

City of Prairie City

Council Meeting

October 10, 2018

1. **Attendance**

2. Mayor Jim Hamsher
3. Councilor Carole Garrison
4. Councilor Joe Phippen
5. Councilor Frank Primozić
6. Councilor Georgia Patterson
- 7.

8. **Visitors**

9. Carlos Bortell
10. Luanne Bortell
11. Chantal DesJardin
12. Dan Becker
13. Frances preston
14. Sue Malaney
15. Marvin Rynearson, Fire Chief
16. Katy Nelson
17. Angie Jones, People Mover
18. Kathy Lewis
19. Trish Coburn

20.

21.

22. Mayor Hamsher opened the regular council meeting at 6:00p.m. and roll call was taken. Councilor Church
23. and Councilor Miller were absent.

24.

25. Mayor Hamsher asked to amend the agenda and add Angie Jones from the People Mover. **MSP: To amend
26. and add Angie Jones from the People Mover to the agenda. Councilor Primozić/Councilor
27. Patterson. All members voted in favor.**

28.

29. Mayor Hamsher prepared an update for the council and audience on all the projects the City has worked on
30. during the past year. Mayor Hamsher discussed the projects that were completed, and what the City is
31. working on currently. (Please see attachment for listed items)

32.

33. Mayor Hamsher moved on to discuss the Front Street Planters Committee. The City has received letters of
34. interest from members of the community who would like to be on the committee to take care
35. of the trees and plants along Front Street. The list includes: Raymond Fields, Judy Jacobs, Sandy and Mark
36. Murry, Wanda Winegar, Chris Camarena, Chantal DesJardin, Donna Becker, Frank Primozić and Carole
37. Garrison. A meeting was set for October 18, 2018 at 6pm located at the Public Works building.

38.

39. **Approval of Minutes**

40. The minutes of September 12, 2018 council meeting were considered. **MSP: To approve the minutes of
41. September 12, 2018 council meeting. Mayor Hamsher/Councilor Phippen. All members present
42. voted in favor. Councilor Patterson abstained from voting because she was absent.**

43.

44. **Visitors**

45. Mayor Hamsher called on Angie Jones from the People Mover who was there to discuss new options for
46. public transportation. She said that House Bill 2017 which is the employee payroll tax has allocated money

47. to use for public transportation. ODOT is estimating \$100,000 per year will be allocated for public
48. transportation for the next few years, and hopefully they will receive the first portion of that money in May
49. of 2019. One of the projects the People Mover is looking forward to is deviated fix routes in John day,
50. Canyon City, Mt. Vernon, and Prairie City. The John Day and Canyon City route will run approx. every 40
51. minutes. The Mt. Vernon and Prairie City routes will be added to the route, and run 3 to 4 times a day. The
52. routes will have bus stops located throughout the area. The buses will be able to deviate from the planned
53. routes to pick people up at their home who are unable to get to the bus stops. They would require at least a
54. 24-hour notice prior to pick up. After pick up the bus would return to its regular route. The service would
55. be free to everyone who rides the deviated fixed route. This would also allow the district to hire additional
56. staff and drivers for the increased demand. The buses will be making trips to Ontario with stops in Unity,
57. Brogan, Ironside, Jamison, and Vale and other communities along Highway 26. Dayville will have a bus
58. run weekly for those residents that cannot drive to do their shopping. Angie mentioned some seasonal
59. recreation shuttle services that would transport the public to places like Magone Lake, John Day Fossil
60. Beds, Painted Hills Unit, and other recreational sites including winter activates. The Grant County
61. Transportation District is also expanding their fleet with the increased routes and hours. This money will
62. allow them to invest in new “back-up” transportation vehicles.
63. Mayor Hamsher offered to put the bus routes, rates, and informational pamphlet in the water bills when the
64. People Mover is ready to start the new times and routes.
65. Angie asked about putting metal signage on the city streets for bus stop areas for the public. She said that
66. she is aware of the highway regulations for signs on State Highways, but was hoping the City would allow
67. the signs on city owned streets.
68. Mayor Hamsher said that he didn’t see an issue with putting signs up for bus stop areas.
69. Angie said that she hopes in the future to be able to put some benches at the bus stops for the public while
70. to use they wait.
71. Mayor Hamsher thanked Angie for coming and talking to the city and council and all the hard work she has
72. put into this project.

73.

74. Angie added that the People Mover may in the future be able to bus the kids that have transferred from
75. John Day School to Prairie City School due to the possible demand. She said that some parents are very
76. excited about the possibility of that service.
77.

78. **Museum Report:**
79. The DeWitt Museum Director, Bob Shive gave a brief update on ending of the open season. He reported
80. that the Museum was open all regularly scheduled days with the exception of one afternoon for a training
81. session. As a result of that particular training, Bob applied for a \$250 grant that was awarded to the DeWitt
82. Museum, and the grant money was allocated to the preservation/photo budget line. Bob said that the season
83. was a little slow, but he anticipated that from last years eclipse attendance. He said that one customer that
84. visited the DeWitt Museum gave a generous donation of \$1,000 and they had commented on how
85. wonderful their tour was that Lizz Bate gave. Bob is going to use that money to update some of the exhibits
86. during the winter season when the Museum is closed for the year. Bob updated the council on the
87. percentage of the Museum budget that is unused. He said that \$7,368.00 has not been used from the salary
88. budget line, and would like to request that the Museum Supervisor position not be filled until next Spring.
89. Bob introduced Kathy Lewis to the council who has applied to volunteer at the DeWitt Museum.
90. Bob has explained the ins and outs of the Museum and the shifts that she would be working.
91. Mayor Hamsher welcomed Kathy and thanked her for volunteering for the Museum.

92. **MSP: To approve Kathy Lewis on the volunteer roster for the DeWitt Museum. Mayor
93. Hamsher/Councilor Phippen. All members present voted in favor.**

94.

95. **Fire Report**

96. Mayor Hamsher called on Marvin Rynearson who reported that burn barrel and debris burning is allowed
97. from 6am-10am. He said that if we had some real dry weather it could put us back into restrictions because
98. it is still very dry outside.

99.

100. Mayor Hamsher informed the council of the SRS funding that will be received in the amount of
101. \$95902.85.
102. Next year the City will receive another payment that will be 5% less than this year. These funds are
103. allocated to the Road Fund in the budget.
104.
105. **Payables**
106. To ratify the payment of bills. **MSP: To pay the bills. Councilor Patterson/Councilor Garrison**
107. **All members present voted in favor.**
108.
109. **Ordinance/Resolutions**
110. Mayor Hamsher moved on to the interim financing for the Emergency Water Project for Faiman Spring.
111. Anderson & Perry Engineering recommends taking a \$300,000 interim loan to be able to start work on the
112. Faiman Wells and surveys that need to begin. This would allow the City to start the project now before
113. receiving the State grant and loan, so once the grant and loan is received, the city can pay off the interim
114. financing through the Bank of Eastern Oregon using the State grant and loan money.
115. **MSP: To pursue interim financing in the amount of \$300,000 for the Faiman Well project.**
116. **Councilor Garrison/Councilor Patterson. All members present voted in favor.**
117.
118. Mayor Hamsher moved on to the law enforcement contract with the Grant County Sheriffs Office. Once
119. approved, Councilor Patterson will send it to the Grant County Court for approval. **MSP: To approve the**
120. **police contract with the County Sheriffs Office. Councilor Patterson/Councilor Primozić. All**
121. **members present voted in favor.**
122.
123. Mayor Hamsher moved on to the 911 ordinance and agreement.
124. **MSP: To adopt Ordinance number 2018-02, an ordinance of the City of Prairie City, Oregon**
125. **ratifying creation of the Grant County Emergency Communication Agency in accordance with ORS**
126. **190.085; and approving a revised 911 jurisdiction plan. Councilor Patterson/Councilor Phippen. All**
127. **members present voted in favor.**
128.
129. **MSP: To approve the Intergovernmental Agreement to provide 911 and Dispatch Services and**
130. **authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement on behalf of the City of Prairie City. Councilor**
131. **Patterson/Councilor Primozić. All members present voted in favor.**
132.
133. Mayor Hamsher called on Frances Preston who wanted to address the council about the 911 ordinance and
134. agreement. Frances gave the council a typed presentation. (please see attached)
135. Exhibit A gives definitions and explanations on User Board Formations and User Board representatives.
136. There was discussing about the yearly fee that the City is responsible for paying and whether the IGC
137. would have enough in contingency in the future to be self-sustaining. Councilor Patterson said that they
138. have talked about that at past meetings and they believe that once they get started and have enough money
139. in contingency they would not need the yearly fee portions from the Cities and County. There was also
140. discussion about how it seemed that some agencies which use the dispatch services don't pay a yearly co-
141. pay fee. Chief Marvin Rynearson said that those agencies have a contract and those fees are calculated
142. within the contract they have with dispatch services. Frances asked if Councilor Patterson, Councilor
143. Garrison, and Chief Rynearson would take her concerns to the next meetings. Councilor Patterson
144. suggested that Frances come to the next meeting to discuss her concerns. Frances said that since they are
145. established members she encourages them to bring her concerns to the next meeting. Councilor Garrison
146. said that she would be happy to take them to the next meeting.
147.
148. Mayor Hamsher shared with the council and audience that he was informed that new cell towers are being
149. built in the Monument area where cell service is nonexistent. The cell company, T Mobile, said that if he
150. hadn't made them aware there was no coverage in those surrounding areas they would have missed that

151. coverage area.

152. At 7:32pm Mayor Hamsher announced that the council will move into Executive Session pursuant to
153. ORS 192.660 (2)(i)- A governing body may hold an executive session “to review and evaluate” the job
154. performance of a chief executive officer, other officer, employees, and staff, if the person whose
155. performance is being reviewed and evaluated does not request an “open hearing.”

156.

157. Mayor Hamsher read aloud “representatives of the news media and designated staff shall be allowed to
158. attend the executive session. All other members of the audience are asked to leave the room.

159. Representatives of the news media are specifically directed not to report on any of the deliberations during
160. the executive session, except to state the general subject of the session as previously announced. No
161. decisions may be made in executive session. At the end of the executive session, we will return to open
162. session and welcome the audience back into the room.”

163.

164. The executive session was adjourned at 7:38pm.

165.

166. **MSP: To approve Glenda Harvey to permanent employment with a 50¢ increase to her hourly wage.**

167. **Councilor Patterson/Councilor Phippen. All members voted in favor.**

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170. Mayor Hamsher called the regular meeting to adjourn at 7:42pm.

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174.

175. Submitted By: _____

176. City Recorder, Bobbie Brown

177.

178.

179. Approved by the City Council this 14th day of November, 2018

180. and signed by the Mayor:

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182.

183.

184.

185.

Jim Hamsher, Mayor