

March 14, 2018
Work Session
City of Gaston

Present: Mayor Tony **Hall**, Jerry **Spaulding**, David **Meeker**, Don **Richter**, Bill **Martin**, Rod **Hale** and Jon **Wismer** arriving at 6:45pm.

Absent: None

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

Mayor Tony **Hall** called this meeting to order at 6:00 PM.

Roll Call: City Recorder **Blanchette** conducted the roll call:

Councilor Jerry **Spaulding**, present

Councilor David **Meeker**, present

Councilor Bill **Martin**, present

Mayor Tony **Hall**, present

Councilor Jon **Wismer**, present (*arriving at 6:45*)

Councilor Rod **Hale** present (*arriving at 6:45*)

Councilor Don **Richter** present

Yamhelas Westsider Trail: Mayor **Hall** introduced Wayne **Weibke**, representative of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail System was present to discuss progress and current development of the Yamhelas Westsider Trail project now at a turning point with Yamhill County purchased the railroad property up to Goodin Creek Road. Yamhill County's intention of purchasing the railroad right-of-way with the intent to develop this trail from McMinnville-Carlton area all the way to Forest Grove. Further development of the trail will continue throughout Washington County in hopes the City of Gaston advocates for the involvement and preliminary stages to continue the trail throughout Gaston. **Weibke** opened the floor up for questions or concerns with development of the trail at this time. He also stated this proposed trail is included on Metro's recreational trail maps and has had some opposition from farmers along the proposed trail areas. The intention would be to provide the City with resources and assistance for obtaining funding and future development of the trail. The trail, if developed could include equestrian access, biking, access to the Wapato Wildlife Refuge and provide additional parking for Gaston. Clerk **Bregante-Candau** discussed the City's current position with preliminary planning as the City has been researching funding opportunities for development of Brown Park which would have access directly along the trail as well as proposed development along the railroad right-of-way. Clerk **Bregante-Candau** explained the Mayor has been in negotiations for the purchase of the railroad property in hopes to develop the area specifically for the trail system. Clerk **Bregante-Candau** provided a conceptual map of the City's proposed development on the City's behalf, to include access to Wapato wildlife refuge, Brown Park, and provide restrooms and parking. Mayor **Hall** also announced the City's position for acquiring the railroad property would benefit the City in obtaining water rights through the Tualatin River with future hopes of extending the City's water system to provide the City of Yamhill with a potential supply water line as well as an emergency connection between Gaston and Yamhill. Development of the trail is essential for the future expansion of the City's water system as well as development of the City of Gaston.

At this time, Mayor **Hall** asked for Council input on this course of action for future development of the trail and expansion of the City's water department. By mutual consensus, City Council agreed it would be in the best interest of the City to move forward with obtaining water rights with the intention developing the trail system.

City Project Review: Mayor **Hall** called on Public Works Director **Whittaker** to discuss 104 Onion Lane as the City recently acquired the property with the interest to develop along the trail and park area. Public Works Director **Whittaker** stated future use of this property could be used toward parking, restrooms, access to Brown Park and potentially Bald Peak as Metro moves forward with future trail development as well. Building inspection report is included in packets; an appraisal is being worked on for the property, AKS Engineering will provide engineering.

Mayor **Hall** discussed with Council the City's ongoing projects outlined on the dry erase board with Councilor **Spaulding** suggesting Council hold bi-weekly meetings to streamline official business as the City has several ongoing projects while one meeting per month takes several hours. Additional meetings would provide more opportunities for public input on projects as well potentially speed up projects.

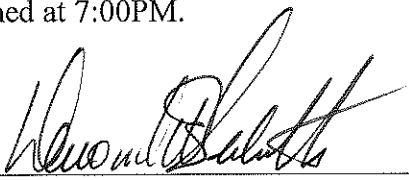
Farmers Market: Discussion heard on the City's Farmers Market beginning May 17th, each Thursday evening at Brown Park. The City has received an overwhelming amount of interest from vendors and those in the community who want to be involved with Gaston's Farmers Market. Kristen **Sewall** was recently appointed to oversee the Farmers Market, providing administrative development for the weekly event. In past years, the Yamhelas Trail has set up an information booth in surrounding Farmers Market and would like to participate in Gaston's.

City Hall Paint: Public Works Director **Whittaker** provided an update on the outside painting of City Hall. Prep is nearly complete and ready for color selection. Mayor **Hall** stated Council will decide in selecting a color with color selection options provided by the Public Works Director. No Council member was opposed to the colors provided and was approved by Council by mutual consensus. Public Works Director informed Council that painting the building would extend the life of the building by protecting what is inside the building against the elements. Also discussed is parking access on the south side of the property for staff and council.

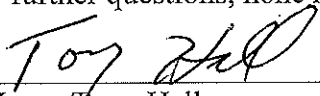
Further discussion was heard on completed roof repairs, Brown Park seasonal sports prep, removal of the snack shack at Brown Park, spraying at the park, Park Street sidewalk project, preliminary suggestion and consensus from Council to move forward with cost estimates on new council chambers renovations. Also announced, the City has approximately 20 electronic water meters installed in the ground as of today.

ADJOURNMENT: Mayor **Hall** asked for any further questions, none heard. Work Session adjourned at 7:00PM.

Attest:



City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette



Mayor Tony Hall