

Minutes of the Veneta City Council

August 8, 2005

Present: Mayor T. J. Brooker, Darrell Carman, Thomas Cotter and Marion Esty

Absent: Fred Miller

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director; Kyle Schauer, Public Works Superintendent; Jerry Elliott, City Engineer; Sam Loftis; Mona Linstromberg; Kay Larson; Jani Bohn; Charles Standeford; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta City Council to order to order at 7:02 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

Sam Loftis; 25511 Hunter Road; Veneta, OR

Mr. Loftis said his neighbor is running Gary's Plumbing business out of his home. He said at least six trucks a day use the road in front of his house which is creating a lot of dust. Mr. Loftis said he called LRAPA about the dust problem and was told to contact the City. LRAPA said the road had to be either oiled or watered.

Mr. Loftis said the ditches all along Hunter Road are in the worst shape they have been in since he moved to Veneta 20 years ago. He said the City is stealing \$2.00 a month from him with the drainage fee because nothing has been done to clean the ditch in front of his property. In response to a question, he said at the insistence of his wife he has been paying the monthly fee. He said his well produces 48 gpm of iron free water and the only reason he connected to City water is to have water during a power outage.

Mr. Loftis said the City put a request on the last water bill to conserve water. He asked the Counsel where the water for all the development will come from.

Mr. Loftis asked what the Counsel is going to do about all the high grass violations up and down Hunter Road. He said people aren't keeping their ditches clean or their yards mowed which gives the City a bad image. He said he had to spend \$50.00 to spray weeds because his neighbors do not take care of their property.

Mr. Loftis said he has only seen a Sheriff's deputy on Hunter Road two times in the last two weeks and it wasn't during the peak hours for traffic. He said the road needs to be patrolled early in the day when construction traffic begins, and in the afternoon when people are coming home. He said because of all the recent development there is a need for a traffic signal at the intersection of Huston Road and Hwy 126.

In response to the comment about a signal light on Hwy 126, Ric Ingham said the highway is ODOT's jurisdiction and they will determine when a signal is warranted.

Mr. Loftis said his biggest concerns are the dust and the condition of the drainage ditches. He said the City allowed the development of Fern Meadows Subdivision but didn't require any drainage improvements. He said he built a ditch to accommodate the extra drainage but his neighbor hasn't done anything to keep the ditch clear. He said someone needs to tell his neighbor to put in a bigger pipe because the existing pipe cannot accommodate all of the drainage.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Mr. Loftis said his neighbor won't talk to him. He said talking to his neighbor is a job for the City or the Sheriff. Mr. Loftis said he will block the road with his truck if he needs to. He said he wants Hunter Road fixed. He said when the County had jurisdiction of the road it was in great shape.

Mr. Loftis said he wants to have some feedback regarding his comments.

In response to a question from the Council about the road off of Hunter Road, Ric said it is a private driveway, not a City street.

Mona Linstromberg; Territorial Road; Veneta, OR

Ms. Linstromberg said she has comments on two items:

- (1) Social Gaming: She said social gambling is an important issue. She gave the Council a copy of an article from Time Magazine about gambling. She said the article points out that availability is one of the things that draws people to gamble.
- (2) Public Notices: She is concerned that notices being sent to adjacent properties and posted on site are confusing and do not adequately address when comments need to be submitted. She gave an example of a notice that does not make it clear the written comments on a limited land use decision needed to be submitted prior to the public hearing. She said there needs to be some consistency when it comes to applications for related issues. She said the Planning Commission has allowed people to speak on applications not requiring public hearing which doesn't allow for rebuttal.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Margaret Boutell said the Planning Commission has allowed people to speak on related applications that do not all require a public hearing because it is difficult for people to separate the issues.

Ric said staff will continue to work with the Planning Commission chair to determine when comments can be received. He said there is a big demand on staff and there needs to be a good clear process of when public comments can be presented. He said the process needs to be fair and consistent.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Marion Esty seconded the motion.**

Discussion: Darrell Carman asked that the minutes be pulled from the consent agenda for correction.

Vote: Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Brooker, aye; and Darrell Carman, aye

The consent agenda as approved included bills paid and payable for June/July 2005.

Darrell Carman said page 8 of the minutes for July 25, 2005 should be corrected to show he voted yes on Resolution 906.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the minutes for July 25, 2005 as amended. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

3. PUBLIC HEARING

CLARK (CP/ZC-2-05) Request for Comprehensive Plan map and Zoning map amendment to change the plan designation of property located at 88080 Territorial Road from Public to Commercial and to change the zone from Public Facilities and Parks to Community Commercial. Assessor's map 17-06-36-41, tax lot 200

- a. Open Hearing: Mayor Brooker opened the public hearing at 7:25 p.m.
- b. Conflicts of Interest or Ex-Parte Contacts: None
- c. Staff Report (Sheryl Hackett)

The request before the City Council is to amend the Veneta Comprehensive Plan and zoning maps for Jack & Peggy Clark's property located at 88080 Territorial Road. The Comprehensive Plan map change would be from Public to Commercial and the zoning map change would be from Public Facilities and Parks to Community Commercial. The land use designation and zone for this property was inadvertently changed from Commercial to Public and Public Facilities and Parks when a new zoning district was created for publicly owned properties in September of 2000. The property is a long and narrow parcel of land located between the City skate park and the Fire District. A smaller privately owned parcel of land between the Clark property and Territorial remained designated and zoned for commercial use.

On August 26, 2002 the City Council adopted Ordinance 433 to correct these type of mapping errors and inconsistencies which included changing the plan designations and zone for privately owned properties that occurred when the new public zone was adopted. Although the applicant's property met the criteria for the map corrections, it was located between two publicly owned parcels of land and did not come to the attention of staff.

Prior to the public hearing, the City has received no written objections to the proposed change by either the public or referral agencies.

On July 5, 2005 the Veneta Planning Commission held a public hearing on the proposed changes. There was no public testimony. The Planning Commission has recommended to the City Council that they approve the proposed map amendments.

d. Public Testimony: None

e. Questions from the Council:

In response to questions from Thomas Cotter, Sheryl explained there are no minimum lot sizes or dimensions for Commercially zoned properties. At the present time there is an existing residence and chiropractic clinic on the property. A change in use would require a site plan amendment and the developer would be required to meet parking and other ordinance standards.

f. Close Hearing: Mayor Brooker closed the public hearing at 7:30 p.m.

g. Deliberation and Decision:

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the re-designation and re-zoning of the Clark property. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Sheryl Hackett explained that Ordinance 459 would adopt the necessary amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and zoning maps. The ordinance is being presented as an emergency because the mapping was done in error, the applicant has a proposed buyer for the property, and the map changes could be done at the same time as those approved for the Yamazaki zone change.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Ordinance 459 as an emergency for first reading by title only. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Ordinance 459 was read as follows:

Ordinance 459, an ordinance amending the Veneta Comprehensive Plan map adopted by Ordinance 416, Section 2, and the Veneta Zoning map as adopted by the Veneta Land Development Ordinance 417, Article 3, Section 3.03, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Ordinance 459 as an emergency for second reading and final enactment. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Ordinance 459 was read as follows:

Ordinance 459, an ordinance amending the Veneta Comprehensive Plan map adopted by Ordinance 416, Section 2, and the Veneta Zoning map as adopted by the Veneta Land Development Ordinance 417, Article 3, Section 3.03, and declaring an emergency.

4. **JOINT PUBLIC MEETING W/CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD**

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta Contract Review Board to order at 7:35 p.m.

a. **Veneta Business Park**

City Administrator Ric Ingham said Resolution 907 was prepared as a result of the Council's authorization on April 11, 2005 for the City to enter into an agreement with Frontier Resources, the private property owner of the Northeast Employment Center, for pre-design engineering work for the Veneta Business Park. Although there is some uncertainty about the long term ownership of the property, the management team felt it is important to complete the design work to keep the project moving in order to secure grants. The City's legal counsel determined the best way to do that is to pass a resolution granting an exemption for the normal contracting rules. At their meeting in April, the Council authorized spending an amount not to exceed \$23,000.

Ric pointed out a modification that needs to be made to the seventh paragraph on page one of Resolution 907 before it is passed. Tony Favreau of the Favreau Group needs to be inserted as the engineering firm and Frontier Resources, Inc. needs to be inserted as the private entity.

In response to a question from Kay Larson, Ric said the project is for the Cornerstone Drive and Loten Way infrastructure to be constructed in the Northeast Employment Center. In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Ric said the resolution is only for engineering design, not construction.

b. **Resolution 907 - A JOINT RESOLUTION OF THE VENETA CITY COUNCIL AND LOCAL PUBLIC CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD GRANTING AN EXEMPTION FROM CITY PUBLIC CONTRACTING RULES, DIVISION 48.**

MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to adopt Resolution 907. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to authorize staff to complete the contracting documents for Frontier Resources and The Favreau Group. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Ric said he has been trying to stay in contact with Liberty Bank and Merle Tyler. At the present time, Liberty Bank has chosen not to take the property into bankruptcy, allowing Mr. Tyler an opportunity to sell the property if he can pay off 100% of the amount owed. A large metal fabrication shop is negotiating to purchase the three buildings and relocate up to 30 employees to the site. Ric said if that happens, it will help move the Cornerstone Drive project forward and they may be able to salvage the grant/loan through OECD.

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Public Contract Review Board.

5. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS

Marion Esty (Park Board Meeting) - Marion said the new board is very dynamic and is taking on a lot of responsibility. They have assigned individual members to do a detailed evaluation of each of the City's existing parks. They will also be working with the East Veneta CAC to develop bikeways and paths. At their next meeting, Brian Issa will be making a presentation on that subject. They have also been working cooperatively with the Territorial Sports Program. In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Marion said the Park Board has a detailed list of what playground equipment needs to be replaced or repaired and they will be making a recommendation to the City Council. She said they are focusing a lot of their energy on fund-raising ideas.

Marion Esty (Region 2050) - Marion encouraged people to attend the Region 2050 meeting this Wednesday in Crow.

Thomas Cotter (Fern Ridge Chamber) - The next meeting is scheduled for this Wednesday at the Veneta Community Center.

Darrell Carman (LCOG) - Darrell attended the annual Goal Setting meeting last Wednesday. He said they took Public Safety off their agenda because that work is being done by the Public Safety Group.

Ric (Public Safety) - Ric attended the last meeting which consisted of a round-robin discussion. Mayor Brooker said he plans to attend the next meeting scheduled for Thursday, August 11, 2005.

- (1) Request for fee waiver to use the Veneta Community Center for a summer dance camp.

Jani Bohn requested a fee waiver to use the Veneta Community Center for a youth dance camp the week of August 22, 2005 through Saturday, August 27, 2005. She said she had a good turnout last year and it gives the area youth an opportunity for something to do after the pool closes for the summer. The Council granted her request last year and staff reported that no complaints or problems were reported. Staff verified that the Community Center is available.

The Council reached consensus to waive the Community Center fee and allow staff to make the final decision after checking with legal counsel to make sure any liability for the City is covered.

- (2) ORDINANCE 455 - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE VENETA ZONING MAP AS ADOPTED BY THE VENETA LAND DEVELOPMENT ORDINANCE 417, ARTICLE 3, SECTION 3.03. Second reading by title only and for final enactment.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Ordinance 455 by second reading only and for final enactment. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Ordinance 455 was read as follows:

Ordinance 455, an ordinance amending the Veneta zoning map as adopted by the Veneta Land Development Ordinance 417, Article 3, Section 3.30.

b. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS

6. STAFF REPORTS

a. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

(1) Public Works Monthly Activity Report for July 2005

Kyle Schauer summarized his July report and highlighted the fact the City began the auto meter read program, has done some additional filter tests, and the maintenance job staff is doing on the poplars has been great this year.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Kyle said water production is up this month but the reservoir levels have been maintained. Kyle said having the additional storage capability has helped.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Kyle said due to the staffing level they are addressing high grass on a complaint basis. Thomas Cotter asked Kyle to check what appears to be a dangerous high grass situation on a property across from the dome house on Hunter Road.

(2) Street Light at Eighth & Hwy 126

Kyle Schauer reported that EPUD installed street lights at the 8th Street intersections at Hwy 126 and Jack Kelley Drive. The City will be charged \$14.68 per month for power and maintenance of each light. The actual cost for installation of the lights was a fraction of what they originally estimated. Kyle credited EPUD for helping get all of the necessary approvals from ODOT.

(3) Poplar update

Margaret said staff has a meeting scheduled with DEQ for August 17, 2005 to discuss how much land the City will actually need based on the updated tables Jerry Elliott is preparing for the Water Reuse Plan.

(4) N4RG Request to be Placed on Subscriber List

Resolution 908 - A RESOLUTION ADOPTING AN ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION FEE FOR OBTAINING PUBLIC NOTICES FOR PENDING LAND USE APPLICATIONS.

Margaret Boutell advised the Council that Resolution 908 was drafted in

response to a request by Neighbors for Responsible Growth to receive copies of all notices of pending land use applications. Margaret said the proposed fee is based on an estimate of the costs based on staff time, postage, and materials.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Margaret said the City has only received one such request. Notices are mailed to nearby property owners, posted on the City's outdoor bulletin board, and some are published in the West Lane News.

Marion Esty said she feels it is a good proposal and once adopted the City may receive requests from other groups and it may encourage more participation. She said the City is in the business of public service.

Thomas Cotter said he feels just the opposite because it will add more burden to the clerical staff and the information is available in other ways. He said the City already sends notice to the people that are most impacted.

Darrell Carman said it only requires one additional copy to be made and mailed at the same time as other notices are being done.

Mayor Brooker said he agrees that it is a way for interested people to get the information they want. He said the purpose of giving notice is to make the process fair for everyone that may have an interest.

Ric pointed out that currently anyone wanting information can come in and ask for it. He said mailing the notice to interested parties could be less disruptive to staff because those people won't have to come in on numerous occasions and ask for it.

MOTION: Marion Esty made a motion to adopt Resolution 908 to establish an annual subscription fee for obtaining notices for pending land use applications. Darrell Carman seconded the motion which passed with vote of 3-1 (Thomas Cotter voting no).

b. CITY ENGINEER

(1) Key Points Well 10

- a. Water Rights update - Jerry Elliott said last year the City received a memorandum from its water rights attorney recommending that it transfer the water rights from its abandoned wells to the new well. Jerry submitted technical information to the attorney with regard to that transfer. The technical information established that Wells 1 and 2 are in the same aquifer as the new Well 10 and that aquifer does not have any impact on Fern Ridge Reservoir. Staff met with the Department of Water Resources in June to discuss the transfers. DWR asked the City to establish that use of Well 10 will not cause injury to nearby wells. Jerry said he then provided technical

information to the water resource attorney that included the logs for nearby wells. He said the City may get some future claims for injury; but, if that does happen and evidence supports the claim the City would probably provide water.

b. Well Development update

Jerry said development happens when the well is drilled and the water is put into use. He presented the Council with a memo that outlined the development criteria and schedule. He has determined the Tanglewood site can accommodate both the well and the treatment plant. Jerry said he will present his engineering design proposal at the next Council meeting. One of the key components to keeping with the Summer 2006 completion date will be to wrap the well driller into the professional services. Once the well is in they will do production testing to determine what type of equipment they need. The memorandum presented by Jerry outlines several risks; however, Jerry feels the risks are fairly low.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Ric said the funds for the equipment and construction are budgeted. The question is whether or not the Council wants to purchase the equipment before they get the results back from the Water Resources Department.

Jerry Elliott said they should receive the water rights transfer from the DWR in late November. He said he does not feel they should commit the money to purchase the equipment until DWR has formally responded.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker about a back-up plan if the water rights application is denied, Ric said the City can start pumping water under a temporary use permit. He said he feels the City will have minimal investment at risk because the equipment could be used elsewhere.

Jerry Elliott said the DWR tends to work hard to help cities retain the water rights they have worked hard to get.

The Council asked Jerry Elliott to provide them with the cash flow projections for the project.

Ric said the Council will not meet again until September 12, 2005. He asked the Council to authorize an expenditure of \$60,000 so Jerry can order a screen for the well, proceed with the design, get the well drilled, and begin the wetland delineation.

MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion authorizing a maximum expenditure of \$60,000 for Jerry Elliott to begin work on Well 10. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

In response to a question from Ric, Jerry Elliott said he would prefer to have full responsibility for making sure the site plan and wetland mitigation work gets done.

(2) Water Filter update

Jerry Elliott explained the testing that has been done on the water filters and what is considered an acceptable result. They are not only looking for the quality of output but the time it takes to filter the water. He said they could probably save \$10-12,000 by not doing a pilot study on Well 10 because the quality of water in Well 10 is so close to Well 9. When they find a filter media that works for Well 9 it should also work for Well 10.

Mayor Brooker said he feels having a fully operational well on line is more important than the additional cost of a pilot test. In response, Jerry Elliott said he can include an option for a pilot study in the proposal.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman about the run time, Kyle Schauer said it takes 24,000 gallons of water to backwash the filters; therefore, it is better to backwash once a day instead of twice a day. Jerry Elliott explained that by blending the water from Well 4, which has a lower concentration of iron, with Well 9 it will produce a longer run time.

c. CITY ADMINISTRATOR

(1) Social Gaming update

Ric provided the Council with a copy of the application form developed by staff. He said they will begin to process applications so licenses can be issued on August 25, 2005 when the new ordinance becomes effective. The Council will not meet again until after the ordinance takes effect; therefore, Ric asked the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the applications after staff has reviewed them for completeness and the Sheriff's Office has done a background check.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to authorize Mayor Brooker to sign the Social Gaming applications that are received in time to be issued August 25, 2005. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

(2) Surplus Property update

Ric said the City Engineer has determined the City does not need any of the eight lots it owns in the Tanglewood area for the development of Well 10. Three developers have made inquiries about purchasing the city-

owned lots which abut the south side of Todd Way. Ric said the City already declared the lots as surplus property. Before selling the lots, Ric recommended that legal counsel be asked to lay out the proper process. If the lots are sold the Council should decide what they want to do with the money. He suggested not putting the money into the general fund. Options could include setting up a fund for either property acquisition or economic development.

Mayor Brooker said he would refer to set up a reserve account for future property acquisitions for parks or new infrastructure. If the property is not needed for Well 10 he said it would be better to sell the property and get it onto the tax roll.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to authorize the sale of the city-owned Tanglewood lots. Darrell Carman seconded the motion.

Discussion: Mayor Brooker said he would like the motion to include establishing a reserve account that the money from the sale of the lots would be placed in and used for future property acquisitions.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter amended his motion to add a provision that a reserve account be established for future property acquisitions. The motion passed with a vote of 4-0.

(3) Chicago Joe's System Development Charges update

Deacon Matthews came before the Council several months ago and asked the Council to consider reducing the System Development Charges for a new business he wants to develop on W. Broadway. The Council directed Mr. Matthews to contact staff to discuss the details. Ric advised the Council that staff has determined the total SDC's to change the use of an existing building to a restaurant are approximately \$40,000. Staff felt at this time they need to base the calculations on the existing resolutions; however, the SDC ordinance allows SDCs in excess of \$10,000 to be paid in installments and interest charges to be waived. The property owners have agreed to enter into an agreement to pay the full amount of SDC's in annual installments. Based on information provided by the developer, staff has agreed to look at some inconsistencies in the SDC methodology and calculations. The property owners agreed to enter into an installment agreement for the full amount of the SDC's with a provision that the SDC's can be reduced if the City revises the calculations or develops a business incentive program for the W. Broadway area.

Mayor Brooker agreed that the City should stick to the current SDC calculations but look at reviewing them. He also agreed the City should

consider adopting a business incentive plan for the downtown area..

7. **OTHER**

a. **OLCC License for Chicago Joe's Restaurant**

Staff has received Chicago Joe's request for a liquor license; however, the review has not been completed by the Sheriff's Office. Because the Council will not be meeting again until September 12, 2005, staff asked the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign the license based on a positive review by the Sheriff's office.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the liquor license for Chicago Joe's subject to the approval of the Lane County Sheriff's Office. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

b. **Finance Office Update:**

Ric advised the Council that a temporary accountant will begin work this week on bank reconciliations, month end close-outs, and the year-end close-out. He also said Andy Parks, a consultant recommended by the League of Oregon Cities, will do a one day assessment of the City's finance systems.

The Council agreed with the approach taken by staff. Mayor Brooker said it is important to hire someone that can prepare the City for the annual audit.

c. Thomas Cotter advised the Council that grants are available for cities to provide a "Movie-in-the-Park" program.

d. Darrell Carman said he wants to take issue with the comment made by Mayor Brooker at the last meeting that the City only received two letters of opposition to adopting a social gaming ordinance. He said the statement was true that only two letters were received; however, he felt the Council should have acknowledged that the individuals who wrote the letters, including himself, were representing a larger group of people.

In response, Mayor Brooker and the other Councilors said they interpreted the letters as being from individuals. They said Pat Coy did not say in his letter that he was representing anyone but himself and they interpreted Darrell's letter to be a statement of his opinion as a fellow Council member.

In response, Darrell said he felt both letters should have been interpreted as representing larger groups.

Mayor Brooker said without a petition he couldn't identify what citizens Darrell Carman was representing.

Darrell said looking at it from the other perspective, he felt the people that spoke in favor were received as being representative of more than themselves and their comments were given more weight.

City Administrator Ric Ingham said it is the vote of the people that generally determines if Counselors have represented the people in the way they want to be represented. If a Council is not making good decisions it will generally be reflected in the next election. He pointed out that a large number of people that have expressed their opinions to the Council do not live inside city limits.

Thomas Cotter said he was voting to give people the same choices the state allows. He said it is not the job of the Council to make moral decisions.

Mayor Brooker said he is not necessarily in favor of social gaming; however, it is allowed by state law and there are businesses in the community that want to offer it as a way to keep local customers.

Mayor Brooker said he interpreted Darrell Carman's letter as being his personal opinion. He said if he had his constituency behind him he should have expressed that in his letter. He also said Pat Coy's letter did not specify that he was speaking for anyone other than himself. He said the Council makes the decisions they feel are best for the City and he knows everyone will not always agree. He agreed with Ric that elections are an indicator of whether a Council is making good decisions.

Charles Standeford said he does not feel that public testimony has made a difference in the decisions made by the Council. He said people have the right to have an impact on decisions, not just have the right to speak.

Thomas Cotter said just because the Council doesn't make a decision based on what someone says, it doesn't mean the Council has not listened. He said there is a misconception that the Council doesn't listen to what people say just because they don't always agree.

Ric said if the Council listened only to people speaking out at meetings the City would have zero development.

Mr. Standeford said a lot of people spoke against the gas tax but it didn't make any difference. He said no one spoke in favor of it. He said he hasn't talked to anyone that would be in favor of it and if it had been voted on by the entire community it would not have passed. He said a lot of people were not even aware of it.

Mayor Brooker disagreed, he felt a majority of people would see a need for the gas tax. He said part of the problem is that people are not informed.

Mr. Standeford said he has been attending a lot of meetings the past four years and with the exception of one Planning Commission meeting, public input has had no impact on decisions made by the City. He said he feels the City Council should put more emphasis on what people have to say. He said if the Council votes in favor of something the majority of the people are against, they are not representing the people, only themselves.

Ric pointed out that most of the public testimony in opposition to the freight route and gas tax came from people that do not live within the city limits of Veneta. He said the increased revenue and resources will benefit the City. He also said the majority of the people want better public safety but they will not vote in favor of ways to increase revenue to pay for it.

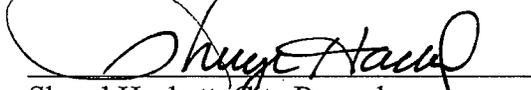
8. **ADJOURN**

Mayor Brooker adjourned the City Council at 10:11 p.m.



T. J. Brooker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder
(minutes prepared by SL Hackett)