works Director  
Judy Jacobs  
Jim Jacobs  
Dianne Lesniak

The Mayor called the meeting to order at 6:00pm and announced the meeting was being recorded. The Pledge of Allegiance was recited and roll call taken. Councilor Dahlen unexcused absence (told councilor Rose he had a migraine.)

The Minutes of September 10, 2014 were considered for approval. **MSP: To accept minutes as they are. Councilor Garrison / Councilor Church. All Members in favor.**

The Mayor recognized visitors:

Mr. Fields from the Art Club could not make it to the meeting so the Mayor went on to explain the Fund Raiser. The Art Club is raising funds for a field trip out of town, by collection cans and bottles for recycling. Councilor Garrison stated it would have been better had the person who requested to be on the agenda actually attended the Council meeting. **MSP: To allow the Art Club to station their trailer for cans and bottles next to City Hall. Councilor Church / Councilor Patterson. All in Favor.**

Next on the Visitors/Agenda was Dianne Lesniak: Dianne outlined the 150<sup>th</sup>

41. Birthday celebration for Grant County to be held at Canyon City October 19<sup>th</sup>  
42. 11am-2-pm. There will be a potluck in the park and a history walk. Dianne says  
43. GPCCA is going to do something on the Sumpter Valley Railroad. She would like  
44. to see Prairie City participate and hoped that a Council member would work with  
45. her doing something to represent Prairie City. Noone volunteered when the  
46. Mayor asked. Councilor Garrison suggested Dianne work with the Museum  
47. Director.

48. Dianne went on to discuss her second item on her request, to have a volunteer  
49. from the Council to work with her to build Prairie City's representation of the  
50. Native American population and the early Indian Wars which contributed to  
51. Prairie City's (Dixie Town) settlement. She spoke of monuments to honor troops  
52. through out the USA. And how Oregon volunteers enlisted to fight the Indian  
53. Wars in Eastern Oregon. She would like to involve Prairie City and use Camp  
54. Logan to represent this part of history. Again she asked for a Liaison between her  
55. and the City Council to accomplish this. No one volunteered and no one was  
56. appointed. Then Dianne brought up her idea of a little building, or Kiosk to be  
57. used as an outdoor interpretive center at Depot Park depicting the Indian Wars.  
58. Dianne has been in touch with relatives of soldiers and they have some artifacts  
59. "we" could use. Dianne suggested getting a small storage building from Home  
60. Depot to modify for an indoor exhibit. She is willing to write grants for funding.  
61. Dianne then questioned if there was a committee that decides what goes into the  
62. museum?

63. The Mayor explained those decisions were left up to the Museum Director, Kathy  
64. Smith. Kathy explained there was no room in the museum for any more exhibits.  
65. Councilor Garrison explained to Dianne that they couldn't commit unless they  
66. knew exactly what they were agreeing to. Dianne again asked for a Liaison from  
67. the Council. Then she went on again to explain the exhibit building could go in  
68. the first RV spot. At that point Councilor Garrison declared the Council wouldn't  
69. be opposed to such an idea, but the Council does not have sole authority over  
70. Depot Park. The Mayor suggested Dianne talk to Kathy Smith the Museum  
71. Director and Chris Camarena, the Public Works Director. The Mayor went as far  
72. as suggesting Dianne use Chris as a Liaison.  
73.

74. The Council then recognized the next visitor Jim Jacobs who had Mike Springer  
75. speak on his behalf. Mike explained this project originally started in 2009, but  
76. that the improvements did not happen. The Jacobs have come before the Council  
77. tonight to ask for permission to move forward (since so much time had elapsed  
78. since the first approved request). Now the Parcel sizes have changed. The  
79. Councilors looked at a map provided to them of the project. Mike pointed out  
80. even though the Parcel sizes had changed the overall concept is the same. It is  
81. still under the same zoning restrictions. The Council discussed the Ordinance that  
82. gives you 45 days to complete the project. Mike stated it was not enough time

