

**December 16, 2020
Regular Session
City of Gaston
Zoom Videoconference**

Present: Mayor David **Meeker**, Council President Bill **Martin**, Mario **DePiero**, Andrew **Sewall**, Margaret **Bell**, and Don **Richter**.

Absent: Tony **Hall** and Washington County Sheriff's Office Deputy Jarod **McCreary**

Staff Present: Public Works Specialist Rick **Mapes** and City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette**.

- I. Mayor David **Meeker** called the regular meeting to order at 7:20 PM. *(the meeting is delayed due to technical difficulties)*
- II. **ROLL CALL:** City Recorder **Blanchette** conducted the roll call for the record with:
Councilor Mario **DePiero**: present
Councilor Andrew **Sewall**: present
Councilor Bill **Martin**: present
Mayor David **Meeker**: present
Councilor Margaret **Bell**: present
Councilor Tony **Hall**: *absent*
Councilor Don **Richter**: present
- III. **ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS:** Mayor **Meeker** called for additions or deletions to the agenda with none being heard.
- IV. **CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS:**
Mayor **Meeker** called for citizen communication with none heard.
- V. **STAFF/COUNCIL/COMMITTEE/SUPERVISOR REPORTS:**
Public Works: Public Works Specialist **Mapes** provided his report for November with the following:
 - Two leaking services were repaired, 401 Hedin 420 Costelloe as well as two leaking hydrants, one at Trail Street and Church Street, Trail and Church near 3rd Street were replaced this week. Councilor **Martin** inquired about the leaks repaired up on Hedin Terrace with the Public Works Specialist responding that the repair for 401 Hedin showed signs of erosion due to the minerals reacting poorly to the dirt which is why there continues to be problems and leaks with the copper water lines. Those lines have been replaced by plastic which will resolve some of the issues and have notified Gaston Heights subdivision that no copper should be used but instead plastic or PEX. The water line repair at E. Main Street is a two-inch line that will need to be replaced and hoping to get the same contractors that repaired the hydrants in town repair the service.
 - Working to change street signs with the recent purchase of the generator.
 - Gaston School found a leak underneath the Elementary Building they are working on repairing.
 - Established contact with the Railroad and will hopefully be removing the briars between the City property on Onion Lane up to the Post Office.
 - An update was provided for the Onion Lane property and the parking lot/restroom area that Federal Fish & Wildlife have are constructing. There will be asphalt laid down for the handicapped parking, but the trail and parking area will be gravel.

Recorders Report: The City Recorder provided her report for November with the following:

- Legal:

- The attorney provided the Recorder with options in which the City can undertake for the bulk waste collection franchise and there has been interest from Recology Western to possibly provide garbage service for Gaston.
- 3rd Street widening project is moving along with offer letters sent to the property owners for the purchase of additional right of way.
- Planning:
 - The Fire Department is updating their building for seismic improvements.
 - Questions were heard about annexing property within the city limits.
- Municipal Court:
 - First time holding court virtually occurred yesterday with zero issues and will need to further discuss the appointing of a full-time judge as Judge Oberdorfer is not the city's permanent judge. Next court is January 19, 2021
- FYI:
 - Complaints letters were sent out for the chicken coop, chicken smell, and multiple dogs.
 - New computer was purchased, domain name issues, updates on grants, and Ziply franchise research.
 - New bills for the December's Bills Payable include two from the League of Oregon Cities for background check on the new Public Works Specialist and a water deposit refund.

Police: Deputy **McCreary** was absent but provided a report for police activity report for November with Recorder **Blanchette** going over stats with Council:

- 37 total incidents with 14 of those self-initiated, 23 calls for public demand, 6 reports, 3 arrests, 4 traffic stops and 1 citation (this is out of the City).
- Calls about normal for the month.
- COVID-19 cases up for the month.
- Still working with the railroad to get blackberry bushes removed along highway 47.
- Had domestic on Salter St., son tried to light dad's bedroom door on fire. Son arrest for attempted arson I.
- Had a felony domestic at the apartments on 2nd Street. Suspect was not located at the time.
- Cows on E. Main Street have been out several times this month. Called the State but they did not have resources.
- Gave out COCO bombs and mugs to people that found me once I posted a photo. Seems like everyone like it. Rick helped out.

Mayor **Meeker** turned the meeting over to Dean **Kampfer** from Waste Management.

VI. **OLD BUSINESS:**

Waste Management Franchise: Dean **Kampfer**, Municipal Marketing Manager from Waste Management provided Council with the updated franchise agreement as discussed from last month's meeting. No action taken.

- VII. **CONSENT AGENDA:** Mayor **Meeker** called for a motion to adopt the consent agenda that includes bills payable for December 2020, March 18, 2020, Work Session Minutes, October 21, 2020, Regular Session Minutes, and the additional bills as mentioned previously that totals an additional \$306.57 for a grand total of bills this month for \$109,222.92. Further clarification was provided for the larger than normal bills this month that includes a sizeable bulk purchase of water meters. Motion to approve the consent agenda was motioned by Councilor **Bell** and seconded by Councilor **Richter**. Motion carried. Aye votes heard from **DePiero**, **Richter**, **Sewall**, **Martin**, **Meeker**, and **Bell**. Nay: 0.

VIII. NEW BUSINESS:

1st Street SCA Grant Acceptance: Recorder **Blanchette** reported the City Attorney has reviewed the contract with Oregon Department of Transportation asking Council to consider approving the SCA grant and have the Mayor sign on behalf of the City of Gaston for 1st Street. Motion to approve the SCA Grant for 1st Street and have the Mayor sign on behalf of the City was made by Councilor **Richter** and was seconded by Councilor **Martin**. Motion carried. Aye Votes: **DePiero, Richter, Sewall, Martin, Meeker, and Bell**. Nay: None.

Resolution No. 20-009 A Resolution of the City of Gaston Declaring that a New Charter Shall Take Effect on January 1, 2021. Mayor **Meeker** called for a motion to adopt Resolution 20-009 was made by Councilor **Richter** following second heard by Councilor **Martin**. Motion passed. Aye: **DePiero, Richter, Sewall, Martin Meeker, and Bell**. Nay: 0.

X. COMPLAINTS:

New—

None

Old—

- 101 3rd Street Multiple Dogs Complaint: It had been reported six or more dogs were in the house, but Washington County Animal Control has come to the house dealing with issues of dogs getting out of the property with no one home. A letter was sent by the City to the property owner regarding the violation of the livestock ordinance. It was mutually agreed by Council to remove this from the violation list.
- 100 3rd Street Storm Drain Issue: Public Works Specialist Mapes reported the drainage concern from the property owner has been address and this complaint can be removed from the complaints list. Council by mutual consensus agreed to remove this complaint from the complaints list.
- 104 2nd Street Chick Coop & Smell: It was agreed to remove this from the complaints list by general consensus of the Council.
- Railroad Easement Briars: *No Update.*


Items in Council packets includes access information to experience the Lightopia show at the Hillsboro stadium for free and official election results from Washington County regarding the City's elective seats.

Councilor **DePiero** thanked Councilor **Sewall** for stepping into the Council position serving the remainder of the term.

XI. ADJOURNMENT: Motion to adjourn was made by Councilor **Richter** with second heard by Councilor **Martin**. Motion carried unanimously closing the meeting at 8:58PM.



Mayor David Meeker

Attest: 

City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette