

City of Prairie City
Council Meeting
February 12, 2020

1. **Attendance**

2. Mayor Jim Hamsher
3. Councilor Georgia Patterson
4. Councilor Tisha Packard
5. Councilor Chase McClung
6. Councilor Scott Officer
7. Councilor Joe Phippen
8. Councilor Frank Primozić
- 9.

10. **Visitors**

11. Frances Preston
12. Carole Garrison
13. Ginger Shive
14. Bob Shive
15. Gloria Titus
16. Dan Becker
17. Anna Bass, Solutions CPA
18. Marvin Rynearson, Fire Chief
19. Chris Camarena, Public Works Director
- 20.

21. Mayor Hamsher opened the regular council meeting at 6:00pm and roll call was taken.

22.

23. **Visitors:**

24. Mayor Hamsher called on Gloria Titus who was here to ask approval to use the black top for a street
25. dance July 25, 2020 for a all class reunion celebration. There was discussion with Ginger Shive who is
26. putting the Fiber Fest on during the same time. Ginger didn't think that having the street dance would
27. interfere with the Fiber Fest. **MSP: To approve the use of the Texaco black top for the all-class
28. reunion for a street dance. Councilor Primozić/Councilor McClung. All members voted
29. unanimously.**

30.

31. **Minutes:**

32. The minutes of January 8, 2020 council meeting were considered.
33. **MSP: To approve the minutes of January 8, 2020 council meeting. Councilor
34. Packard/Councilor Primozić. All members voted unanimously.**

35.

36. **Museum Report:**

37. Museum Director Bob Shive updated the council that he had a donation of theater chairs from Councilor
38. Phippen.

39.

40. **Fire Report:**

41. Chief Rynearson mentioned that he has 5 firefighters attending fire school and he reported that 3 people
42. took the first aid class at the hospital. Marvin said that there will be another class in February for those
43. who wish to attend. Marvin talked about a fire training tracking system that would help keep track of
44. training for each volunteer at \$100 per year for each individual. With that cost, the system will have
45. classes online that volunteers can use and take to increase their certifications. Marvin would like to add
46. it to the training line of the 2020-2021 budget.

47. **Public Works Report:**

48. Public Works Director Chris Camarena requested a workshop to go over the John Day Basin total map
49. daily load plan through DEQ. Chris said that he met with DEQ in Bend, Oregon to discuss the
50. requirements that will need to be implemented. Chris explained this will affect any water way that
51. touches Prairie City and the City will need to change some of the municipal codes to reflect what DEQ
52. is requiring. Changes include the riparian zones and vegetation along Dixie Creek and other water ways
53. around Prairie City. Chris would like to have a DEQ representative attend the workshop to help explain
54. to the council what they are wanting to change. Mayor Hamsher asked Chris to get some available dates
55. that DEQ could attend a meeting and the council could have a workshop to go over the new
56. requirements.

57. Chris reported that Clackamas Construction is working on South Johnson at this time. He said that they
58. found 3 service water lines that were not mapped and they found when fixing the sewer lines. Chris said
59. that Joe Hitz will be updating the maps, so they can locate the water lines in the future. Chris said that
60. they are seeing a huge reductions of ground water in the sewer lines with the repairs that are being done.
61.

62. **Payables:**

63. To ratify the payment of bills. **MSP: To pay the bills. Councilor Patterson/Councilor Packard. All
64. members voted unanimously.**

65.

66. **Resolution:**

67. Resolution 2020-02 is a resolution of the City of Prairie City authorizing the mayor to hire temporary
68. help. This resolution would allow temporary relief under certain circumstances and the City must have
69. the ability to promptly hire temporary employees to ensure continued effective and efficient city
70. operations. The time required to comply with the current Hiring Policy and/or Personnel Policy hinders
71. the City's ability to hire temporary employees and therefore compromises the City's ability to maintain
72. effective and efficient city operations. There was discussion on hiring for the Clerk's position in the
73. place of this resolution. Mayor Hamsher explained that this is for the City as a whole and the City would
74. be going against their own Personnel Policy and Hiring Procedure if continuing without this in place.
75. The city attorney drafted and recommends this resolution be in place for such circumstances.

76. **MSP: Resolution 2020-02: A Resolution to authorize the mayor to hire temporary employees.**

77. **Councilor Officer/Councilor Phippen. Councilor Packard abstained. Motion passed.**

78.

79. **Other Business:**

80. Mayor Hamsher moved on to the employment evaluation of Public Works employee Andy Hutsell. Andy
81. Hutsell waived his right to have an executive session for his evaluation. Mayor Hamsher called on
82. Public Works Director Chris Camarena for his recommendations. Chris recommended that Andy passes
83. his probation period and become a permanent employee with the City of Prairie City with a 50¢ raise that
84. be back dated to January 25, 2020. **MSP: To approve removing Andy Hutsell from probation with a
85. 50¢ raise back dated to January 25, 2020. Councilor Primozie/Councilor Officer. All members
86. voted unanimously.**

87.

88. Mayor Hamsher moved on to the next item on the agenda to allow Anna Bass from Solutions CPA to be
89. a check signer on the City's general account through the Bank of Eastern Oregon. **MSP: To approve
90. Anna Bass from Solutions CPA to sign checks from the City's general account through the Bank of
91. Eastern Oregon. Councilor McClung/Councilor Packard. All members voted unanimously.**

92.

