

# Minutes of the Veneta City Council

## May 23, 2011

Present: Mayor Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Thomas Cotter, Marion Esty, and Sandra Larson

Absent: Brittany Boothe

Others: Ric Ingham, City Administrator; Shauna Hartz, Finance Director; Brian Issa, Community Services Director; Darci Henneman, Assistant City Recorder; Vicki Sourdry, Jenny Ramsey, and Joan Mariner, Fern Ridge Review

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Mayor Hobart-Hardin called the Veneta City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

### 1. PUBLIC COMMENT

#### **Vicki Sourdry, PO Box 996, Veneta, OR**

Ms. Sourdry spoke on behalf of Applegate Regional Theater (ART). She is giving a presentation on May 31<sup>st</sup> to talk about making Fern Ridge a tourist destination. Travel Lane County sponsored a rural tourism workshop that she recently attended and her presentation will give her an opportunity to share what she learned at the workshop. Points she will address: what makes a tourist destination; how to bring people in; amenities a destination should offer; how to provide sustainable tourism; and how to utilize our unique environment and still preserve it. Lunch will not be provided.

### 2. PUBLIC HEARING – Proposed Use of State Shared Revenue

1. Mayor Hobart-Hardin opened the Public Hearing at 7:04 p.m.

2. Staff Introduction

In order to remain eligible to receive liquor, cigarette and highway tax, the City is required to hold two public hearings. One at the Budget Committee level and one at Council level to provide an opportunity for the public to discuss the proposed uses of those revenues. The public hearing before the Budget Committee was held May 17<sup>th</sup> and tonight's public hearing is before the City Council.

3. Questions from the Veneta City Council

None

4. Public Comment

None

5. Mayor Hobart Hardin closed the public hearing fat 7:05 p.m.

6. Deliberation (if needed)

None

### 3. CONSENT AGENDA

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

**Vote: Marion Esty, aye; Thomas Cotter, aye; Mayor Hobart-Hardin, aye; and Sandra Larson, aye.**

The consent agenda as approved included minutes for May 9, 2011, Accounts Payable through May 17, 2011, and the Civic Calendar for June, 2011.

#### 4. DEPARTMENT REPORTS

##### a. FROM MAYOR/COUNCILORS

##### (1) Law Enforcement Update, Sgt. Osborne, LCSO

Sgt. Osborne reviewed the January/February report which showed a decrease in area burglaries. He said the March/April report will also show a decrease. A consistent number of wanted suspects were taken into custody in January and February. The recent burglaries were consistent and showed some similarities with a few burglaries that took place in January. Two of the three suspects were identified and a stolen vehicle was recovered on Penn Rd. All the burglaries were inter-related. Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) submitted an application for grant funds to provide for overtime to address drug enforcement activity (community policing). Next month's presentation will focus on traffic enforcement. At that time Sgt. Osborne would like to explain the traffic enforcement services LCSO provides the City.

In response to questions from Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Sgt. Osborne said the Gas N Go had been burglarized twice. The third incident involved an employee that allegedly stole funds.

##### (2) Appointment of Lane Area Commission on Transportation (LACT) Representative

**MOTION: Sandra Larson made a motion to direct Mayor Hobart-Hardin to appoint Thomas Cotter as the liaison to the Lane Area Commission on Transportation (LACT). Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.**

##### (3) Request from Imagination Zone and ART, Inc. for Scholarship Funds for 2011 Summer Program

Vicki Sourdry spoke on behalf of Applegate Regional Theater (ART) and Imagination Zone thanking the Council for the generous annual donation they make to provide scholarships to Imagination Zone. Sixty-four percent of last year's enrollment consisted of Veneta youth. They have expanded their program to include a teen theater class for grades 6 to 12 by performing an anti-bullying play. Parents are still asked to pay half of the \$45 registration fee. Mid-Lane Community Partnership will again assist with distributing the scholarship funds.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Vicki Sourdry said she knows there are grant funds available for anti-bullying programs but they haven't pursued them.

Jenny Ramsey said they are using the best practices terminology used in schools to stay consistent with the anti-bullying programs.

Oregon Country Fair made a donation to cover the cost of the instructors.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Ric said funding requests are paid from the Zumwalt fund or the Council Discretionary fund.

Shauna said the Zumwalt fund currently has a balance of \$4,400. Forty-eight hundred dollars (\$4,800) has been budgeted for FY2011-12.

In response to a question from Thomas Cotter, Ric said a motion is not required to direct staff from which fund to take the \$1500.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Shauna said the donation should be made in the same fiscal year as the bill is received but can be split between the Zumwalt fund and the Council Discretionary fund to ease the burden on each fund.

Ms. Ramsey said they would submit the bill through Mid-Lane Partnerships by the third week of their program.

Ric said it would be best if the services being rendered are paid for in the same fiscal year.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve a \$1500 donation for ART, Inc. and its sponsors, half from the Council Discretionary fund and half from the Zumwalt fund. Sandra Larson seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.**

b. **COUNCIL/COMMITTEE LIAISONS**

Sandra Larson said the Park Board has not met since the last meeting. She asked Ric to provide an update on the installation of the Fern Park play structure.

Ric said installation of the structure is complete and the chips will be placed in the next few days. Ric said Daphene Sampson, Park Board Chair was behind the project from the start; from finding the grant funding to orchestrating the installment.

Sandra Larson attended the last School Board meeting and said the state raised the math requirements at the elementary level. Now math levels are down at the elementary schools. A federal mandate has increased school lunch prices by five cents. The night after the levy failed, the budget committee approved a 21 million dollar budget with a 12.3 million general fund which will pay for six fewer school days and six fewer staff members. Five of those six positions were retiring staff however those positions will not be filled. There will be no middle school elective classes.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin attended the last LACT meeting where the last few seats will filled. The first discussions on the State Transportation Improvement Project (STIP) will happen in July which will include getting more funding into Lane County and get Highway 126 on the table. Thomas Cotter and Ric will attend the LACT orientation in June. She attended LCOG's budget meeting which was very short in part due to the fact that their budget is based on state and federal funding. She also worked with the Fern Ridge Community Library board on their strategic plan which she felt is going in the right direction. They are dead-on with their service areas.

Marion Esty attended the Senior Services budget meeting which lasted several hours. She said there's been more interfacing with Salem this year then in years past. She also attended the library board meeting and said it was interesting to know all the different groups that use the library. They talked about getting more minorities involved with the library and developing partnerships.

**5. STAFF REPORTS**

a. FINANCE DIRECTOR.....SHAUNA HARTZ

(1) **RESOLUTION NO. 1049** – A RESOLUTION DECLARING THE CITY'S ELECTION TO RECEIVE STATE SHARED REVENUES

Shauna said Resolutions 1049 and 1050 were additional requirements for the City to continue to receive state revenue. One states that the City elects to receive the revenue. The other one verifies that the City provides four or more required municipal services to its residents. Resolution 1049 also includes a statement for the City to certify that it held the two required public hearings.

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 1049 declaring the City's Election to receive state shared revenues. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

- (2) **RESOLUTION NO. 1050** – A RESOLUTION CERTIFYING THAT THE CITY PROVIDES FOUR OR MORE MUNICIPAL SERVICES

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Resolution No 1050 certifying that the City provides four or more municipal services. Sandra Larson seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

- (3) **RESOLUTION NO. 1051** – A RESOLUTION TRANSFERRING APPROPRIATIONS FOR THE 2010-2011 FISCAL YEAR

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to adopt Resolution 1051 transferring appropriations for FY2010-2011. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

b. **COMMUNITY SERVICES DIRECTOR**.....**BRIAN ISSA**

- (1) **Review of 2011 Proposed Pool Fees & Schedule**

Brian said the schedule is essentially unchanged from last year. The pool is very expensive to operate and one way to keep the costs down would be to decrease the hours of operation. The pool will open at 7:00 a.m. instead of 6:00 a.m. week days. On weekends the pool will open at 12:00 noon rather than 11:00 a.m., starting with a one hour lap swim. If swimmers don't take advantage of this lap swim, it will be eliminated and the pool will open at 1:00 p.m. on weekends. Fees will also remain unchanged.

In response to a question from Marion Esty, Brian said the lap swim from 6:00 a.m. to 7:00 a.m. was eliminated because there was so little participation. The schedule can be flexed mid-season if necessary.

In response to a question from Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Brian said the aerobics classes are based on the instructors' schedules. Both the instructors are returning from last year and we're very fortunate we didn't have to solicit for instructors.

**MOTION:** Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the pool schedule and fees as proposed by staff. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.

c. **CITY ADMINISTRATOR**.....**RIC INGHAM**

- (1) **Wholesale Water Agreement with the City of Eugene**

The City and EWEB entered into a wholesale water agreement in 2010. Staff felt it prudent to also seek an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with the City of Eugene that would conclude the actions taken by the Eugene City Council on January 24, 2011 authorizing the sale of wholesale water between Eugene Water and Electric Board (EWEB) and the City of Veneta. The City of Eugene had specifics they wanted laid out in the IGA; the City of Veneta will not sell water to any entity outside Veneta's Urban Growth Boundary (UGB), and if EWEB decided to charge a franchise fee to other municipalities they sell water to, Veneta would also be charged.

