

July 13, 2016
Regular Session
City of Gaston

Council: Mayor **Hall**, Council President Richard **Sager**, David **Meeker**, Don **Richter**, and Richard **Sager**. Washington County Deputy Bobby **Wormington**, City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette**, City Clerk Sharon **Bregante-Candau**, and others present are represented on the sign-up sheet (attached)
Absent: Councilors Jerry **Spaulding** and Chris **Jeffries**.

I. Mayor Tony **Hall** called this meeting to order at 7:00PM.

II. **ROLL CALL:** Recorder **Blanchette** conducted the roll call for the record with:

Councilor Jerry **Spaulding**: *absent with excuse*

Councilor David **Meeker**: present

Councilor Richard **Sager**: present

Mayor Tony **Hall**: present

Councilor Chris **Jeffries**: *absent with excuse*

Councilor Don **Richter**: present

Councilor Rod **Hale**: present

STAFF REPORTS:

Office: Recorder **Blanchette** reported payroll services are being contracted with Paychex. The same accountant will be working with migrating the City's finances from Springbrook into QuickBooks Software. For the City's web page, payment will need to be made before anything can happen with development. It will take 10 weeks to implement the website with necessary training. ABC Transcription Services will begin transcribing the City's minutes beginning July.

Councilor **Sager** asked if Consolidated Screw has contacted the city regarding the property access contract recently drafted by the city. Recorder **Blanchette** responded with the City not having any contact with the property owners. City Resident Harold **Crass** stated they property owners at 124 Front Street will not be back until late August.

Police: Deputy **Wormington** provided his report for June 2016. Wormington indicated that he was at Search and Rescue training for two weeks and was not here in Gaston, however Deputy Egg was present during his absence. Total incident for June 2016 was 62, 18 public demand, 44 self-initiated 2 juveniles detained cited and released to parents. 19 traffic stops, and 6 citations. On the 7th a 14 year old and mom were fighting with mom detaining the 14 year old until officers arrived. On the 8th was when the 2 15 year old juveniles were found wandering town at 2am. 128 and half hours contracted. 172 hours were put in from Washington County. UHF radio were tested and is in Deputy **Wormington's** office.

Public Works: Mayor **Hall** provided a brief Public Works report with his research for finding a company willing to read water meters. From LA-Water Co-Op, Mel **Olsen** provided Mayor **Hall** with contact for a water company out of Newberg and submitted water samples for the City's monthly water report requirements. Difficulty is had in finding a qualified replacement for the Public Works Director. Contact was made with the City of Cornelius Water Department for contracting personnel for reading meters. Cornelius Water is unable to perform meter readings due to their own lack of staff. By general consensus of the Council was made to contact the City of Hillsboro for contracting personnel for temporary maintenance and reading meters. Mayor **Hall** reported the new employee has been reading meters, composing a water meter identification list with pictures, and removing brush out of the water meter locations. Discussion was heard on the four meters unreadable due to water or brush covering the water meter.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilor **Meeker** reported having American Leak Detection locate leaks throughout town. Lots of work done at the park with cleaning and maintenance. The Knights of Pythias removed the blue building in time for the car show. Police cars are moved occasionally throughout town. Council **Sager** reported emails he sent to companies for security cameras requesting additional information have not responded yet. Discussion heard on the charter changes, mayor voting authority, and spending limits changes initiated months before have not been followed through. Mayor **Hall** addressed reasons why the City has not begun charter amendments as the City is needing to finish Council Procedures which can address several issues before any election process is sought out. This was a recommendation from the City Attorney.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rick **Kloock**, Resident at 300 Church Street spoke to the Council about installing a vinyl fence but according to Gaston Code, vinyl fence materials are not permitted. It is requested by Rick **Kloock** to make changes to the codes to permit him to install a fence with vinyl materials. Discussion heard followed by a unanimous decision to “waive the waiting period to add vinyl fencing as allowed fencing material,” was made by Councilor Richter and seconded by Councilor Meeker. Motion passed with aye votes heard from **Meeker, Sager, Hale, and Richter**. Nay: 0.

Harold **Crass**, Resident at 412 Church Street asked Council what plan the City has in the event of a water emergency being the Public Works Director Rich **Williams** retired June 30, 2016. Replacement for the position has not been appointed, but Mayor Hall informed him that emergency contacts and procedures have been put into place with LA-Co Op in the event of an emergency. **Crass** asked again about the left over ammo and guns the City has from the Gaston Police Department. No further discussion or action.

NEW BUSINESS:

I. Declaration of Upcoming Vacancies, Seats 1, 2, and 3: Mayor **Hall** announced that Council Seats 1, held by Councilor Don **Richter**, seat 2, held by David **Meeker**, and seat 3, held by Councilor Richard **Sager**, are declared vacant and up for re-election in the next General Election. Election packets are available at City Hall during regular business hours.

II. Public Works Director Applicant Selection: Recorder **Blanchette** announced help wanted notices have been placed with the Oregon Employment Department, League of Oregon Cities, Oregon Association of Water Utilities, and consecutive help wanted ads in the newspapers. Mike **O’Rear** was present to discuss with the Council his interest for the Public Works Director. **O’Rear** has adequate number of qualifying hours to apply for his Level 1 Water Treatment Distribution certification and wanted to know what he could do to further his intent for the position. **O’Rear** lives in Dilly and has previously worked for the City of Forest Grove and the City of Cornelius. No further discussion or action.

III. Trail Head Project for the Yamhelas Westsider Trail. Mayor **Hall** reviewed with the Council the County of Yamhill is involved with bringing the trail to Gaston near Country Mobile Estates located on Hwy 47 at the edge of Yamhill County. Discussion heard regarding issues the City of Banks have with their trail system being parking. Parking has been addressed with the conceptual plans bringing the trail from Yamhill to Washington County. There are technical grants

available to apply for with Mayor **Hall** asking Council for approval to apply for the two grants, one of which cost \$2,500 up front fee. Additional information is needed before applying for these grants. Motion to table this issue until the next meeting was made by Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Meeker**. Motion carried with Aye votes: 4, Nay: 0.

OLD BUSINESS: None.

COMPLAINTS: City Clerk **Bregante-Candau** discussed procedures for discussing complaints, which complaints should be submitted in writing.

MINUTES: Council reviewed the minutes at this time with a motion heard to “accept as presented minutes from June 8, 2016,” from Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Meeker**. Motion carried. Aye: 4. Nay: 0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Questions heard from the Bills Payable list with all questions being answered. Motion was made by Councilor **Sager** with second heard from Councilor **Meeker** to “approve the bills as presented and the \$83 charge not paid last month.” Motion passed. Aye: **Richter, Sager, Meeker, and Hale. Nay: 0.**

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor **Hall** asked for any further business, none heard. Meeting adjourned at 8:26PM.

Mayor Tony Hall

Attest:

City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette