

**January 29, 2020
Special Meeting &
Executive Session
City of Gaston**

Present: Mayor David **Meeker**, Council President Bill **Martin**, Andrew **Sewall**, Mario **DePiero**, Sarah **Branch**, Suzy **Whittaker**, and Don **Richter**. No other audience members were in attendance.

Absent:

Staff: City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette**.

- I. Mayor **Meeker** called to order the special meeting at 7:00PM
- II. **ROLL CALL:** Recorder **Blanchette** conducted the roll call for the record with:
Councilor Mario **DePiero**: present
Councilor Andrew **Sewall**: present
Council President Bill **Martin**: present
Mayor David **Meeker**: present
Councilor Sarah **Branch**: present
Councilor Suzy **Whittaker**: present
Councilor Don **Richter**: present
- III. **EXECUTIVE SESSION:** Mayor **Meeker** closed the special meeting and opened the executive session at 7:02 asking those audience members in attendance to leave the room at this time. *(There were no audience members in attendance)*. This executive session is scheduled to review and evaluate employee performance pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(b) to consider the dismissal or disciplining of, or to hear complaints or charges brought against, a public officer, employee, staff member or individual agent who does not request an open hearing. Executive Session closed at 7:18PM.
- IV. **DISCUSSION/DECISION:** Councilor **DePiero** motioned to terminate the introductory period with Andrew **Worley** and seconded by Councilor **Martin**. Motion carried with aye votes heard from **DePiero**, **Sewall**, **Martin**, **Meeker**, **Branch**, **Whittaker**, and **Richter**. Nay: 0. Also discussed instances where there were no clock ins or outs for payroll amounts related with a mutual consensus made amongst the Council to pay both workdays full eight (8) hour days.


Councilor **DePiero** recommended hiring Hiland Water to read water meters and provide routine maintenance for the City's water department requesting this item be an item of discussion on next month's agenda. Also discussed amongst the Council were employment related needs for the City, hiring Hiland Water in the interim while contracting services month-to-month or for three months, possible options for hiring someone in the public works/city supervisor role, and needed changes to be made such as locks, security codes, and codes for the garage door access. Councilor **Whittaker** stated that the City will should contact CIS (City County Insurance) and the City Attorney for instructions with next steps in dealing with terminating an employee.

City Recorder **Blanchette** discussed with Council an insurance claim filed recently for damages done to the library from a water intrusion event resulting in damaged carpet, flooring, and sheetrock where backed up water along the west side of the building flooding the library entering through the garage. ServPro was recommended by the insurance company to mitigate the problem.

Additional discussion was heard on retrieving city property Andrew **Worley** has in his possession such as the city phone and city keys. Council requested to have the recorder send a certified letter requesting the return of City property.

Councilor **Branch** and Councilor **Whittaker** requested to hold a special meeting to discuss what is going on with the employment of with recent employment matters, discuss with Hiland contract negotiations for a month-to-month or quarterly contract, and what the City is looking for in a new Public Works employee. Councilor **DePiero** and Councilor **Branch** would like to see a City Manager hired who would be able to oversee projects. Consensus was made to hold a special meeting on February 11, 2020 at 6:00PM.

- V. **ADJOURNMENT:** Councilor **DePiero** motioned to adjourn with second heard by Councilor **Richter**. No further business heard. Special meeting adjourned at 7:56 PM.



Mayor David Meeker

Attest:



City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette