

## Minutes of the Veneta City Council September 25, 2006

Council

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

Absent: Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Margaret Boutelll, Community Services Directory; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Russ Berger, Lane County Sheriff's Department; Anna Morrison, County Commissioner; Bobby Green, County Commissioner; Cliff Harrold, LCSO; Byron Vanderpool, LCOG; Mona Linstromberg; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

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Mayor Brooker called the City council to order at 7:08 p.m.

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### **Mona Linstromberg; 87140 Territorial Road; Veneta, OR**

Mona Linstromberg said she found two articles on the front page of last weeks West Lane News interesting. One article talked about growth and Veneta's water supply. She said it is something the Council needs to keep in mind. The second article about the Larson property was titled "Trees are cut, site is put up for sale". She said she finds it appalling that the City had the opportunity to take a second look at the Larson development and didn't enforce the wetland protection ordinance. She said she believes Larson had no intention of developing the nice site plan she presented and that it was only a way to prepare the site for sale by cutting the trees and filling in the wetlands. She said when LUBA remanded it back to the City, the City should have used the tools in the wetland protection ordinance and looked at an alternative design. She said it is unfortunate that did not happen and she hopes the City has learned a lesson. She said whatever happens on the site now the trees will be gone.

### 2. CONSENT AGENDA

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the consent agenda as presented. Darrell Carman seconded the motion.**

Discussion: In response to a question from Thomas Cotter about the discrepancies in the street light bills, Ric said the City is billed by subdivision and the number of poles in each subdivision varies.

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

The Consent Agenda as approved included minutes for September 11, 2006, bills paid for August/September 2006, Civic Calendar for October 2006, and Parade Permit - Elmira High School Homecoming.

3. **DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

a. **FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS**

(1) **Public Safety Measure**

Ric introduced Sheriff Russ Berger and County Commissioners Anna Morrison and Bobby Green. He said they are here to ask the City Council to adopt a resolution in favor of the proposed public safety funding and to encourage residents of Veneta to vote yes on Measure 20-114.

**Sheriff Russ Berger, Lane County Sheriffs Office**

Sheriff Berger said Measure 20-114 is a result of the work done by the Public Safety Task Force and recommendation by the County Commissioners. He said because of staffing shortages the Sheriff's Department can no longer keep the jail at full capacity and the District Attorney's Office has a list of over 100 crimes they cannot prosecute. The Sheriff's Department no longer has a narcotics team or resident deputies. Youth Services and Parole and Probation are also under staffed. As an example, he said they cannot arrest a person for breaking into cars at a trail head, even though they may have witnesses to the crime.

**County Commissioner Bobby Green**

Commissioner Green said the Board of Commissioners unanimously endorsed the personal and business income tax as the funding mechanism for public safety. He said they need voter approval to make the necessary Charter amendment. He said citizens can go to the County website to estimate their tax. The site also has a list of most frequently asked questions. He said the funds will be dedicated to public safety and cannot be used for other purposes.

**County Commissioner Anna Morrison**

Commissioner Morrison said with the loss of the narcotics team drug activity in Lane County has escalated. She said the proposed public safety measure will only bring the County back to the 1990 levels.

Mayor Brooker said he sat on the task force and there is no question there is a public safety crisis in Lane County. He said it is an entire system problem and cannot be solved by just building more jails and hiring more deputies. He recommended that the Council adopt Resolution 930 endorsing the public safety measure.

In response to a question from Mona Linstromberg, Sheriff Berger said public safety will be pulled out of the General Fund and other departments will no longer have to compete with public safety for dollars.

Marion Esty said the fact the County can't prosecute people sends a bad message. As Veneta continues to grow it will become an even more serious problem.

Commissioner Green said Marion is right on target. He said there is a

perception that in Lane County you can do crime and not do time. He said victims of crime want something done.

Darrel Carman said Doug Harcelroad spoke at the LCOG meeting and said in essence theft of less than \$750.00 has been legalized in Lane County.

**Resolution 930 - A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING SUPPORT FOR MEASURE 20-114, A MEASURE TO CHANGE THE CHARTER OF LANE COUNTY GOVERNMENT. (A)**

**MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to adopt Resolution 930. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

(2) Report on Law Enforcement Activities, Sgt. Harrold LCSO

Sgt. Harrold presented a new monthly report that shows calls for service by hour of the day. He said the information will help him schedule coverage.

(3) Region 2050 - Public Comment

**Mona Linstromberg; 87140 Territorial Road; Veneta, OR**

Mona Linstromberg said she agrees with the vision and goals of Region 2050 but also agrees with Len Goodwin that it may give cities a false sense of accomplishment. She said it should be acknowledged that it is no longer regional planning because of the cities that have backed out. She said she wonders what kind of guarantee there will be for LCDC to accept it since it is no longer regional. She said she is confused as to how it will be implemented.

