

Minutes of the Veneta City Council
October 23, 2006

Council

Present: Mayor T. J. Brooker, Darrell Carman, Thomas Cotter, and Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Absent: Marion Esty

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Margaret Boutell, Community Services Director; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Amie Collins, Program Coordinator; Keith Hartley; Joan Mariner; Tami Sakany; and Jeneca Jones, West Lane News

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:05 p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Joan Mariner; 25712 Cochran Ct., Veneta, OR

Ms. Mariner spoke of her concerns regarding the trees cut on the Key Bank property over the Labor Day Holiday. She spoke with Mr. Charlie Forth, Regional Facilities Manager at Key Bank, who indicated to Ms. Mariner the trees were removed because of damage to the curbs and sidewalks and a heritage tree was causing damage to portions of the roof of the building. He would be requesting a permit for the removal of that Heritage tree. Ms. Mariner asked the Council to consider adopting tighter restrictions on the removal of trees on commercial property.

Tami Sakany; P.O. Box 334, Veneta, OR

Ms. Sakany thanked the Council for approving the permit for the annual light parade.

Mark Holman; 87763 Oak Island, Veneta, OR

Mr. Holman expressed his concerns regarding the winter rains coming, and the adverse effects at the end of Cherry Lane. He said his neighbor Mr. Faust is concerned that he will have to use a sump pump again this year to remove excess water. They are all concerned that another year will pass without anything being done. Mr. Holman also said he would like the City to fix the slope adjacent to his property so he can mow and maintain it.

2. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILOR

- (1) Mayor Brooker introduced Darci Henneman, the new Assistant City Recorder.
- (2) Mayor Brooker introduced Keith Hartley and appointed him as a member of the Planning Commission. Keith told the Council he previously lived in the state of Washington. His education and experience is in banking, law, and finance. He is a resident of Veneta.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the consent agenda.
Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion.

Discussion: Margaret Boutell reminded the Council they had discussed canceling the second meeting in November and asked if they wanted to remove it from the calendar. Mayor Brooker asked that the meeting remain on the calendar. Ric said staff will provide notice if they decide to cancel the meeting.

Vote: Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Brooker, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; and Sharon Hobart-Hardin, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included minutes for October 9, 2006, bills paid for September/October 2006, Civic Calendar for November 2006, Temporary Liquor License for St. Thomas Becket School, and Permit for Fern Ridge Chamber of Commerce Annual Christmas Light Parade.

2. DEPARTMENT REPORTS (Continued)

b. FROM COUNCIL LIAISONS

Sharon Hobart-Hardin (Park Board) – The Progress Board will have its first meeting on Wednesday, October 25, 2006 in the upstairs training room at the fire department. She encourages everyone to attend. She said a representative from LCOG will be making a presentation on the inter-connective trails in the Fern Ridge area.

Mayor Brooker said he, Darrell, and Sharon attended City Hall Day in Cottage Grove where they met with state and local elected officials and candidates to discuss local issues including transportation, municipal water supplies, obtaining water rights, and economic development. He said Veneta and other small communities are interested in attracting industry to the rural areas.

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR

(1) Building Code Fee Increases

Margaret Boutell said at the direction of the Council following public comment at the last meeting, staff prepared an ordinance and resolution to revise the fee structure and increase some of the building code fees. Ordinance 470 amends the City's building code to allow fees to be established by resolution. Resolution 931 includes all of the building code fees, including revisions and increases.

- (a) **Ordinance 470** - AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY OF VENETA ORDINANCE NO. 367, AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING ADMINISTRATIVE RULES FOR THE ENFORCEMENT OF THE OREGON BUILDING CODE, AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY. First reading by title only. Second reading by title only and for final enactment.

MOTION: **Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve Ordinance 470 for first reading by title only. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

Ordinance 470 was read as follows:

Ordinance 470, an ordinance amending City of Veneta ordinance number 367, an ordinance adopting administrative rules for the enforcement of the Oregon Building Code, and declaring an emergency.

MOTION: **Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve Ordinance 470 for second reading by title only and for final enactment. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

Ordinance 470 was read as follows:

Ordinance 470, an ordinance amending City of Veneta ordinance number 367, an ordinance adopting administrative rules for the enforcement of the Oregon Building Code, and declaring an emergency.

- (b) **Resolution 931** - A RESOLUTION ESTABLISHING BUILDING CODE FEES FOR THE CITY OF VENETA, AND REPEALING RESOLUTION 740 AND RESOLUTION 818.

MOTION: **Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Resolution 931 establishing building code fees for the City of Veneta and Repealing Resolution 740 and 818. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.**

- (2) Vacation of Easement (Simmerman/St Thomas)

Margaret Boutell presented the Council with a request to vacate a 15' temporary utility easement which was required to assure City services could be provided to properties east of the Simmerman and adjoining church property. The easement is no longer needed because streets and utilities have been extended to the north boundary of all properties. In response to a question by the Council, staff advised that no public utilities are located within the easement.

MOTION: Darrell Carmen made a motion to authorize Mayor Brooker to sign the vacation of a 15' public utility easement along the north property line of the Simmerman and St Thomas Becket properties. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion which passed with a unanimous vote of 4-0.

(3) Nuisance Abatement

Margaret advised the Council that nuisance abatement for a residence that had excessive garbage in the driveway has been resolved. She said the garbage was removed prior to the Council meeting.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker about streamlining the abatement process, Margaret said the process is not the issue. She said in the past the City has acted on a complaint basis. Ric said enforcement action is a policy issue for the Council to set based on how aggressive they want to get. The last abatement cost about \$1,000. If the property owner does not reimburse the City a lien can be placed on the property but it may be years before the lien is satisfied. If the Council wants to be more proactive they may want to do a supplemental budget to allocate more money for nuisance abatement.

Mayor Brooker said the City should take steps to make the public more aware of the consequences for leaving garbage and debris on their property. He said it is important for economic development to have the City looking good.

(4) Coordinated Population Request

Margaret informed the Council that the Region 2050 planning process doesn't hold much promise to use for population estimates. Therefore, several small cities are banding together to voice the desire to update the coordinated population allocations by jointly writing/signing a letter to the LCOG Board. The Wastewater Facilities Plan will require updating and that requires planning for more people than are currently allocated to the City of Veneta by the current coordinated population agreement. The County relies on the LCOG Board to process the coordinated population allocations. A request must be made to them before they can proceed with a reallocation. Staff is requesting the Council to authorize the Mayor to sign a joint letter along with other interested small cities, requesting the coordinated population allocations be updated. Other small cities include Creswell, Coburg, and Lowell.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Margaret said state law does not allow the City to establish its own population projection. The state allocates a certain population to each county and the county then allocates that number to its various cities. LCOG does the allocation for Lane County.

Ric told the Council that the City's Facility Plan has to be based on the population allocated by the County. The City's Capital Improvement Plans must then be based on its Facility Plans. Margaret said the City cannot build public facilities to accommodate a population number than is not in the Facility Plan.

Margaret said the coordinated population is a negotiated process and the larger cities will lobby for more. The last allocations were based on the 2000 census and since that time Veneta and other small cities have grown much faster than expected.

Sharon Hobart-Hardin said in terms of dollars she feels it is in the City's best interest to request a reallocation.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to authorize Mayor Brooker to sign a letter along with other cities requesting the LCOG Board update the coordinated population allocations. Sharon Hobart-Hardin seconded the motion.

Discussion: In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Margaret said the Region 2050 population for Veneta was based on existing land uses and vacant land within Veneta as well as the urban reserve area outside city limits. The Portland State University (PSU) population comes from information provided to them from the City and is updated every year. Ric said the state will not allow the City to use the PSU population unless it is reallocated by the county.

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

5. OTHER

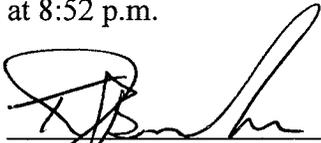
Progress Board meeting: Ric and Sharon will attend the Progress Board meeting and in preparation for that Program Coordinator Amie Collins created a colored matrix to show the Council which groups are taking the lead on the various projects. The Progress Board was created as a means of encouraging the community to get more involved. Ric said the City will take the lead on the items highlighted in yellow and the Urban Renewal Agency will take the lead on items highlighted in green. All of the plans will eventually connect with one another.

Joan Mariner said when community groups work together it builds energy. She said the theater group continues to be active and making progress. Tami Sakany said the Progress Board provides an opportunity for various groups to share resources. She said the Chamber has applied for some grants that appear promising to help to create a branding for Veneta and to form a Business Assistance Team (BAT) to help the Chamber attract more businesses to the community.

Ric encouraged the Council and the public to attend the Progress Board meeting on Wednesday. The Council complimented Amie on her work.

Animal Control: Margaret reminded the Council that the Greenhill Contract expires at the end of the month and will be replaced by Lane County Animal Regulatory Agency (LCARA). Beginning November 1st the City will only provide animal control services for dogs. Greenhill will take cats from private owners but at a fee to the owner. Ric told Council that staff will do some outreach to make the public aware of the discontinued service.

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Veneta City Council meeting at 8:52 p.m.



T. J. Brooker, Mayor

ATTEST:



Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder
(minutes prepared by DHenneman/SHackett)