

# Minutes of the Veneta City Council

## September 27, 2010

Present: T. J. Brooker, Darrell Carman, Marion Esty, and Sandra Larson

Absent: Mayor Sharon Hobart-Hardin

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Sheryl Hackett, City Recorder; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Joan Mariner; Dennis Friedrich; and Olivia Meyers Buch

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City Council President T. J. Brooker called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### **Joan Mariner, 25712 Cochran Ct., Veneta, OR**

Ms. Mariner said she was very impressed with the Harvest Festival and felt it was a success. Neighbors 4 Responsible Growth (N4RG) raised \$190. She also had another check for the Service Center. Mr. Mariner then referred to her letter she addressed to the Council dated September 20, 2010 regarding the Applegate Field Dayz and Veneta Harvest Festival events. She said the Harvest Festival follows the same footprint as the Applegate Field Dayz. However, the Field Dayz focused on community building and the Harvest Festival concentrated on tourism. The two events are different and they attract different audiences. She felt the City was reluctant to provide liability insurance for the Field Dayz but had no problem offering it for the Harvest Festival. She also commented on the Harvest Festival banner that was partially paid for by the City and hung over Luther Lane. She questioned whether or not the City would have allowed the Field Dayz to hang a banner also.

She attended the Ford Family conference where Tom Gallagher of the Ford Family Foundation (the Foundation) spoke. He said the biggest barrier to the Foundation is city administrators. Ms. Mariner realized Ric is concerned with economic growth and bringing more visibility to Veneta but the Foundation is more interested in people stories like Pony Gilbert's. She said the City needs to provide people stories to the Foundation because that's who they provide for. She felt the City made a mistake by not participating in the Field Dayz. She is asking for corroboration from the City and said the City should be more supportive of community members.

Marion Esty arrived at 7:05 p.m.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Ms. Mariner said Mr. Libskan of the Ford Family Foundation was in favor of her idea to provide more people stories to the Foundation. She said as soon as dates were established, she would like to get the Foundation more involved.

City Council President T. J. Brooker modified the agenda in order to introduce Fern Ridge School District Superintendent Dennis Freidrich to speak about Ballot Measure 20-179, a \$15,000,000 school bond being placed on the November 2, 2010 ballot.

Mr. Friedrich said over the past three years, a sizeable amount of funds from the general fund reserves have been spent on maintenance and repairing school facilities. This cannot continue and the School District has reached a point where it needs to present a bond measure to the community to keep abreast of necessary repairs and updates. To address this situation, the School District applied and has been allocated a \$15,000,000 Qualified School Construction Bond, which would replace the existing bonds that are retiring soon. In order to receive these funds a bond measure is required. Ballot Measure 20-1879 is expect to result in no tax rate increase to what property owners currently pay. The District estimated to save about

\$12,000,000 in interest if the measure passes. This is an interest free bond as part of the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

Olivia Meyers Buch said a mailer will be sent in the next two weeks to all registered voters within the district boundary. A Facilities Committee comprised of the Superintendent, Administrators, Managers, Board Member, Teachers and parents has met on a regular basis for over a year. Consultants have visited facilities and a voter's survey was conducted to gain introspect from voters on how they feel about supporting a school bond. Because the bond would require no tax increase or a minimal one, the Facilities Committee decided to move forward with the bond measure.

Ballot Measure 20-179 would include construction of two classrooms at Elmira Elementary; a new addition at Veneta Elementary consisting of four classrooms, restrooms, a multi-purpose room to be used as a cafeteria and common learning space, a new re-heat kitchen, turning the existing re-heat kitchen into classrooms, construct an outside corridor and relocating the playground; at Elmira High School the athletic facilities would be updated and expanded to address safety concerns and to create facilities more readily available for community use. Replace HVAC units to improve ducting and efficiency and update to a new web-based monitoring system. Replace and repair existing water lines, improve water treatment system and implement a new web-based monitoring system. Add, replace or upgrade surveillance cameras and implement additional electronic entry system to improve campus safety and security at all facilities.

In response to a question from Twinkle Morton, Ms. Meyers Buch said expansion/updating the District's water treatment facility will be included in the security funds. Currently one system is serving two and a half sites. Options include connecting to the City's system or constructing a new system.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Ms. Meyers Buch said bond funds cannot be applied for operations costs, i.e., staff or administration, only capital construction.

In response to an audience question, Ms. Meyers Buch said the District currently does not fund a drama coach position. However, there is a salaried coaching position for directing three high school productions per year.

In response to a question from T. J. Brooker, Mr. Freidrich said the last bond measure for facility upgrades was in 1997.

Mr. Friedrich said the new multi-use building at Veneta Elementary will be available for community use as well as accommodate future expansion. All of the design and construction plans as well as the survey results can be viewed on the District's website. The application deadline has passed so there is no competition for the funds.

It was the consensus of the Council to include ballot measure 20-179 information in the October newsletter.

## **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

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

**Vote:** Marion Esty, aye; Darrell Carman, aye; Sandra Larson, aye; and T. J. Brooker, aye.

The consent agenda as approved included Minutes for September 13, 2010, Bills Paid for September, 2010, Civic Calendar for October, 2010, and Parade Permit - Elmira High School Homecoming Parade.

