

BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING – FEBRUARY 7, 2023
BOARDMAN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA ZOOM

Mayor Keefer called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Councilors present: Paul Keefer, Isaac Williams, Heather Baumgartner, Cristina Cuevas, Roy Drago Jr., Karen Pettigrew, and Brenda Profitt (arrived at 7:17pm)

Staff: Rick Stokoe- City Manager Pro Tem, Jackie McCauley-Acting Recorder & Building Clerk, Marta Barajas-Finance Director, Carla McLane-Planning Official, Kevin Kennedy- Public Works Director, Toni Connell – Utility Clerk, Rolf Prag-Special Projects Coordinator, Luis Campos-Public Works, Loren Dieter-Interim Police Chief and George Shimer-School Resource Officer

Audience: Torrie Griggs-Boardman Chamber of Commerce, Rick Stoddard-Barnett & Moro, Kevin Miracle-Sanitary Disposal, Becky Miracle, Stephen Fuss, Justin Nelson-Morrow County D.A., Kelly Doherty, Maria Cambero, iPhone, RHS Students - Uriel Diaz-Ramos, Octavio Estrella, Juan Carlos Morello, Angelica Resendiz, Hilary Payne, and Colton Green

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

January 10, 2023 – Regular Meeting

Councilor Baumgartner made a motion to approved the January 10, 2023 minutes as presented. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 with one absent.

January 12, 2023 – Special Meeting

Councilor Drago made a motion to approved the January 12, 2023 minutes as presented. Councilor Cuevas seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 with one absent.

January 28, 2023 – Workshop

Councilor Williams made a motion to approved the January 28, 2023 minutes as presented. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. Motion passed 6-0 with one absent.

PREARRANGED PRESENTATION

Torrie Griggs – Boardman Chamber of Commerce – Frontline Worker of the Year Presentation

Ms. Griggs presented Loren Dieter with a certificate and flowers for being selected the 2022 Boardman Frontline Worker of the Year.

Mayor's Presentation to Karla Jimenez

Mayor Keefer thanked Karla Jimenez for serving on the Boardman Planning Commission. Ms. Jimenez's term ended December 31, 2022. She was not in attendance; however the video of the presentation will be posted on the website for her to view.

2021-2022 Financial Audit Presentation – Rick Stoddard – Barnett & Moro P.C.

Mr. Stoddard said they compared the supporting documents with what has been recorded and noted the financial statements have been fairly presented. They noted the budget has been overspent in a couple of places. Also, at the time of the audit, the 2020-2021 audit had not yet been filed with the state. The testing he and his teammate did gave him nothing he felt needed to communicate to the council today.

Finance Director Barajas said Barnett & Moro PC is the new auditor for the city. Previous auditors are no longer performing municipal audits. With the previous auditor, the city has had difficulty getting the 2020-2021 audit. Finance Director Barajas asked the council for a motion to approve the 2021-2022 audit. Councilor Baumgartner made a motion to approve the 2021-2022 audit, as presented by Barnett & Moro P.C. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. The motion passed 6-0 with one absent.

Garbage Rate Increase – Kevin Miracle – Sanitary Disposal, Inc.

Mr. Miracle said Waste Connections, Inc. purchased Sanitary Disposal, Inc. in December of 2021. They've spent 2.8 million in equipment, wages, facilities, a bailer and \$670,000 in roll off boxes. They have installed dry cams in all trucks with almost a 360° view of the truck and have spent money on driver training. Next year they anticipate spending another 1.4 million in roll off boxes, carts and containers. Their costs have increased at the landfill also. The last garbage rate increase was in July of 2019. They are asking for a 16.13% increase due to an increase in their costs. They would like the garbage rate to increase beginning March 2023.

Councilor Cuevas asked why they were asking for the increase to begin in March. She said as a resident, she would appreciate more notice of the increase. Mr. Miracle said the timeframe is negotiable.

City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said the city has not budgeted for an increase in this fiscal year. Finance Director Barajas said it would be best to begin a garbage rate increase July 1, 2023, at the beginning of the next fiscal year. Mr. Miracle said he was agreeable to the July 1, 2023 timeframe. Finance Director Barajas said the latest she would need the final numbers for the increase is by April 2023 to incorporate it into the proposed budget before the budget committee meets in May 2023.

Councilor Pettigrew asked if the numbers presented tonight would change between now and April. Mr. Miracle said they would go up. How much depends on the Consumer Price Index at the time they submit the numbers to the city.

7:17 p.m. Councilor Profitt logged into the meeting via Zoom.