On October 27, 2010 the Lane County Circuit Court issued a decision that the Eugene Water & Electric Board (EWEB) rather than the Eugene City Council had the authority to sell water to Veneta. Eugene appealed that decision and the case is currently pending in the Oregon Court of Appeals. If the Appellate Court finds in favor of EWEB the IGA with the City of Eugene is

terminated and the wholesale water agreement with EWEB stands. If the Appellate Court finds in favor of the City of Eugene, then EWEB is no longer allowed to sell the City of Veneta wholesale water and the IGA with the City of Eugene becomes effective.

**MOTION: Thomas Cotter made a motion to approve the Intergovernmental Agreement between the City of Eugene and the City of Veneta for the sale of wholesale water from the Eugene Water and Electric Board. Marion Esty seconded the motion which passed with a vote of 4-0.**

(2) Goal Setting Report

Staff used the information that came from the February 5<sup>th</sup> Goal Setting Session to put together the framework for the 2011/12 budget. The Council and goal setting members agreed to postpone setting new goals until the Comprehensive Plan update was started this fall. It was agreed that staff would concentrate on the water pipeline, Service Center and updating the Comprehensive Plan over the next 18 months.

At this point staff would like comments or suggestions from the Council. All will be readdressed when the Comprehensive Plan update is initiated.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin said the Work Plan is a working document and is a reference tool. Staff and the Council need to focus on major projects which will involve a lot of staff time and resources but once these large projects are accomplished we will see a positive impact on the City.

Ric said the Work Plan outlines the activities and their priorities. Water is number one; updating the public safety contract and the Comprehensive Plan are also priorities along with updating the water and wastewater facility plans, which will require completing an economic analysis and updating our buildable lands inventory. In order to take the next steps, we need to assist Shauna with completing the software updates.

In response to a question from Mayor Hobart-Hardin, Ric said staff will continue to provide quarterly reports and the current Work Plan will be reviewed in June.

(3) Proposed Changes to Law Enforcement Contract

As a follow up from the Council Goal setting Session in February, staff reviewed the current public safety contract with Lane County Sheriff's Office (LCSO) and it was agreed that possibly the current contract isn't bringing enough value to the City and it's residents. Ric addressed some of the specific contract issues to be included in the contract modifications. He and Mayor Hobart-Hardin were encouraged with the positive feedback from their March 28<sup>th</sup> meeting with Lane County Sheriff Tom Turner.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Ric said the LCSO is applying for grant funds that would provide deputies with training in community policing.

Mayor Hobart-Hardin said Sheriff Tom Turner fully understood the concept of community policing, he was very supportive of meeting the needs of our community, and showed a genuine interest in providing the services the City is requesting.

In response to a question from Sandra Larson, Ric said the Public Safety contract with LCSO renews July 1, 2011. The modifications won't change the contract framework; the City will still receive four full time equivalent (FTE) positions and the contract amount stays the same but the job descriptions will change. Based on the recommendation of Sgt. Osborne, staff would like to

include a Community Resource Officer for the middle and high school, a resident deputy, and two FTE classified as patrol officers.

In response to questions from Marion Esty, Ric said currently only Veneta and Creswell contract with LCSO. A Public Safety Forum will be held on Wednesday June 29<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall. The Lane County District Attorney, Alex Gardner and Sheriff, Tom Turner will be speaking about public safety in our area.

**6. OTHER**

Stacy Cornelius asked staff if the Council would be interested in allowing the Sixth Grade and Eighth Grade Fern Ridge Middle School Science Teams to practice their competition speeches. Both teams will be competing at a national level and would like to deliver their speeches to the Council. Four meetings are planned for June 13<sup>th</sup> (Council and City Budget meeting, Urban Renewal Agency meeting and URA budget meeting) so staff suggested holding a work session at 6:30 prior to the regular Council meeting.

After a brief discussion it was the consensus of the Council to hold a Work Session at 6:30 p.m. on June 13<sup>th</sup> to provide each Science Team with 15 minutes to make their presentations to the Council.

Shauna reminded the Council that there will be a joint meeting with the Budget Committee on June 13<sup>th</sup> to approve the May 17<sup>th</sup> Budget Committee minutes and conduct the final public hearing. This process will be repeated for the Veneta Urban Renewal Agency Budget Committee.

**7. ADJOURN**

Mayor Hobart-Hardin adjourned the Veneta City Council at 8:20 p.m.

  
Sharon Hobart-Hardin, Mayor

ATTEST:  


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