

# CITY of LA GRANDE

## City Council Regular Session

April 6, 2016

6:00 p.m.

Council Chambers  
La Grande City Hall  
1000 Adams Avenue

### ***MINUTES***

#### **COUNCILORS PRESENT:**

Stephen E. Clements, *Mayor*  
Gary Lillard, *Mayor Pro Tem*  
John Bozarth, *Councilor*  
Wayne Brown, *Councilor*  
John Lackey, *Councilor*  
Troy Pointer, *Councilor*  
Justin Rock, *Councilor*

#### **COUNCILORS ABSENT EXCUSED:**

#### **STAFF PRESENT**

Robert Strope, *City Manager*  
Angelika Brooks, *City Recorder*  
Kayla Nichols, *Assistant to the City Manager*  
Mike Boquist, *City Planner*  
Gus Bryant, *Fire Chief*  
Teresa Gustfason, *Tree Educator*  
Brian Harvey, *Police Chief*  
Kim Hulse, *Finance Director*  
Christine Jarski, *Economic Development Director*  
Norm Paullus, *Public Works Director*  
Heather Rajkovich, *Accountant*  
Stu Spence, *Parks and Recreation Director*  
Terri Washburn, *Library Director*

#### **CALL TO ORDER/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/ ROLL CALL/AGENDA APPROVAL**

Mayor CLEMENTS called to order this Regular Session of the Council at 6:00 p.m. Roll Call was taken and a quorum was determined to be present.

#### **OATH OF OFFICE**

Angelika BROOKS, City Recorder

Gus Bryant, was sworn in by BROOKS as the Fire Chief for the City of La Grande.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

- a. **Consider:** Approval of Regular Session Minutes;  
*March 2, 2016*
- b. **Consider:** Approval of Special Session Minutes;  
*March 14, 2016*
- c. **Consider:** Ratifying City Manager's Action, Lease Agreement; *Sac Annex Parking Lot, 2016-2021*

The following Motion was introduced by BOZARTH; ROCK providing the Second:

**MOTION**

**MOTION:** I move that we accept the Consent Agenda as presented.

**VOTE**

**MSC.** (unanimous).

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Katie ANDERSON, Youth Services Consultant, Oregon State Library, presented the Outstanding Ready to Read Grant Project Award for 2015 to Cook Memorial Library.

Teresa GUSTAFSON, Tree Care Educator and Kevin LAIR, Community Landscape and Forestry Commission Chair presented the Tree City USA Award to the City of La Grande. LAIR updated the Council of the activities of the Community Landscape and Forestry Commission. He also noted that the La Grande's Arbor Day Celebration will be held on Saturday, April 29, 2016 at 1:00 p.m. and Spring Street Tree Planting Day will be held on Sunday, April 30, 2016 at 9:00 a.m. at the Parks and Recreation Department.

Mayor CLEMENTS made a proclamation declaring April 29, 2016, Arbor Day and April 3, 2016 through April 9, 2016 as Arbor Week.

Upon the request of Mayor CLEMENTS the firefighters that were in attendance at the meeting introduced themselves; Brent Brotherton, Tyson Botts, and Steve Hogge.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

None

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

- a. **Ordinance:** Second Reading; *Establishing a City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Improvement District 15-060*

**STAFF REPORT**

Mayor CLEMENTS requested the Staff Report.

Norm PAULLUS, *Public Works Director*

PAULLUS stated that the Council established a City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District for the year 2015 during their February 4, 2015, Regular Session. A Local Improvement District offers property owners a way to improve their property and maintain existing sidewalks. The City, in conjunction with this program, awards a contract for concrete work such as sidewalk repair. This contractor can be used by property owners, they can do the work themselves, or hire another contractor. This LID program and the competitively awarded contract facilitates sidewalk repair work upon property owner request.

PAULLUS noted that the 2015 Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District Number 15-060 ended in December 31, 2015, with the total cost of projects repaired under the LID being \$15,188.10. Staff monitored approximately 3,500 square feet of sidewalk repairs throughout La Grande during 2015, with many property owners hiring contractors or completing the repairs themselves.

PAULLUS stated that Council accepted Final Study and Report during the February 3, 2016, Regular Session. The Public Hearing and first reading of the proposed Ordinance by title only, was held during the March 2, 2016, Regular Session, with no public testimony in opposition.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None

**MOTION**

The following Motion was introduced by LACKEY; POINTER providing the Second:

**MOTION:** I move that the proposed Ordinance establishing final assessments for the 2015, City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District Number 15-060, be read by Title Only for the second time, put to a vote, and adopted.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None

At the Mayor's request, the City Recorder Read by Title Only for the second time, the Proposed Ordinance, as follows:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF LA GRANDE, UNION COUNTY, OREGON, ESTABLISHING THE FINAL ASSESSMENTS TO THE PROPERTY DETERMINED TO BE SPECIFICALLY BENEFITED BY THE 2015 CITY WIDE VOLUNTARY SIDEWALK LOCAL IMPROVEMENT DISTRICT NUMBER 15-060; AND DECLARING AN EFFECTIVE DATE [3232]**

**VOTE**

**MSC.** (unanimous)

**NEW BUSINESS**

- a. Consider: Awarding Contract; *Quiet Life; Concrete Work, 2016 Sidewalk LID and Concrete Repair Projects***

**STAFF REPORT**

Mayor CLEMENTS requested the Staff Report.