City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said the city would need to approve a resolution by April 2023 to take effect July 1, 2023 for a garbage rate increase.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending December 31, 2022

Finance Director Barajas said there were some big numbers at the bottom of the financial report under Budgeted Interfund Transfers. This has to do with the opening of accounts for the G.O. Bond projects. She also reported the dog park project expenses have been paid for. The project is 100% complete.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

ACTION ITEMS

Resolution No 2-2023- IGA – Oregon Public Works Emergency Response Cooperative Assistance

Councilor Drago made a motion to adopt an intergovernmental agreement with other governmental agencies who are members of the Oregon Public Works Emergency Response Cooperative Assistance Agreement and authorize the public works director to sign the agreement on behalf of the city. Councilor Baumgartner seconded the motion. Councilor Pettigrew said this is similar to the IGA approved by council a couple months ago, but they are two different agreements. Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

City Manager's Position

Mayor Keefer said the city council is currently in negotiations with one of the candidates who interviewed for the city manager's position. City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said the city had received applications from a nation-wide search and the city council had narrowed the candidates down to three. The city held a Meet and Greet of the three candidates and panel interviews last week.

Councilor Cuevas said she appreciated all of the residents who came out to give input to the city council for the city manager's position. She said it was very important to have the input.

Appointment of Budget Committee Member – Edith Velasco

Finance Director Barajas said after last month's city council meeting, she had approached Edith Velasco from the audience to see if she had interest in serving on the budget committee. Edith sent a letter of interest to fill a vacancy on the budget committee. There are currently three vacancies.

Councilor Williams made a motion to appoint Edith Velasco to the Boardman Budget Committee and the Boardman Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee for a term ending December 31, 2025. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. Motion passed 7-0.

REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION:

Police Report

City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said he had appointed Captain Loren Dieter as the Interim Police Chief when he was appointed City Manager Pro Tem.

Interim Police Chief Dieter said the police department has posted an open position for either a police officer recruit or a lateral police officer. He is hoping for a lateral police officer rather than sending someone to school. The position is in anticipation of training another officer to take over for when SRO Shimer retires.

In January both Interim Police Chief Dieter and Officer Brandon attended a "Train the Trainer" training in Idaho for Active Shooter. This will allow them to train area businesses to conduct their own active shooter training.

Building Department Report

Building Clerk McCauley said 40 permits were issued in the City of Boardman jurisdiction last month; most of them were for the Tidewater townhome projects.

Public Works Department Report

Public Works Director Kennedy asked if the council had questions regarding his report in their packet. There were none.

City Manager Report

City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said the city manager's position has enveloped much of staff's time the past couple of weeks.

The city will be getting a new waste water receiving station at the lagoon. Years ago the city stopped allowing dumping at the lagoon from companies because of the mess, and staff time involved in letting them into the lagoon each time they needed to dump. A local company is willing to reimburse the city up to \$400,000 to install the new waste water receiving station as they will need to use it temporarily themselves. Anderson Perry and Associates is currently designing the station. It will have key card access to avoid using staff time for access to the lagoons.

Councilor Cuevas asked if there would be a cost for companies to dump at the lagoon. City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said yes, the last rate set by council was \$.25 a gallon.

Anderson Perry & Associates is working on the Columbia Avenue water and sewer upgrades. The project will go out for bids and wrap up quickly.

The city is still working on getting easements for the Oregon Trail to SE Front Street Loop Road Project. This project is already fairly well designed.

He thanked staff for everything they have done for assisting with the hiring process for the city manager's position. He is proud of staff.

Councilors

Councilor Pettigrew asked if either of the two councilors who attended the Elected Essentials training in LaGrande last month would like to give a report. Councilor Baumgartner said it was a good training. She felt hearing questions from other councilors and what their communities are facing was beneficial.

Councilor Profitt wanted to bring attention to the West Extension Irrigation's project on Paul Smith Road. They are burying all of their lateral irrigation pipes at this time. Last year the council talked about putting a walking path along Paul Smith Road. Because a portion of Paul Smith Road is within the city and the county's jurisdiction, perhaps this is an opportunity to have a conversation with the county for putting in a safe walking path. The city should capitalize on the opportunity while the irrigation company has their project underway. City Manager Pro Tem Stokoe said city staff has met with Morrow County about a walkway project, but more conversations are needed. Easements could be an issue as one of the properties along there has a front porch in the way, and there is an issue with the steep drop off along that roadway.

Mayor

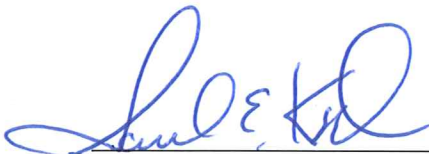
Mayor Keefer welcomed the Riverside High School students in attendance at tonight's meeting. He encouraged them not to be afraid to become involved in city government.

He thanked all of the people who have been involved in the search for the new city manager. He thanked the community and the panel volunteers and said their input was taken.

Councilor Drago also thanked the councilors for their time. He is retired, but most of the council had to take two days off of work to do the interviews.

Councilor Baumgartner said she appreciated the feedback from the community also.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:57pm.



Paul Keefer – Mayor



Jackie McCauley – Acting Recorder