

BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL – REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – NOVEMBER 7, 2023
BOARDMAN CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS AND VIA ZOOM

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

Councilors Present: ☒ Mayor Paul Keefer ☒ Richard Rockwell ☒ Brenda Profitt
 ☒ Karen Pettigrew ☒ Ethan Salata ☒ Cristina Cuevas
 ☒ Heather Baumgartner

Staff Present: ☒ Brandon Hammond, City Manager ☒ Amanda Mickles, City Clerk
 ☒ Rick Stokoe, Police Chief ☒ Marta Barajas, Finance Director
 ☒ Carla McLane, Planning Official ☒ Rolf Prag, Public Works Director
 ☒ Toni Connell, Utility Clerk ☒ Jackie McCauley, Building Clerk
 ☒ Nancy Orellana, Associate Planning ☒ Luis Campos, Public Works
 ☒ Glenn McIntire, Building Official ☒ Jose Fernandez, Code Compliance Official

Audience: Bella Brons, Kym and David Landstrom, Jaime Escobedo, Cheryl Tallman, Gavin R, Rob Roshon, Raymond Akers, Jonathan Tallman, Laura Torres. Via Zoom: Patricia, L. Anders, Stephen Fuss, Denise Stoltz, 541-720-2968, Samsung SM, Lisa Pratt

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

October 3, 2023 Regular Meeting

Councilor Baumgartner moved to approve the minutes of the October 3, 2023 regular meeting as presented. Councilor Cuevas seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Motion passed 7-0.

November 1, 2023 Council Workshop

Councilor Baumgartner moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2023 workshop. Councilor Rockwell seconded the motion. Mayor Keefer asked for discussion, Councilor Salata stated the minutes did not list him as present and asked for a correction to be made. Mayor Keefer asked Councilors Baumgartner and Rockwell if they were agreeable to change the motion to approve them as corrected, they agreed.

All were in favor.

Motion passed 7-0.

FORMAL PROCEEDINGS

Public Hearing – Surplus Real Property

Mayor Keefer opened the public hearing on declaring surplus real property located on Parcel 1 of PARTITION PLAT 2014-5, in the County of Morrow and State of Oregon, this property is approximately 307 acres located on Tower Road is called to order at 7:08 PM.

Staff report: City Manager Hammond explained the property was originally intended as an extra site for lagoons and it is no longer needed. For future potential development purposes, he requested the land be surplus. Mayor Keefer outlined the conduct of the hearing.

Mayor Keefer asked councilors to disclose any conflicts of interest. There were none.

Mayor Keefer asked if anyone challenged the impartiality of councilors. There were none.

Mayor Keefer asked to hear from proponents. Stephen Fuss stated it's a great idea because the city can continue to work more toward affordable housing within the community, it would be a great use of that land.

Mayor Keefer asked to hear from opponents. There were none.

Mayor Keefer asked to hear neutral comments. There were none.

Mayor Keefer closed the public hearing at 7:12pm.

INTRODUCTIONS

New City Employees Leticia Hernandez – HR/Payroll Specialist, Nancy Orellano – Planning Associate, and Amanda Mickles – City Clerk.

FINANCIAL REPORT

Ending August 2023

Finance Director Barajas stated franchise fees came in, checks are cut the last day of July so they arrive in August in the cycle. The capital project fund says over budget for revenue, which was all the timing that has to do with the actual cash carry over for last year and timing of payment which also includes transferring funds. The big checks went out for construction. The city has not had any issues, all projects are moving along very well. The final payment went out to Lane Christensen, so that has been closed, this includes the expansion. Interest rates are increasing; they were trying to slow down how fast they are increasing, but they will continue to increase through the end of the year.

Councilor Pettigrew asked when Lane's check was cut. Finance Director Barajas clarified the check was cut in September, however, the work was completed in August.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Prearranged Presentation

A Windy River student presented recent and upcoming activities the student body is participating in. Red Ribbon Week had dress up days and safety reviews, coloring and door decorating contests. World Kindness day is November 13 and they are planning on an assembly focusing on kindness.

Presentation to Ethan Salata, Mayor Keefer presented him with a certificate of appreciation for his time on the planning commission.

Other Public Comment

Jonathan Tallman would like to clarify the public speaking process as it is not clear what can be discussed and when. He asked for the City to clearly show why, how, and what is being discussed; transparency is important.

Stephen Fuss stated there is a very dark section of road at the new crosswalk along NE Columbia Ave. As a pedestrian, he was almost hit. He asked for a light to be installed at that crosswalk for pedestrian safety.

ACTION ITEMS

RESOLUTION

20-2023 Declaring Real Property as Surplus

Councilor Cuevas made a motion to approve Resolution 20-2023 Declaring Real Property as Surplus. Councilor Baumgartner seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Motion passed 7-0.

OTHER BUSINESS

Update Bank Signors

Financial Director Barajas asked the Council to update the bank signors to remove Isaac Williams and add City Manager Brandon Hammond and Councilor Ethan Salata.

Council Baumgartner made a motion to update the bank signors and custodians of the city bank accounts to include: City Manager Brandon Hammond, Mayor Paul Keefer, and Councilors: Heather Baumgartner, Cristina Cuevas, Karen Pettigrew, Brenda Profitt, Richard Rockwell, and Ethan Salata, and remove Isaac Williams. Councilor Cuevas seconded the motion.

All were in favor.

Motion passed 7-0.

Appointment of Planning Commissioners

Mayor Keefer asked the Planning Commissioner applicants in attendance to get up and introduce themselves and speak to the council as to why they are a qualified candidate. The Councilors have read the letters of interest, but would like to have a more personal touch.

David Landstrom stated he is new to Boardman a year ago, transitioning from Portland. He was a part of many changes that came up in the City of Portland, as a building owner and resident. He said livability and industry need to work together. This is a great way to fulfill his civic responsibility in the community he lives in.

Raymond Akers stated he is a 45+ year resident, outside city limits, and is eager for growth.

Vote results

Position #1 – Jami Carbray - 5 votes

Position #7 – David Landstrom - 6 votes

City Meeting Videos on Website/Social Media

Mayor Keefer asked for discussion on having City Council Meetings posted on the website. Current practice is they are posted, as decided in August 2022. Discussion was held and councilors agreed that keeping videos posted will keep meetings transparent and accessible. There was council consensus to continue posting council meeting videos on the website.

Council Rules

City Manager Hammond went over the updated Council Rules with all language changes that were discussed in the November 1, 2023 Workshop. After much discussion, additional changes were made, also about where the Council Rules will be found on the website. City Manager Hammond was asked to present an Ordinance at the next meeting in December to consider the changes.

REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION

Police Report

Police Chief Stokoe stated the DUI citations are staggeringly bad; they are continuing DUI Patrols and enforcements. Hit and runs accidents are high, probably drug and alcohol related. Most of the DUI's reported are male, 18-39 year old age range. Mayor Keefer stated he would be interested to see the stats pre-COVID and post-Covid to see how the world is reacting to what's going on. Chief Stokoe stated that would be difficult to determine as Oregon has decriminalized some substances. Councilor Rockwell asked if neighboring communities have similar increases. Chief Stokoe stated the regional meeting showed there are increases across the state as a whole. Councilor Cuevas asked if it is broken down by residents and non-residents, or if it can be broken down by ethnicities, or gender. Chief Stokoe stated it is not, but can be, it just takes a lot of time.

Building Department Report

Building Official McIntire referred to Jackie McCauley, building clerk, for the report numbers. She stated the total permits increased, but are slowing down for the season. Big projects are getting complete. Builders are not building on spec, they are building presold homes. Mayor Keefer stated with as much as the city is building, it is not growing. The Census is not accounting for all the residents. Portview Apartments are maxed

out with a waiting list with the potential of 1000 tenants. The new Tidewater community will allow for approximately 1200. Mayor Keefer states City data shows the numbers are increasing.

Public Works Department Report

Public Works Director Prag stated meter installs will not slow down due to the cold weather, however they are waiting for close to 1000 radios to be received. This could be a long process due to waiting for parts.

Mayor Keefer asked how to get a brighter and safer bulb for street lights. LED lights are brighter. Councilor Pettigrew stated there are quite a few LED lights in Boardman, they are less expensive, but illuminate a smaller area. Mayor Keefer asked why they put blue lights out at the rest area, David Landstrom stated they put in blue lights as they are easier on eyesight and illuminates the ground better with less light pollution.

City Manager

City Manager Hammond stated the city has received the Small City Allocation awarded at \$250,000. This will be used on the NW Columbia Avenue project. He visited Riverside, Windy River and Sam Boardman schools to tell them about the motto contest. It is now posted on the website to update the motto. The contest has begun, councilors will select a winner at the next City Council Meeting on December 5, 2023. The grand prize winner will receive a \$300 cash prize, laser engraved trophy and shirts. The other 3 prize winners will receive community business gift cards.

Recycle bins will be moved to the end of Tatone, nothing will officially be moved until the city finishes Oregon Trail Blvd to make something more permanent; it will be more visible. The bins are full of trash and cannot be recycled, the area is full of trash and is becoming an eyesore.

He thanked the council for their time with the Council Rules. He appreciates Mayor Keefer mentioning the Charter update; the city is working to be more transparent. The safety update is going well; it is very important that workers are trained with procedures and updates will be completed by April.

Councilors

Councilor Salata thanked everyone for appointing him to the council. Councilor Pettigrew asked if there would be a Christmas Party. Financial Director Barajas stated the City Clerk started Monday and this is part of their responsibilities. Hopefully the information will be emailed this week to save the date, December 15, 2023, 6pm.

Mayor

Mayor Keefer directed the City to put up Christmas lights. If something needs to be replaced, replace them.

This meeting was adjourned at 8:56 pm.



Paul Keefer – Mayor



Amanda Mickles – City Clerk