Mayor Brooker said those cities that do endorse the plan may be able to come together to solve some regional issues.

Margaret said implementation of the plan will depend on what agreements the City can enter into with ODOT and other agencies to address issues such as transportation and water. She said if the County endorses it as well as the small cities there may be a better chance of enter into agreements.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to endorse the Region 2050 strategy and technical report. Marion Esty seconded the motion.**

Discussion: The Council agreed that endorsement tells other cities that regional issues are important to Veneta and that endorsement of the Region 2050 process will not have a negative impact on Veneta.

**Vote: The motion passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

b. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS

Darrell Carman (LCOG) - The major topic of discussion was the Public Safety measure. He said he is glad the Council has the opportunity to endorse the measure; however, he feels it will be an uphill battle to get it passed by the citizens. Darrell tentatively signed up to host a meeting in September 2007. The Council asked staff to check on the possibility of hosting a meeting in February instead.

4. STAFF REPORT

a. FINANCE OFFICER

(1) June 30, 2006 Financial Reports

Jerri Moore presented a financial report for the end of the fiscal year 2005/06. She credited staff and John Paulson for helping her complete the work. She said the report shows the City was within budget appropriations for nearly every expenditure line item. She said there was some overspending in the General Fund for contracted services. The City turns 75% of building fees over to the Building Department, resulting in an over expenditure as a result of a higher than anticipated number of building permits. She said circumstances did not allow the City time for a supplemental budget process. She said the management team was very diligent in the absence of a Finance Officer to be cautious with the City finances.

b. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

(1) Park Systems Development Charge (SDC) Research

On August 14, 2006 the Council approved a new Park SDC but expressed interest in adding some extra reimbursable costs. A reimbursement fee can be charged to new residents for a facility paid for by current residents that has capacity for those future residents. Margaret presented the Council with a spread sheet which included two reimbursable costs, the basketball court and skate park. Those two facilities would increase the Park SDC by about \$100. She said the City is required to follow the process of providing notice and updating both the CIP and the Methodology.

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to direct staff to begin the process to revise the Parks Systems Development Charge to include the additional reimbursable fees. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

c. CITY ADMINISTRATOR

(1) **Resolution 929** - A RESOLUTION DECLARING CITY OF VENETA'S INTENT TO USE THE LUTHER LANE PROPERTY EXCLUSIVELY FOR PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION AND/OR TRANSIT PURPOSES.

The City has been working with ODOT to have a parcel of state property at the intersection of Luther Lane and Territorial Road pulled ~~of~~ the State list of surplus property. The resolution declares the intent of the City to use the property for a transit center. Ric said he and Mayor Brooker met with the

*off as amended 10/9/06*

General Manager of LTD to discuss the possibility of developing a transit station at that location as part of the Downtown Master Plan. LTD is interested in working with Veneta and helping to get the facility on LTD's Capital Improvement Plan list.

Ric said once the City secures the property they can begin working on a design.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Resolutin 929. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

**5. OTHER**

- a. The Council was reminded that the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference is being held September 29 & 30, 2006.
- b. The Council was asked to consider the vacation of the northern half of a 14' stormwater easement on the west side of the Viescas property (Assessor's map 17-05-31-32, tax lot 2800). Margaret presented an approved land partition map showing the rerouting of the stormwater and a new stormwater easement that follows the natural drainage way. She said the City no longer needs the northerly half of the original easement.

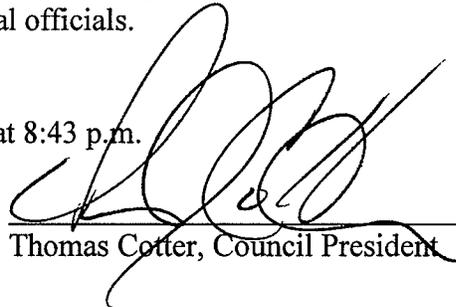
Thomas Cotter said he represents the property owner and abstained from participating in the discussion.

**MOTION: Marion Esty made a motion to authorize the Mayor to sign a vacation of the northern half of the stormwater easement. Darrell Carman seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 3-0. (Thomas Cotter abstained)**

- c. City Hall Day is October 15, 2006. Ric encouraged the Council members to attend a meeting in Cottage Grove with local officials.

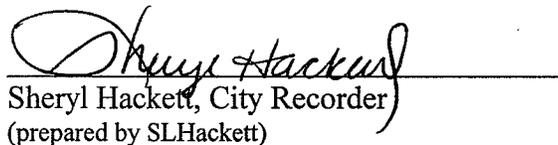
**6. ADJOURN**

Mayor Brooker adjourned the City Council at 8:43 p.m.



Thomas Cotter, Council President

ATTEST:



Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder  
(prepared by SLHackett)