Norm PAULLUS, *Public Works Director*

PAULLUS stated that the Council established a City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District for the year 2016, during the February 3, 2016, Regular Session.

PAULLUS noted that the City continued to help property owners make improvements or repairs to their sidewalk. Implementation of City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District Number 16-061 allows a method of financing for these improvements and offers property owners a way to improve their property and maintain existing sidewalks. Property owners may seek other financing methods or do the work themselves. Staff has reviewed all nine (9) areas within the sidewalk program and will continue to work with those property owners who would like to voluntarily make sidewalk improvements.

PAULLUS noted Staff advertised for competitive quotes to establish a contractor for the concrete repair work the City may have during the year and in anticipation of the 2016 City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District Number 16-061. The City received one quote when it was placed out for quotes in February. The quote received was significantly higher than anticipated, therefore, this quote was rejected and the project was advertised for the Re-Bid. With the Re-Bid the City received two (2) qualified quotes, with the low quote from Quiet Life Construction, LLC. The Quote Documents contained only unit prices, as the quantities would depend upon those individuals who choose to participate in the L.I.D. program and any other concrete repair work the City may have for the contractor during the year.

PAULLUS noted that the quote totals were based on 2015 quantities.

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

None

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None

**MOTION**

The following Motion was introduced by LILLARD; BROWN providing the Second:

**MOTION:** I move that we award the contract for the 2016 City Wide Voluntary Sidewalk Local Improvement District Number 16-061 and Concrete Repair Projects to Quiet Life Construction, LLC for the unit prices as shown in the quote summary.

**COUNCIL DISCUSSION**

None

**VOTE**

**MSC.** (unanimous)

**b.** ***Consider: Appointing Citizens to Various Committees/Commissions; Landmarks Advisory***

Commission

Steve CLEMENTS, *Mayor*

MOTION

The following Motion was introduced by CLEMENTS;  
LACKEY providing the Second:

**Motion:** I move that Stephanie O'Brien be appointed to the Landmarks Advisory Commission for the remainder of a three-year term, expiring on December 31, 2016.

VOTE

**MSC.** (unanimous)

**STAFF COMMENTS**

PAULLUS updated the Council regarding Fire Hydrant Flushing Program.

SPENCE updated the Council of the outpouring of support by Jay Colman, RD MAC, and Challis Concrete Construction for donating their time and services to the City of La Grande's Parks and Recreation Department.

**CITY MANAGER COMMENTS**

Robert STROPE, City Manager reminded the Council that there was a Work Session schedule on May 23, 2016 regarding the Gas Tax and at that Work Session the Quiet Zone Committee would provide a recommendation regarding the Quiet Zone.

STROPE also stated that Camp Carson Gold Mine had requested a letter of support for resource base economic development in the region and with the consent of the Council, STROPE would write a letter of support, to which the Council agreed.

STROPE also noted that the City had been working for quite some time with fifteen other cities in Oregon on a Franchise Agreement with Charter Communications. He stated that the following were the final items that were being discussed in the agreement: (1) Standards and requirements for working in the right-of-way; (2) Public Education Government (PEG) Channel Access; and (3) PEG Capital. At the April 6, 2016 Charter Communications meeting that was held, it was discussed that Charter was proposing language in the agreement in regards to the PEG channel that they "may" provide access to the PEG Channel versus "shall" provide access to the PEG Channel free of charge to all subscribers would be a deal breaker for the Cities. He indicated the Cities felt retaining the access was an important element and that La Grande should not be willing agree to a franchise agreement that would allow Charter to remove the PEG access by having the word "may" instead of "shall." The City Council agreed.

**CITY COUNCIL COMMENTS**

A brief discussion was held regarding Work Session for the formation of a Library District Work Session. BOZARTH recommended the meeting be held at a neutral location.

Mayor CLEMENTS requested that Stu SPENCE, Parks Director, ask the Parks and Recreation Advisory Commission to look into the creation of a Veterans Discount Program at Veterans' Memorial Pool.

**POST COMMENTS**

All of the Councilors watched a Council Training video titled: *CIS Elected Official/Agent Bonus Program Training Video*. Kim Hulse, Finance Director and Heather Rajkovich, Accountant were present for any questions from the Council, there were no question asked.

There being no further business to come before this Regular Session of the Council, CLEMENTS adjourned the meeting to the Urban Renewal Agency Regular Session at 6:55 p.m. The Council is scheduled to meet again in Regular Session on Wednesday, May 4, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 1000 Adams Avenue, La Grande, Oregon.

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Kayla M. Nichols  
Assistant to the City Manager

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Stephen E. Clements  
Mayor

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_