

**January 10, 2018  
Work Session  
City of Gaston**

**Present:** Mayor Tony **Hall**, Jerry **Spaulding**, David **Meeker**, Don **Richter**, and Rod **Hale**.

**Absent:** Bill **Martin**.

**Staff:** City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette**, Public Works Director Brent **Whittaker**, City Clerk Sharon **Bregante-Candau**.

Mayor Tony **Hall** called this meeting to order at 6:05 PM Mayor **Hall** stated he would like to add additional items to the agenda. Those items being The Washington County Sherriff's Office is present to discuss Deputy **Wormington's** retirement from the Sherriff's office and departure as Gaston's City officer following an introduction of the interim deputy. Also, adding Jon **Wismer** to the agenda who is interested in being appointed to City Council.

**Washington County Sheriff's Office:** Deputy **Wormington** announced his retirement from the Sheriff's office and thanked the Council and community for the opportunity to serve Gaston as it's local deputy. Working in Gaston has been his favorite part of his career with the Washington County Sheriff's office these last four years. Following handshakes with Council and Bobby **Wormington**, he introduced Council to Deputy Patrick **Craft** who is providing interim coverage the next five weeks until the Sheriff's Department makes an official selection for a permanent deputy assigned to Gaston. Sergeant **Ray**, Commander **Jones**, and **McCurry** discussed procedures for appointing a new deputy to the area, stressing the City's importance regarding intricacies in having a deputy specific for Gaston. The Mayor will be part of the selection process and will have a permanent replacement by March 1<sup>st</sup>. Mayor **Hall** thanked Deputy **Wormington** for his service in Gaston, providing attention to detail regarding police issues and wishing him well for his next chapter in life.

**Mike Marr-Accountant Explanation of Financial Statements:** Mike **Marr**, hired accountant for the City of Gaston was present to discuss the financial statements or questions from the budget the Council or others present may have. Mayor **Hall** provided to Council a handout of the October financial statements, opening the floor for questions from Council. Mike **Marr** explained it is a comprehensive packet of all line items in each of the funds prepared as of October 31, 2017. The column that represents "current" is what income/expenditures have been spent in this current cycle; the "year-to-date" column states what has been spent since July 1<sup>st</sup>. The report shows what should be spent for one-third of the fiscal year. Mayor **Hall** asked what the parenthesis represented on the report. Mike **Marr** responded that his way of accounting represents a double entry accounting system. Further explaining of simplifying reports, credits and negative balance amounts. Mayor **Hall** discussed with Council the 2016-17 field work exit conference held earlier in the day determining the Auditor's findings and risk assessment which have drastically improved from the year prior. The Mayor recommends the City look into bonding the City Recorder as insurance coverage exceeding 100,000 in the savings account does cost extra, however, it's typically practiced bonding an employee instead of raising the City's coverage. Other items discussed included supplemental budgets, beginning fund balances, carry over amounts. Mike **Marr** did want Council to be aware there will be adjustments coming as the report is from October and there have been significant changes from then to now including property tax revenue and payroll adjustments to be made just as soon as the Recorder is able to provide November, December and January finances. No further questions.

**Washington County Police Contract:** Councilor **Spaulding** announced the City should be looking into police services, considering such options as continuing police services with Washington County, look into Yamhill County or Carlton Police Department to provide the City's police services. Mayor **Hall** concurred with the Council's consensus to investigate which entity or department would be willing to provide police services for Gaston.

**Wage Committee Review:** Councilor **Spaulding** also suggested to pay a company to come to Gaston and evaluate wages done on a professional level in the government sector. Councilor **Hale** made note that having the information would be beneficial but ultimately the decision for wages and job duties are up to the Council for the Council to decide and that that decision is a fiscally responsible decision also. Recorder **Blanchette** explained the two ways for which Local Government Personnel Institute (LGPI) is able to provide services. Those services are based on member and non-member fees, that of which being \$170 an hour (non-member) or \$140 an hour (member services). LGPI can evaluate the City's current job descriptions and wages making recommendations on the City's already adopted job description and wages or to thoroughly investigate what the scope of work done in the offices is and to create job descriptions and wages without considering what the City has previously adopted. A mutual decision was made amongst the Council to have the appointed employee supervisor, Mayor **Hall**, meet with LGPI to discuss the scope of work and report back to Council the following meeting. Council was encouraged to attend the meeting or attend any meeting that is scheduled outside of the regular meeting as they are all invited to continue the discussion.

**New Council Appointment:** At this time Mayor **Hall** introduced Jon **Wisner** to the Council and introducing him as living in the area a long time and interested in filling the position for council seat 6 vacated last month. Mayor **Hall** is interested in appointing him to the position with the Councils approval. Questions for Mr. **Wisner** will be made in the Regular Meeting regarding his interest to serve the City of Gaston.

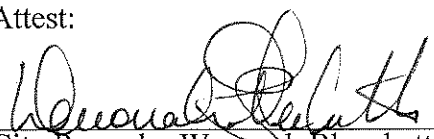
At this time Mayor **Hall** asked audience members what their names were and why they were present at the meeting with Aaron **Fox** and his son were in attendance; stating he has been in and out of the Gaston area for quite some time attending the meeting tonight with his son.

**Municipal Court:** Mayor **Hall** discussed the need put in place, a process in which would streamline the city's current municipal court system. City Clerk **Bregante-Candau** discussed with Council considerations for updating the court's current system. It would require a charter amendment similar to City the of Cornelius which has consolidated their court system with Forest Grove or contracting judge services with the City of Forest Grove's municipal court judge, offering court every two months as a way to continue operations in the most cost effective way. A mutual consensus of Council was made to find for the City a more cost-efficient solution.

**ADJOURNMENT:** Mayor **Hall** asked for any further discussion, none heard. Meeting adjourned at 7PM.

  
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Mayor Tony Hall

Attest:

  
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City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette