

March 9, 2016
Regular Session
City of Gaston

Council: Mayor **Hall**, Council President Richard **Sager**, David **Meeker**, Don **Richter**, and Jerry **Spaulding**. Washington County Deputy Bobby **Wormington**, City Recorder Wenonah **Blanchette**, Public Works Director Rich **Williams**, and others present are represented on the sign up sheet (attached)

Absent: Councilors Chris **Jeffries** and Randy **Hoodenpyl**.

I. Mayor Tony **Hall** called this meeting to order at 7:00PM. Mayor **Hall** announced that under “Roll Call,” he will be addressing a Council members resignation and under “New Business,” the Council will select one council procedure example as previously discussed in the work session.

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

Councilor Jerry **Spaulding**: present

Councilor David **Meeker**: present

Councilor Richard **Sager**: present

Mayor Tony **Hall**: present

Councilor Chris **Jeffries**: absent

Councilor Randy **Hoodenpyl**: absent

Councilor Don **Richter**: present

Councilor **Sager** informed Recorder **Blanchette** that Councilor **Jeffries** sent him a message saying that she will be working until 7:30pm and may not make the meeting.

Mayor **Hall** read aloud a resignation letter submitted by Councilor **Hoodenpyl** stating he is unable to serve on Council due to other commitments. A consensus of the Council was made to accept the resignation and to declare the position vacant. It was suggested to make an insert announcing the position in the next month’s water bills and post notices around town.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mayor **Hall** called for any public comment at this time for a period of three minutes or less. Audience member John **Minnick** expressed his interest to start a farmers market in Gaston with Mayor **Hall** directing him to speak with Councilor **Spaulding**. Councilor **Spaulding** sought out interest for this idea last year and is needing more volunteers.

Audience member and city resident Patty **Hoodenpyl** was recognized by Mayor **Hall** and provided Council with a complaint against students littering; creating a mess on the street in front of her house. Deputy **Wormington** presented solutions for this issue other than having additional police presence. Additional discussion heard on installing “No Parking” and “No Parking Between the Hours of 8-4” signs along the school on Park Street. Mayor **Hall** requested Patty **Hoodenpyl** report back to the Council in April as to her neighbors’ opinion on installing no parking signs along Park Street. No further comments heard.

III. COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor **Hall** called for Council reports with Councilor **Richter** reporting his research on finding cheaper power sources and having the city provide power directly to residents. Western Oregon Electric and Forest Grove Electric Company were contacted with the report that changing providers would be very costly as PGE owns all the poles and lines in which would need to be bought if another provider were able to provide service in the Gaston area.

Councilor **Sager** reported to the Council his idea for preventing future water loss due to the tank overflowing by adding a momentary switchboard with a mechanical pull switch that will have to be reset manually during a power outage or earthquake. Councilor **Sager** will send Lars **Best**, the City Engineer and Recorder **Blanchette** plans for a one line. Also needed is a battery back up to drive the valve closed.

Mayor **Hall** reported his attendance at the Yamhelas Westsider Trail on March 1st. This meeting was to discuss the trail development from Flett Road to Scoggins Creek or farther north to the Forest Grove area. This meeting determined three different ways where the trail would pass through in Gaston; the first way is based on the City's Park Master Plan. The second way the plan could pass through Gaston would loop around Onion Lane, or lastly the trail would loop around Brown Park.

I. STAFF REPORTS:

Police: Deputy **Wormington** reported for the month February 2016. 82 total incidents with 22 public demand, 16 self-initiated calls, three arrests, 32 traffic stops and eight citations. On the 6th of February a verbal domestic call on 3rd Street with no crimes identified. On the 9th there was unwanted sexual contact out behind the school still under investigation. A non-injury crash on Mill Street and Hwy 47, no injuries. A driving under the influence by the Post Office, a female went wine tasting and continued driving with wine in the middle console, finally pulling over to go to sleep until being spoken to by **Wormington**. Her blood alcohol content was .13. A couple days later a DUI crash that ended at the Ace Tavern with the driver going northbound and crossed the centerline, sideswiping the oncoming vehicle causing it to spin out and ending at the Ace Tavern. She was not wearing her seatbelt and was medically transferred with a BAC of .10. A male with a failure to appear warrant was arrested on Costelloe Drive, taken without incident. A verbal argument by high school students the Coffee shop, no crimes identified. Outside of town, a resident reported a suspicious vehicle pulling into his driveway without a tire causing sparks to fly everywhere. The two individuals who were trying to change the tire. Upon contact with these two males they were suspects to multiple burglaries, thefts and fraudulent credit card use. Both were arrested on probation violations. Expected contracted hours are 124 with almost 160 hours dedicated to the City. Sergeant **Schuster** reported the two individuals arrested outside of town for probation violations were further charged with multiple county burglaries and car thefts.

John **Koch** from the Washington County Sherriff's Office presented the 2016-17 proposed police service contract and explained the Sherriff's office aims to maintain the standard of one officer per 1,000 people. With that standard, the Sherriff Office's new contract proposes .75 deputy for Gaston's 600 residents. A decrease in the number of hours worked only slightly would save the City money offering 24 hours rather than 30 hours a week. Mayor **Hall** announced that no decision will be made today by the Council at this time regarding the contract, but will be made at the April Council meeting. Mayor **Hall** announced the City has contacted Yamhill County Sherriff's Office for a proposal for police services.

Public Works: Public Works Director Rich **Williams** reported for the month of January the City had 2,926,632 gallons with 13% water loss. The City Engineer is working on loan paperwork for the pump station needed at Country Mobile Estates. Street sweeping will be on the 21st of March. Due to high water levels at the park some general maintenance has been done at the park.

Office: Recorder **Blanchette** reported the deadline for Statement of Economic Interest will be April 15, 2016. Each Councilor is required to submit one, which is only available to submit online. Anyone needing a computer to use can come to City **Hall** and use the office computer if needed. The School has proposed the annual ball field use contract be changed to a three-year contract with the use fee of \$1,500 each year remaining the same. This contract has been submitted to the School Board for review. Help wanted notices were posted outside of City **Hall** recruiting for the Public Works and part time office help. Discussion had one verbal and two written complaints. The verbal complaint is requesting the City remove the “No Pets” sign at Brown Park. The two written complaints were regarding inconsistent water billing dates. Councilor **Sager** requested Recorder **Blanchette** to send him the audio recording of the November Council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

VI. Appointment of Budget Committee Chair and Park & Recreation Committee Liaison: Motion to appoint Councilor **Meeker** as the Budget Chairperson was made by Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Richter**. Motion carried. Voting Aye: **Sager, Richter, Meeker,** and **Spaulding**. Nay: 0. Mayor **Hall** called for interest to serve as the Park and Recreation Committee Liaison with Councilor **Sager** nominating Mayor **Hall** with Councilor **Richter** seconding the nomination of Mayor **Hall** for the position. Mayor **Hall** declined the nomination stating Councilor **Meeker** was asked and wanted a few days to think about being appointed to the position. No further action taken.

VII. Selection of Council Procedure List: Mayor **Hall** explained to the audience that the Council has been reviewing several different city’s council rules with a consensus of the Council to use Forest Grove’s template and modify it for Gaston. Motion made by Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Spaulding** to “accept the Forest Grove’s template.” Motion passed. Voting Aye: **Sager, Richter, Meeker,** and **Spaulding**. Nay:0.

VIII. Second Reading on Ordinance No. 2016-001 An Ordinance of the City of Gaston Declaring a Ban on Medical Processing Sites Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, Recreational Marijuana Producers, Recreational Marijuana Processors, Recreational Marijuana Wholesalers, and/or Recreational Marijuana Retailers; Referring Ordinance; and Declaring an Emergency: Discussion heard on the tax revenue generated from the Marijuana Tax and by passing this moratorium, the City will not be able to collect any revenue generated. The City still anticipates voters of the City to vote for their position on Marijuana operations; however, the City will not collect any tax earnings if the Ordinance is adopted. Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to adopt Ordinance No 2016-001. No motion heard. Councilor **Spaulding** asked to table the Ordinance for the next Council meeting with Councilor **Spaulding** motioning to “table the Ordinance until April,” with second heard by Councilor **Richter**. Motion passed with those voting Aye: **Spaulding, Richter,** and **Meeker**. Nay: **Sager**. Motion passed.

Gaston resident Julie **Dailey** asked Mayor **Hall** if there was a way to for the City to collect tax revenue for the one-grandfathered business and ban any future marijuana businesses. Mayor **Hall** responded that the City could not receive tax revenue in addition to adopting a moratorium prohibiting marijuana.

IX. Resolution 16-001: A Resolution Approving Referral to the Electors of the City of Gaston the Question of Banning Medical Marijuana, Processing sites, Medical Marijuana Dispensaries, Recreational Marijuana Processors, Recreational Marijuana Wholesalers, and/or Recreational Marijuana Retailers within the City was discussed with a general consensus amongst the Council to wait to table this Resolution for the April meeting and conclusion from Ordinance No. 2016-001.

X. CDBG Week Proclamation: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to adopt March 28th through April 1st 2016 as Community Development Block Grant Week. Motion was made to “adopt the proclamation,” by Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Meeker**. Motion passed. Aye: **Spaulding, Richter, Meeker, and Sager**. Nay: 0.

XI. Patricia Garner-Grant Writing & Transcribing of Minutes: Mayor **Hall** discussed having community member Patricia **Garner** present her references and proposal for grant writing and minute transcribing. The proposal includes for a salary of \$1,500 a month. Discussion had on writing grants, obtaining grants and the difficulty in applying for grants. Audience member John **Minnick** stated the Ford Foundation is a good place to apply for funding and can provide additional information for grant sources. No action taken.

XII. Employee Evaluations: Discussion was heard of establishing an employee evaluation process that is done annually that coincides with the budget. A general consensus amongst the Council was made for having the Council conduct the employee evaluations in written form.

OLD BUSINESS:

XIII. Screamin’ Chicken Update: Council reviewed correspondence received from the Diner with a motion to grant an extension for 90 days and at the end of those 90 days to provide Council with a update of the proposed apartment unit built above the diner. The diner property was built approximately 4-8 inches on the neighbor property. Motion to “grant this extension of the Temporary Use Permit,” was made by Councilor **Sager** and second heard by Councilor **Richter**. Motion carried with aye votes from: **Sager, Richter, and Spaulding**. Nay: **Meeker**.

MINUTES: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to adopt the minutes for December, January and February. Motion was made by Councilor **Sager** and seconded by Councilor **Spaulding** to “approve the minutes from December 2015, January and February with the noted corrections.” Motion carried. Aye: 4, Nay: 0.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to accept the accounts payable. Councilor **Meeker** motioned to “accept the accounts payable” with second heard by Councilor **Spaulding**. Motion carried with aye votes heard from: **Sager, Meeker, Richter, and Spaulding**. Nay: 0.

Community Member Lee **Hamel** presented to the Council his report of equipment needed for upgrading the computer system to provide for video conferences. Councilor **Sager** requested to review the information and come back at the next meeting following a general consensus to make a decision at that time regarding upgrading the computer system.

I. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor **Hall** asked for any further business, none heard. Meeting adjourned at 8:17PM.

Mayor Tony Hall

Attest:

City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette