

Minutes of the Veneta City Council Work Session November 9, 2015

Present: Sandra Larson, Tim Brooker, Thomas Cotter, Victoria Hedenstrom and Thomas Laing

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Ken Jones, Legal Counsel; Kay Bork, Community Services Director; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Director; Darci Henneman, City Recorder; Lane County Commissioner Jay Bozievich; Sgt. Halvorson and Sheriff Trapp, LCSO; Chief Terry Ney, Lane Fire Authority; Steve Reister, and Joan Mariner, Fern Ridge Review

1. CALL TO ORDER THE VENETA CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Mayor Larson called the Veneta City Council to order at 5:30 p.m.

2. DISCUSSIONS ON FERN RIDGE COMMUNITY POLICING DISTRICT

- a. What we now know from the County and FRCPD proponents
- b. What is the difference between a single rate and a split rate District
- c. Timeline of Needed Activities to make May 17, 2016 Election including City Milestones
- d. Unanswered Questions
- e. Specific recommendations and Requests from the Council before agreeing to be included in the FRCPD

Ingham said staff provided information for the Council regarding critical issues, conditions, and meeting schedule, etc. He said there is an aggressive timeline with a deadline of December 31st. He reviewed his power point presentation.

Legal Counsel Ken Jones said the key for the City is to make sure Veneta maintains its ability to continue its services that we've worked so hard to establish over the last 15 years.

In response to a question from Tim Brooker, Ingham said, based on information from Mr. Reister, two deputies would be on shift and patrolling the entire District and not just City limits.

Several Councilors said that they were under the impression that Veneta would have its own deputies.

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Sgt. Halvorson said the resource deputy would provide coverage for all seven schools inside the boundary. He said one community service deputy would be on duty 5 days a week and would also split the coverage with the resource deputy. He said these deputies would deal with area youth and youth corps and would have some specific training during the summer when school is out. He said both deputies would be armed in the schools.

In response to a question from Thomas Laing, Sgt. Halvorson said Veneta's current deputies would be absorbed into the District. He said new recruits will need a year of training.

In response to a question from Victoria Hedenstrom, Sgt. Halvorson said currently Veneta only has coverage 20 hours a day and with vacation or an illness, that coverage drops.

Mr. Reister said at times two deputies are required on scene and Veneta doesn't always have two deputies. He said many times due to trainings or illness, Veneta has no coverage at all.

Tim Brooker said we don't want to lose what we've already built up and in the first year of the District, we could be losing coverage.

Commissioner Jay Bozievich said language could be included in the agreements between the District, Lane County, and the City, that rural patrols won't go into effect until there are eight 8 FTE deputies trained and ready to patrol. He said the resolution the City Council passes could include that the District doesn't become effective until January 2017 to ensure it's fully staff.

In response to a question from Thomas Laing, Ingham said if the Council supported the single rate, the City would roll back the tax rate that we levy. He could see us getting improved or enhanced services for a less amount. He said with a split rate, Veneta would pay a lessor rate and rural residents would pay a higher rate.

There was a thorough discussion about the following topics:

- Creation and appointment of the advisory board members
- Who will operate the District – (Lane County Board of Commissioners and/or the Advisory Committee)

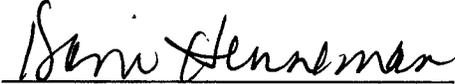
Sheriff Trapp said he's excited to have a community that wants a District and he wants to do what he can to make it work. He said the District should provide comfortable coverage.

3. **OTHER**
None

4. **ADJOURN**
Mayor Larson adjourned the Veneta City Council at 6:39 p.m.


Sandra H. Larson, Mayor

ATTEST:


Darci Henneman, City Recorder
(Minutes prepared by DHenneman)