83. due to different governing entities involvement so they are requesting a variance  
84. allowing them more time. Mike stated the County gives 2-4 years and that the  
85. City of John Day allows 1 year. **MSP: Motion to approve the Jacobs request to  
86. partition their property and to allow the Jacobs 90 days to provide the  
87. Council with the final map. Councilor Garrison / Councilor Rose. All in  
88. Favor.**

89. Jim Jacobs then asked to revisit the City installing Water & Sewer lines out to  
90. their property. Councilor Patterson suggested he speak to Chris because she  
91. thought the residents had to pay for the lines to meet up to the City line.  
92. Mr. Jacobs then asked if the City could pay for half of it? Councilor Patterson  
93. reiterated, the resident has had to pay in the past.

94.

95. While Mike Springer had the floor he asked the Council if he could speak about  
96. the Water Rights at Depot Park. Mike gave a brief history of the Water Rights  
97. application. (water is to be used to water Depot RV Park). He referred to a letter  
98. the Public Works Director received from Water Resources stating they do not like  
99. the existing well as the seal in the lining doesn't meet standards. The well is an  
100. artisan well and “they” are afraid it is going to percolate up and  
101. contaminate surface water. He stated Chris called them and asked if we  
102. could just take the seal out or use alternate well and start from scratch.  
103. They felt their were too many variables and that we needed to punch new  
104. well and seal up other well. There was some discussion about why it wasn't  
105. the correct seal or liner. Mike brought the conversation back to our options.  
106. He stated we could remove seal and casing and install a new one – no one  
107. knew the potential costs. Councilor Patterson reminded the Council the  
108. County paid for the last one and suggested the County be approached to  
109. pay again. Mike stated Chris and John Markell will be getting together to  
110. discuss it. Mike did say we will have to notify “them” how we want to go.  
111. Councilor Patterson suggested Mike let Water Resources know we are  
112. looking at costs. Councilor Garrison stated we need an “extension” to  
113. which Mike stated they are really good at giving as long as we are working  
114. on a solution.

115.

116. The mayor asked for reports:

117. **Economic Development-** Nothing

118.

119. **Museum:** See attached report

120.

121. **Public Safety:** no report

122.

123. **Landfill:** See attached reprot

124.

125. **Public Works Dept.:** See attached report

126.

127. **Payables:** Councilor Rose asked about the re-keying of the museum.

128. Kathy Smith reviewed the incident report (see attached) **MSP: To pay the**

129. **bills. Councilor Rose / Councilor Garrison. All in Favor.**

130.

131. **Other Business:**

132. The Mayor explained the RFP's from various Bond Counsels that we have  
133. received and let everyone know Jeremy will be reviewing the ones we have  
134. received. (see attached)

135.

136. The Mayor explained Measure 91. He gave the councilors the web address  
137. for the full measure. He also stated the City Recorder has printed versions  
138. of the full measure. The Mayor stressed we need to put into place an  
139. ordinance to receive taxes from the revenues if a business should open.  
140. And that the City needs to adopt it before the Measure passes so as to be  
141. grandfathered in. Both Councilor Rose and Church stated they were against  
142. any kind of tax. The Council agreed there should be a workshop on the 16<sup>th</sup>  
143. of November at the Public Works Dept bldg.

144.

145. Councilor Patterson gave a review of the Volunteer Appreciation Day  
146. saying it went really good. She had positive feedback, and was already  
147. receiving lots of ideas for next year. There were lots of donations, and just  
148. about every volunteer won a door prize. The volunteers appreciated their  
149. certificates and the food donated from Huffman's was really good.

150.

151. **At 7:35pm the Mayor adjourned the meeting.**

152.

153. Submitted by:

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156. \_\_\_\_\_  
Taci Philbrook, City Recorder

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161. Approved by the City Council this \_\_\_\_\_  
day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2014 and

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signed by the Mayor:

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\_\_\_\_\_  
Gary Waterhouse, Mayor