93. Mayor Hamsher updated the council on the Neighborhood Watch Program. Mayor Hamsher talked with
94. the Sheriff's Office and they have requested the pamphlet information for the program. He said that they
95. have not received the information and when they do, he would like to hold a town hall meeting that the
96. Sheriff's Office could talk with residents about the program.

97.

98. Mayor Hamsher moved on to talk about a request of speed reduction on some streets, and the purchase
99. of a digital speed sign. Mayor Hamsher said that South Bridge Street, North Johnson Avenue, and North
100. Washington Street has a significant number of speeders. Mayor Hamsher talked with Alan from the

101. County Road Department to see if they would be interested in partnering with the City to purchase
102. digital speed signs. Chris was able to find signs that would be 2 for the price of 1 that the City and
103. County could purchase. Mayor Hamsher said that the City could use SRS funding to purchase the
104. signs. The price on 2 signs was approx. \$5200.00, costing the City approx. \$2800.00 for the purchase
105. of 1 sign. The council would like a letter sent to resident on Washington Street to help declutter road
106. ways. Mayor Hamsher would like to reduce the speed limit on Washington Street to 15mph instead of
107. 25mph. **MSP: To purchase a digital speed sign, reduce the speed limit to 15mph on Washington**
108. **Street and send a letter to resident on Washington Street. Councilor Officer/Councilor McClung.**
109. **All members voted unanimously.**

110.

111. Mayor Hamsher moved on to talk about Cyber Risk that CIS is offering to help with today's hackers
112. through emails and links. CIS recommends a risk assessment to help protect all the City's digital
113. documents. Hackers are imitating vendors and sending invoices through email and asking that the
114. invoice be paid through wire transfer. Dan Becker said that foreign hackers get into the systems and
115. without several back-up's they can hold the information hostage and make the agency pay to have their
116. information freed. Dan recommends having multiple backups or having an ESD type protection for
117. your systems. **MSP: To pursue cyber risk policy through CIS. Councilor McClung/Councilor**
118. **Officer. All members voted unanimously.**

119.

120. Mayor Hamsher moved on to talk about another city-wide clean-up day. Mayor Hamsher would like to
121. have volunteers and the Fire Wise members use a day in May to help clean up debris and garbage
122. around the City. **MSP: To move forward with a clean-up day in May. Councilor**
123. **Primoic/Councilor McClung. All members voted unanimously.**

124.

125. Mayor Hamsher moved on to talk to the council about purchasing 1 to 2 vehicles from the U.S.
126. Forestry Dept. Mayor Hamsher called on Chris to explain to the council the need for these vehicles and
127. the cost. Chris explained that there is a Ford and a Chevy gas motor one-ton pickups that he is
128. interested in and would like approval to buy one or both vehicles. The Chevy would cost \$8,787 and
129. the Ford pickup would cost \$9085 or \$17,872 for both. The vehicles have 80K miles and are worth
130. \$15,000 or more if purchased elsewhere. Anna Bass from Solutions CPA said that there is \$34,000 left
131. in the Capital Outlay Fund. Chris said that his vehicle and the vehicle Andy drives are getting worn out
132. and causing mechanical issues. Chris said that the pickup he drives could be used as a spare vehicle.
133. **MSP: To approve the purchase of a one-ton Chevy pickup and one-ton Ford pickup through the**
134. **USFS for the price of \$17,872.00. Councilor Patterson/Councilor McClung. All members voted**
135. **unanimously.**

136.

137. Mayor Hamsher moved to the next item on the agenda for approval of the use of the shooting range for
138. a hunter safety course. The City has in past years allowed the use of the shooting range for hunter
139. safety. **MSP: To approve the use of the City's shooting range for the hunting safety course.**
140. **Councilor McClung/Councilor Officer. All members voted unanimously.**

141.

142. Mayor Hamsher moved on to talk about raising rates at the Depot RV Park. The council consensus
143. would be to raise rates based on the surrounding rates and set the rates lower than the other RV Parks in
144. the John Day area. This matter was tabled for a later meeting.

145.

146. Mayor Hamsher would also like to put the 5% discount to seniors for Clark's Disposal in the water bills
147. reminding residents that they need to request this discount.

148.

149.

150.

151. **Mayor Hamsher adjourned the regular council meeting at 7:54pm.**

152.

153.

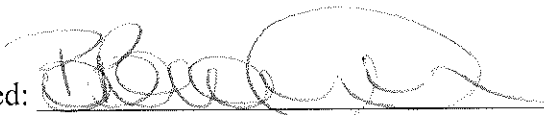
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159. Attested: 

160. Bobbie Brown, City Recorder

161.

162.

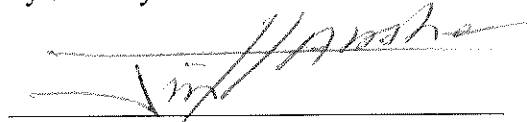
163. Approved by the City Council this 11th day of March, 2020

164. and signed by the Mayor:

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166.

167.



Jim Hamsher, Mayor