**3. DEPARTMENT REPORTS**

**a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS**

Darrell Carman has a conflict with the LCOG meeting on Thursday at 6:00 p.m., at Lane Community College and will not be able to attend. He will leave the meeting materials with Ric if someone else is able to attend the meeting.

T. J. Brooker said the Harvest Festival was great, there was a lot of participation and the booths blended well. He said all the elements were there and there was a great turn out.

Sandra Larson attended the Fern Ridge School District board meeting. Enrollment is up by 10 students district wide. There is still about a \$200,000 budget deficit. If needed, budget adjustments will be made in a few months.

Sandra Larson also attended the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) conference. She felt this year's conference was more informative and she attended interesting presentations.

T. J. Brooker reminded everyone that Ric was honored with the LOC Herman Kerhli award.

- (1) Law Enforcement Activities Report, Sgt. Osborne, LCSO

**b. COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

**4. STAFF REPORTS**

**a. CITY RECORDER.....SHERYL HACKETT**

- (1) Proposed Policy Governing the Naming of Streets & Addressing Buildings  
The City has existing policies for naming streets and addressing buildings. Recently it came to staff's attention that several building addresses assigned years ago no longer conform to the street addressing pattern as a result of newly developed street which could cause confusion for emergency responders. The City's current policies do not address changing existing street names or addresses. The proposed ordinance grants authority to the City to make changes if it is deemed to be in the public's best interest. It will also codify the City's street naming and building addressing policy into the Veneta Municipal Code.

Sheryl also reviewed with the Council some changes that should be made prior to the ordinance being approved.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Sheryl said the City assigns the street numbers on a north/south and east/west basis. As Dunham Avenue developed westward it continued as Dunham Avenue but the north/south section changed to Dunham Loop with the development of a new subdivision. Therefore house numbering is incorrect based on the north/south and east/west numbering pattern.

Darrell Carman felt it could be a major inconvenience for residents to change their address and therefore, felt the City should reimburse residents for the expenses to change their address.

Ric said the Dunham Avenue was created prior to the City becoming incorporated in 1962.

Sheryl agreed that it will be an expense and inconvenience to homeowners but more so if emergency responders had difficulty locating their home. She said the same issue arose when Trinity Terrace was created. Homeowners requested their addresses be changed from East Bolton to Trinity Terrace.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Sheryl said the ordinance will also include a provision for homeowners to request a street name change but the City would charge the homeowner the cost of processing the request.

In response to a question from T. J. Brooker, Sheryl said both address numbers and street names would be included in the ordinance. The developers suggest the street names but City staff assigns the numbers.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Sheryl said a county-wide street naming board works on all county-wide subdivisions to ensure that street names are not duplicated.

In response to an audience comment that many front doors are recessed so the language in Section 3B should include "should be visible from the street". Sheryl will include that language in the final ordinance.

After a brief discussion the Council directed staff to prepare the final ordinance for first reading, at the October 11, 2010 Council meeting.

**MOTION: Darrell Carman made a motion to direct staff to prepare the final ordinance as amended to be presented to the Council at the October 11, 2010 Veneta City Council meeting for first reading by title only and to also prepare a fee resolution. Sandra Larson seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.**

- b. CITY ADMINISTRATOR.....RIC INGHAM  
(1) Amendment No. 2 to Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Lane County for West Broadway Redevelopment Project

Staff is seeking approval of amendment No. 2 to the IGA with Lane County which would add an additional \$18,000 to the engineering and final overall construction contract for the W. Broadway Redevelopment Project. Working with Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) and the Port of Coos Bay Rail Line required more of Lane County's time than was provided for in the original contract. ODOT asked for two different design modifications which entailed additional engineering and design time. It took four months to get ODOT's approval for the crosswalks across Territorial from East to West Broadway. Unfortunately the extra time involved was not budgeted in the original contract. Staff is recommending the Council approve the additional funds for this expenditure.

**MOTION:** Sandra Larson made a motion to accept the amendment to the Intergovernmental Agreement with Lane County in the amount of \$18,000. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

**5. OTHER**

Ric said Kyle Schauer, Public Works Superintendent was notified about a Sweet Gum tree located on the southeast corner of East Broadway and Territorial that ODOT recommended removing for construction of the pedestrian crosswalks. The redesign as approved by ODOT included ADA standards that impacted a greater right-of-way footprint and overlap of the tree roots. The cut into the tree's roots would likely result in the tree not surviving. Kyle did his due diligence and spoke with the Public Housing superintendent who was relieved to know the tree would be removed. In previous years, the sidewalk has been replaced several times due to the sidewalk buckling from the tree roots.

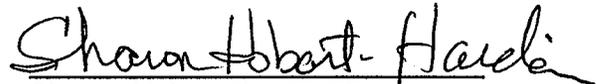
In response to questions from Joan Mariner, Ric said Kyle will work with the superintendent to see if a more suitable tree will be planted and as far as the Poplar tree at the Transit Center, it's up to Lane Transit District when the tree will be removed.

Ric said he, Brian and Kyle concluded interviews with the three top engineering firms. They will have a Council recommendation at the October 11<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

In response to a question from Darrell Carman, Ric said Jerry Elliott submitted an application but was not one of the final three chosen to interview.

**6. ADJOURN**

City Council President T. J. Brooker adjourned the Veneta City Council at 8:07 p.m.

  
Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
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Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder  
(minutes prepared by Dheneman)