

Minutes of the Veneta City Council
May 27, 2008

Council

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

Absent: Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Sgt. Cliff Harrold; Jenny Ramsey, Annette Rothweiler, Brittanie McMurren, Elisabeth Lund, Alisha McAdams, Amanda Rothweiler, Nicholas Summers and Rob Lafferty, West Lane News

Mayor Brooker called the Veneta City Council meeting to order at 7:01p.m.

1. PUBLIC COMMENT

None

2. CONSENT AGENDA

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

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

The consent agenda as approved included minutes for May 12, 2008, bills paid for April/May, 2008, the Civic Calendar for June, 2008, and a temporary liquor license for St. Catherine's July Barbeque.

3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS

- (1) Law Enforcement Activities Report, Sgt. Harrold, LCSO
Sgt. Harrold said he will be working in Eugene for a few more weeks and then return to patrol. He said the County Budget Committee finalized the budget on Thursday, May 22, 2008. He said shortly before the session closed, a decision to spend reserve funds was made expanding deputy patrols. He said on May 29th over 100 County positions will be lost, and 40 of those will be deputies. He said there will only be two active detectives and the child welfare services will also see a decrease. Sgt. Harrold clarified calls on the non emergency line (682-4250) will be hindered by a shortage of office staff. He said dispatch will consist of one person to answer phones and dispatch the radio for four hours during the graveyard shift. People calling during this time may get a busy signal. He said theft or criminal mischief outside the contract area will probably not get responded to.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Sgt. Harrold said the County is pushing to use Veneta as a model for outsourcing County parole and probation. He said the Forest Service in Blue River offered office space for a parole and probation officer (P&PO) and Creswell have offered office space. Sgt. Harrold

said just one benefit of having Christina Doolittle as a P&PO in Veneta got a local car thief a longer sentence.

The Council thanked Sgt. Harrold for his report and update.

- (2) Tentative 2008-2009 Public Safety Contract Amount
Ric said Sgt. Harrold's position went from half time to one third time. Sgt. Harrold said some positions were not reinstated when the County met on Thursday, May 22, 2008. In addition to the Veneta and Creswell contracts, Sgt. Harrold will oversee BLM (Bureau of Land Management), dune and marine patrol. He intends on being in Veneta on Tuesdays and Creswell on Wednesdays.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Sgt. Harrold said the new contract calls for the Sergeant position to be at one third time but he is hopeful to continue working with the sheriff's department to increase his position back to one half time.

- (3) Youth Art Presentation in Appreciation of Council's Support of Summer Art Program
Jenny Ramsey presented the City Council with the Explorer's Club project. She said seven teens from Elmira High School assisted 17 second graders from Veneta Elementary to create a large hand painted picture with hand painted tiles. She thanked the Council for the annual donation of \$1,000 starting in 1997. She said they focused their project on the "Inspired by Nature" theme. Jenny introduced Annette Rothweiler who supervised the project and acted as the project artist. Ms. Rothweiler also thanked the Council and City staff for the contributions they've made over the years and introduced the Elmira High School students. The student briefly described their experience working with the grade school students.

Elizabeth Lund said the kids were really smart and responded well to the project. Nicholas Summers said he learned a lot from the project. Brittanie McMurren, Alisha McAdams and Becky Rothweiler said the second graders started with sketches and after a few weeks they had final drawings.

Ric said Jenny approached him last year with the idea of holding an art competition at the Wings and Wine Festival. Jenny said 130 kids submitted art projects for the contest.

Mayor Brooker suggested possibly adding the art contest as a permanent part of the Wings & Wing Festival.

Ric said the artwork will hang in the main lobby of City Hall. He said staff will follow up with a plaque acknowledging the students involved in the project.

b. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS

- (1) Requests from Neighbors 4 Responsible Growth
 - a. Grant Writing Support for Community Reader Board
Craig Harbison of Fern Ridge Community Action Network (CAN) requested funds from the City Council to assist them in paying Kristin Kelley to write a grant. He said their organization would like to apply for

a grant to purchase an electronic reader board to be placed in front of the Lane County Fire District No. 1. He said the reader board would be used for many types of community events. He said they have received \$340 thus far. He would like to see the Council match that amount. He said Kristin Kelley (grant writer) requested a 10 hour retainer fee for her service.

Marion Esty said when the Peer Court dissolved; they donated a portion of their funds to CAN. She said CAN is stable and will have longevity in the community.

Mayor Brooker said he and Ric discussed the discretionary fund. However, with Jerri Moore not present tonight, he is not sure of the amount available. He said it's up to the Council to set a dollar amount.

Marion Esty would like to donate \$500 to \$1000 depending on available funds.

Darrel Carman would like to give them up to \$1000.

MOTION: Marion Esty made a motion to approve a \$1,000 donation to CAN for the purchase of an electric reader board. Darrell Carman seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0.

- b. Approval and insurance coverage for Skate Park event
Craig Harbison requested authorization from the City Council to hold a skate board competition at the Territorial Skate Park. He said the event would take place Saturday, August 16, 2008. He said a skateboard shop in Eugene (Board Sports) would sponsor the event. He said Board Sports has held several events in Eugene and Springfield in the past. He said they will provide advertisement and banners at the skate park. CAN would like to have a "smoothie" booth and they are also trying to set up a barbeque booth with hamburger vouchers for the participants and spectators. Craig said emergency personnel would be on hand in case of an emergency or medical attention is required.

In response to a question from Mayor Brooker, Ric said an insurance rider would be required.

Mayor Brooker asked Craig to have John from Board Sports contact Ric to finalize the insurance coverage issue.

MOTION: Marion Esty made a motion to approve the use of Territorial Park for a skateboard event sponsored by Board Sports and that the City will provide insurance coverage for the event. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0.

Mayor Brooker said he attended the Mayor's Roundtable on Thursday, May 22, 2008. He said the main topic of discussion was the Coordinated Population Numbers. A representative from the State of Oregon talked about Oregon Economic Community Development Department (OECDD). He indicated based on direction from Governor

Kulongowski, the State of Oregon will attempt to split the OECDD into two divisions. He said they've been having problems with equating the funds to infrastructure projects that do not create jobs. The legislature has the ability to measure their success by the number of jobs that are created with the funds they distribute. He said infrastructure projects are included in economic development numbers and infrastructure projects don't create a high number of jobs. Mayor Brooker said the legislature is concerned they're not getting the biggest bang for their dollars. He said the director of the agency felt the best way to deal with the issue is to split the agency's process to show the greater success of the job creation but also have funds available for infrastructure projects. He said the infrastructure projects need to be built before businesses come in to create the jobs.

Mayor Brooker said there have been at least 200 resignations statewide because of the new ethics requirements. He said state representatives will take their local government's concern to Salem. He said the legislature may make some changes to the ethic requirements.

Mayor Brooker said Springfield has directed staff to use the Safe Harbor approach, because the numbers provided by the Department of Land Conservation (DLC) are not favorable for Eugene/Springfield. The Safe Harbor approach will meet their requirements and forces the rural communities to fend for themselves for the time being. He said Veneta will continue to move forward with our Facilities Master Plan. He said we'll find a way to develop the numbers we need to start our projects. He said we cannot put our infrastructure project off. He the Safe Harbor approach will not work for Veneta because the numbers will not be conducive to allow our facilities plan or comprehensive plan updates. Mayor Brooker said he heard second hand that the County's legal counsel indicated to the Commissioners that they cannot rescind the resolution because the DLC has already filed an appeal.

Mayor Brooker said some of the ethic applications were not completely filled out because the applicants felt the questions were too personal. He wasn't sure if there would be any action taken (punitive or otherwise) against those who didn't complete the applications.

Mayor Brooker asked staff to verify the filing due dates for the next quarterly ethic reports.

4. STAFF REPORTS

a. COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR BRIAN ISSA

(1) Award of Water Master Plan Contract

Ric said City staff released the request for proposals for the Water Master Plan. He said staff received and reviewed all six responses. He said Jerry Elliott, Brian Issa, Kyle Schauer and he agreed Murry, Smith and Associates had the strongest proposal. Ric said staff recommended awarding the contract to Murray, Smith & Associates, at a not to exceed amount of \$60,000 and contingent on the outcome of the reference checks made. He said their proposal would include authorization by May 31, 2008 and they would start the project

the second week of June. He said if all deadlines are met, the project should be completed by the end of the calendar year.

MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to award the Water Master Plan contract to Murry, Smith & Associates at a not to exceed amount of \$60,000. Thomas Cotter seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0.

(2) Dedication of Easement to Lane County for Bolton Hill Road
Ric said prior to the County starting their improvements to Bolton Hill Road; they require owning an easement along City property adjacent to Bolton Hill right-of-way. He said when the County improvements are completed they will deed the easement back to the City.

MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the Dedication of an Easement for Bolton Hill Road to Lane County. Marion Esty seconded the motion, which passed with a vote of 4-0.

b. CITY ADMINISTRATOR..... RIC INGHAM
Sheryl said the Veneta veterinarian wanted clarification on the use of the feral cat spay/neuter vouchers. He asked if the vouchers could be used to cover the cost to euthanize the animal if, after it was examined, it was determined the cat was too injured and/or diseased to withstand being spayed or neutered.

The consensus of the Council was the feral cat vouchers could be used for whatever is deemed appropriate and necessary by the veterinarian.

Ric said there is a Coordinated Population Number proposal to be presented to the Board of Commissioners. Junction City will be before the County Commissioners tomorrow (May 28, 2008). He said Junction City will be requesting a Rural Comprehensive Plan update so they can move forward with their prison and hospital site projects. He said the Board of Commissioners will have to rescind the resolution or put in motion how Junction City can proceed with those two important projects. He said the Commissioners' past resolution has presented a roadblock in Junction City's ability to move forward.

Ric said Eugene and Springfield are happy to support the LCOG numbers. He said House Bill 37 required Eugene and Springfield to split their growth boundary. He said Springfield has moved forward with the Safe Harbor approach, which is the only thing they can do at this point. He said Carrie Connelly's letter to Commissioner Stewart, on behalf of the four cities her law firm represents, was sent last week. He said all four mayors signed the letter.

Ric said Thursday night (May 22, 2008) there were problems with a valve(s) at the Jeans Road Water Plant getting stuck open and creating an open flow of the clear water tank. He said the plant went off line for the weekend in order to replace some switches and relays. He said things seem to be operating smoothly now.

5. OTHER

In response to a question from Darrell Carman on the status of the Larson lawsuit, Ric said John Wolfe finalized the settlement agreement and sent it to Kay Larson's attorney last Thursday, May 22, 2008. He said as of yet, we have not heard whether they accepted the agreement. Ric

said he and John Wolfe agreed to give them a full week to review the agreement. He said the City has the funding in place and staff sees no reason why we wouldn't be able to close the property transaction in the next two to three weeks.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, on the status of the Bolton Hill Road project, Ric said he is meeting with Lane County Public Works on Thursday, May 29, 2008 and Delta Construction Company on Friday, May 30, 2008 to finalize the County's project. He is hopeful things will fall into place.

6. **ADJOURN**

Mayor Brooker adjourned the Veneta City Council at 7:58 p.m.



Mayor Brooker, Chairman

ATTEST:



Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder
(prepared by dhenneman)