

**November 9, 2016
Regular Session
City of Gaston**

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

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

Absent: None

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

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**: present

Councilor Don **Richter**: present

Councilor Rod **Hale**: present

III. ADDITIONS/CHANGES OR CORRECTIONS – Mayor **Hall** called for changes or additions with Recorder **Blanchette** announcing under New Business, to appoint a Chairman for the Transportation Committee.

IV. AWARDS: Mayor **Hall** presented Councilor **Meeker** with a Certification of Appreciation in recognition of his volunteer and dedication to Brown Park during the spring and summer.

V. STAFF REPORTS:

City Clerk: City Council reviewed the written report submitted by City Clerk **Bregante-Candau**. Councilor **Meeker** inquired of the meter reading handheld device and the possibility of using the docking station with a new device. It would cost approximately \$600 for a new device. No further comments.

Councilor **Sager** asked Mayor **Hall** why City staff was unable to locate his water meter box and mailed a certified letter requesting him to make the meter accessible to staff instead of calling him on his phone. At this time, Mayor **Hall** called for order and informed Council the importance of language used in a public meeting. Councilor **Sager** continued to ask Mayor **Hall** why he not called about this issue rather than making him leave work early to pick up a certified letter. Public Works Director **Whittaker** responded with his attempt to contact Councilor **Sager** to find the location of his meter with Councilor **Sager** informing him it was behind the log and rubbish. At this time, Mayor **Hall** informed Deputy **Wormington** and for the record, that Councilor **Sager** “flipped him the bird” and informed Councilor **Sager** if he was unable to conduct himself properly that he would be removed from Council. Councilor **Sager** said that the Oregon Supreme Court stated that it was freedom of speech. Public Works Director **Whittaker** informed Council that he looked again for the water meter, attempted to make contact again by knocking at the door to speak with Councilor **Sager**, but was still unable to make contact or

locate the meter. Mayor **Hall** made known for the record that Councilor **Sager** “flipped him the bird” for a second time.

Councilor Sager - “Here’s the picture, it’s like three foot six inches from where you threw those, I mean I just took the shovel and went like this I feel like this is how the mayor is just trying to screw with me, just like the water meter from the Screamin Chicken and it was supposed to be shut off because they ran it way up. The mayor eats breakfast there a couple times a week but yet he said he didn’t know this-

Mayor Hall- “Order please! (hitting gavel) Order Please! We’re not discussing the Screamin Chicken water bill-”

Councilor Sager’ “Well that’s what you said. I’m talking about your corruption how instead of someone calling me like a man-”

Mayor Hall- “If you don’t come to order now, I’ll have you removed!

Councilor Sager- “I’ll leave now! Fuck you! You fucking asshole! You’re a liar and you’re a liar (pointing to Public Works Director Whittaker), “you should of left a note! Instead you’re just fucking with people.”

Councilor **Sager** left the meeting at this time.

Discussion of the administrative process contacting and sending Councilor **Sager** a letter regarding his water meter. Mayor **Hall** made known for the record he did not have anything to do with or be involved with the matter pertaining to Councilor **Sager’s** meter whatsoever. Councilor **Sager’s** meter to date is accessible and has been for several days. No further comment.

Supervisor Report: Mayor **Hall** provided his report. An application for a medical/recreational marijuana facility was submitted and approved on the City’s behalf to review zoning, as Gaston does not have any restrictions for such facilities. It was discovered that some distances from the proposed business and the school might be too close to determine by City Staff the 1,000 feet of buffer area required by law. This would need further investigation to determine distance by OLCC and are aware of the situation. Mayor **Hall** received a complaint from Mike **Morey** regarding the overfilling of the water reservoir possibly causing drainage issues for the culvert on South road.

Police: Deputy **Wormington** reported for the month of October there were 86 total incidents with 22 public demand, 16 call-ins, 64 self-initiated, 4 arrests, 22 traffic stops and 6 citations. An unknown person stole mature marijuana plants from a property on 3rd Street. On the 6th a juvenile was arrested for providing alcohol to another student have a .15 BAC. On the 8th at 2am, a male and female were located behind the fire station near Bart Brown’s property. No crimes were identified at the time, however it was discovered that Multnomah County had an active case of Robbery I, Unlawful Use of a Motor Vehicle after being released from questioning. After his release, his location was eventually found and was transferred to Multnomah County. On the 17th theft of a motorcycle was reported but due to not having a vin number or plate number for the motorcycle it would be difficult to find however its likely related. A hit and run crash during a football game was reported, no suspects at this time. Several reports have been made of people in and out of 104 Onion Lane. Difficulty in identifying a crime at this property so unless the property owner calls citing a crime there’s not much the Sherriff’s office can do.

Public Works: Public Works Director **Whittaker** presented his report to Council with a bid for water pump replacement. This is to match the existing water pump system. Working with Hiland Water and having water tests done on time for accurate reporting. Working on

providing accurate water loss. Water reservoir had a malfunctioning surge protector and has since been replaced. GPS location on all the meters are being looked at to map out coordinates to help determine locations of water meters. Researching costs for installing pre meter water sampling locations and electronic radio reads. Sidewalk at Hedin Terrace was previously granted a 30-day extension for the property at 410 Hedin Terrace to delay installation back in August. That extension has passed without success of said sidewalk. The City Attorney has started the process for entering into litigation if necessary. The culverts on South Road were cleared out by Washington County. Shop safety is an issue beginning with proposing to paint the shop building ceiling white and will brighten up the shop. Public Works Director **Whittaker** presented a proposal for an oil-based dry fall paint. Discussion heard regarding chemicals and other materials that may be left over and require professional cleanup. Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to approve the proposal from Jenkins Painting for \$3,540. Motion made Councilor **Spaulding** following second heard by Councilor **Richter** to "approve the painting proposal." No further discussion. Motion carried with Aye votes heard from **Jeffries, Meeker, Spaulding, Hale, and Richter**. Nay: 0. Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to approve the replacement and repair of the second pump at the water reservoir. Motion "to replace the pump and have it rebuilt," was made by Councilor **Richter** and seconded by Councilor **Jeffries**. No further discussion. Motion passed with Aye votes heard from: **Jeffries, Meeker, Spaulding, Hale, and Richter**. Nay: 0. Discussion heard on the Public Works vehicle and the need for a vehicle in the near future. The 2001 Chevy is beginning to have electrical and some mechanical issues. Mileage for this vehicle is not the factor; the usage is the issue. No action taken. Discussion heard of the urgency and need to have IT services for the City and library computers. Red flag rules and the vulnerability of the city computers at this time stress the urgency for upgrading and contracting with regular maintenance on city computers. Northwest Computer Tech was asked to look over the current set up for internet and computer security in which the City does not have. Mayor **Hall** called for a vote to approve the proposal from Northwest Computer Tech at \$1,850 with \$489 of maintenance per year. Councilor **Jeffries** made a motion to "get Northwest Computer Tech for \$1,850 to upgrade the network and make it safe with an additional \$489." Motion seconded by Councilor **Meeker**. Councilor **Spaulding** inquired for additional proposals to review costs with Public Works Director **Whittaker** requesting to have an approval today of such services cost capped of a certain amount due to the computer security need. Mayor **Hall** called for a vote with Aye: **Hall, Meeker, and Richter**. Nay: **Hale, Jeffries, and Spaulding**. Vote Tied. Motion failed. By mutual consensus of the Council it was requested to have additional bids ready for the next meeting to make a decision on secured IT services at that time.

Recorders Report: Recorder **Blanchette** discussed with Council that administratively the new Public Works Director been established as an employee with the City. In QuickBooks, the savings account is up to date, still working on fine-tuning the checking account. The city web page has been set up with City Clerk **Bregante-Candau** working at updating it. Web payments through the website is still being worked on this will take some time. Once the City has IT services for City Hall set up, the City will work begin operating with those services. Staff will be working with American Legal Publishing to submit them with ordinances adopted beginning 2002 and forward to codify those. Draft copies of the 2012-13 audit report are available for those who wish to look at those. A need to change authorized signers on the bank account and possibly in January. The payroll timeclock situation will be changing to a system tied into Paychex that will eliminate using the manual timeclock and would require employees to sign into

their computers calculating monthly payroll without needing to manually add up each employee's hours each month.

VI. COUNCIL REPORTS:

Mayor **Hall** called for any Council Reports at this time. No Council Reports at this time.

VII. PUBLIC COMMENT: Wade **Simms** in regards to the CTE Building being constructed at the School expressed his difficulty in dealing with the City approving the required conditions and necessary information to allow for construction of the new shop building. Several conditions of the final order from the Public Hearing had in August have been met, but he expressed there were minor hang-ups preventing the ability to begin construction that does not pertain to the actual construction itself. If the building is not completed by the end of the year and obtain occupancy, the School will lose their grant. Discussion heard amongst the Council of the City and School working together to resolve the issue. It appears Washington County building is requiring the same information the City is requiring as part of its conditions of approval. Susy **McKenzie** Gaston School District Superintendent also expressed her frustration toward fulfilling the requirements as more and more lists are being completed as new ones arise. Her desire is for the city to work together to fulfill these requirements as it appears there's a lack of communication from the School District, the Contractors for the CTE Building, and the City have. It was determined that contact between all agencies will be made tomorrow to move this project along as quickly as possible. No action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

VIII. Transportation Committee: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to establish a Transportation Committee. This committee will oversee the possibility of installing a stoplight in Gaston on Hwy 47. Discussion heard for where to put a stop sign with Mayor **Hall** indicating the committee would establish the best place for the stoplight. Motion to "appoint Councilor **Spaulding** and Councilor **Richter** to the Transportation Committee," was made by Councilor **Meeker** and seconded by Councilor **Jeffries**. Motion passed unanimously. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

IX. IT Computer Services: Mayor **Hall** explained this issue was previously discussed during the Public Works Report and will discuss this issue at the following meeting.

X. Change Authorized Signers on the City US Bank Account: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to change authorized signers on the city's bank account. Motion made by Councilor **Jeffries** to "remove Richard **Sager** as a signer on the city's bank account and authorize and appoint Jerry **Spaulding** as the new signer." Motion seconded by Councilor **Richter**. No further discussion. Motion passed unanimously. Aye: **Jeffries, Meeker, Spaulding, Hale, and Richter**. Nay: 0.

OLD BUSINESS:

XI. Wage Study Increase: Mayor **Hall** presented information requested by the Wage Committee from the hired accountant Mike **Marr** to determine if the City's budget can support wage increases and what monies are available. No further action taken or needed.

COMPLAINTS: Recorder **Blanchette** confirmed the City received a second complaint of dog feces on sidewalks and dogs running around town without leashes. It was announced the City would be sending a second flyer in water bills to inform dog owners to clean up after their pets

and to keep them on leases. Washington County Animal Control will be contacted to potentially deal with the stray dog issue. No further action.

ACCOUNTS PAYABLE: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to accept the bills payable list for November with Councilor **Meeker** motioning “to accept the bills payable for November 2016,” and seconded by Councilor **Spaulding**. Motion passed. Aye: 5. Nay: 0.

MINUTES: Mayor **Hall** called for a motion to accept the work session and regular session minutes. Councilor **Jeffries** asked of item number five, the second sentence on the regular session for clarification. Correction to remove the last word in the sentence. Councilor **Jeffries** motioned to “accept the work and regular session minutes.” Motion seconded by Councilor **Hale**. Motion passed unanimously. Aye: 5, Nay: 0.

Discussion heard on election results for the City of Gaston. Prohibiting marijuana in the City of Gaston passed (unofficially) with incumbents David **Meeker** and Don **Richter** expected to win another term in their respective seats. Newly elected Bill **Martin** won (unofficially) the last council position.

At this time, Deputy **Wormington** addressed the Mayor with the following:

Deputy Wormington- “I don't know if this is something you want to address tonight, but when I spoke with the attorney the last time he was here about the process of a council member either being removed because we talked about the formality behind that and to vote at that night or the that time when it happens same as you removed him from being the president that action he recommended to be the same case just removed from council and when he quit, he told me he quit outside there and I believe he stated it in here. I'm not sure if that needs to be something formal.

Mayor Hall- “Yes it does, in this case we need to have a motion to have Councilman Sager removed.

Councilor **Jeffries** motioned to “have Councilor **Sager** removed and declared his seat open.” Councilor **Richter** seconded the motion. Motion carried. Aye: **Jeffries, Meeker, Richter,** and **Spaulding**. Nay: **Hale**.

XII. ADJOURNMENT: Mayor **Hall** adjourned the regular session at 8:43PM.

Mayor Tony Hall

Attest:

City Recorder Wenonah Blanchette