

WESTFIR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Monday August 6, 2018

Westfir City Hall 5:30pm

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Matt Meske called the meeting to order at 5:30pm. Councilors D'Lynn Williams, Thalia Lerin, Brian Miller and Randy Stark were present. All stood and recited the Pledge of Allegiance.

MAYOR'S MINUTE:

Mayor Matt Meske mentioned the warmer weather and commented that there were no fire issues. He is concerned about the low level of the river and reiterated the need for an extra water storage tank.

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no citizen comments.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS ON AGENDA ITEMS:

There were no Councilor comments.

TRIPLE SUMMIT CHALLENGE GRANT:

Mayor Matt Meske reviewed the letter from Devin VansCoy asking for a donation for his event to be held at the Portal. Councilor Randy Stark asked what the City has donated for past events. Mayor Matt Meske responded that last year the City donated \$200, which covered the rental fee for the Portal. Councilor D'Lynn Williams was concerned about donating more than \$200 because it might set a precedence for future events. Councilor Thalia Lerin suggested that Devin change the name to "Westfir" rather than "Oakridge" for the event. There was further discussion about what amount to donate toward the event. Mayor Matt Meske motioned to donate \$600 to the Oakridge Triple Summit Challenge. Councilor Randy Stark seconded and the motion carried.

AYE: 4 NAY: 1 ABSENT: 0

IMBA RIDE CENTER/GOLD STATUS:

Melody Cornelius stated that the program had received enough funding to continue the status. Council decided that the topic was there for a non-issue.

APPROVE MINUTES:

Councilor Thalia Lerin motioned to approve the minutes from July 2, 2018. Councilor D'Lynn Williams seconded and the motion carried.

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0

WATER/SEWER REPORT:

Jackson Stone presented the water and sewer report. He stated that the water level was at one foot above the intake pipe, which was the lowest he had ever seen. Mayor Matt Meske asked what the water temperature has been and Jack replied about seventy degrees. There are new testing requirements by the state for blue green algae. Jack needs to submit samples every 2 weeks until 8 tests have been complete. If the algae are detected in the raw water he will need to submit weekly samples. If it is detected in the treated water, the water will be shut off and the City would need to find an alternative source. No blue green algae have been detected in the tests he has thus far submitted. Jack is currently cleaning the sand filters.

POLICE REPORT:

The police report was reviewed and there was no comment. Mayor Matt Meske summarized the request made by Oakridge for a safety committee meeting. No meeting has yet been scheduled.

FIRE REPORT:

Chief Mike Hansen presented the fire report. He stated that response time had dropped significantly since implementing the new system that began July 1. Chief Hansen distributed a letter that was to be published in the DME addressing the hearsay about his relationships and businesses with Oakridge City Administrator and Finance Director. After he summarized the letter, Councilor Thalia Lerin asked what would happen to his contract with Westfir if his contract with Oakridge was revoked. He replied that he would no longer be chief in Westfir.

CITY RECORDER REPORT:

Melody Cornelius presented the report. She stated that although the play structure at the Portal was now complete, a set of drums had been stolen from the park. She reminded Council that Senator Merkley was going to visit City Hall on Friday and asked Council to attend if possible. She distributed a letter from Lane Electric regarding a pending refund and asked Council how they wanted to utilize the funds. There was some discussion about the options which were provided in the letter. Councilor Brian Miller motioned to credit the funds toward the next billing cycle. Councilor Randy Stark seconded and the motion carried.

AYE: 3 NAY: 2 ABSENT: 0

Melody stated that she needed to take a personal day the following Wednesday and that for the second time in a month Sharon Elrod was not available as her relief. Mayor Matt Meske asked Melody to include a comment in her file regarding the lack of availability. Melody distributed the adjustments to water bills for the calendar year so far.

Mayor Matt Meske summarized a complaint submitted by Shirlee Anderson regarding an interaction between herself and Melody Cornelius. Melody also submitted a statement regarding the incident. There was some discussion about how to respond to the complaint and also how to avoid future incidents. Council asked Melody to purchase jump drives that could be used to save video footage of all questionable interactions. Council also asked Melody to provide complaint forms to anyone who becomes agitated in the office, and reminded her not to engage in disagreements. If someone becomes abusive in their language, Council instructed Melody to respond with "your language is inappropriate and I need to ask you to leave." Mayor Matt Meske and Councilor Randy Stark agreed to draft a response and submit it to Council for approval.

CITY FINANCIAL REVIEW:

Melody Cornelius submitted the bank statements, reconciliation, cash deposits, and expenditure sheet. There was some discussion about revising the expenditures to address the increase in payroll, PERS, donation, and removing the DEQ certification line. Councilor D'Lynn Williams motioned to approve the revised expenditures in the amount of \$27,712.49. Councilor Thalia Lerin seconded and the motion carried.

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0

CITIZENS CONCERNS NOT ON AGENDA:

Resident June Johnson said that she had a new decorative bike to install somewhere. After some discussion, it was decided to install it at the "Welcome to Westfir" sign on the west end of the City. Chief Mike Hansen asked Council for a letter of support and Mayor Matt Meske responded that the City would oblige. Resident Elizabeth Stark asked that June Johnson and Linda Love to be supplied with volunteer shirts for their time spent on beautifying the City. Council agreed. Resident Erik Meske asked if the ice cream truck would be in Westfir this year. Councilor D'Lynn Williams responded that it was a private business, not contracted with the City.

COUNCILOR CONCERNS NOT ON AGENDA:

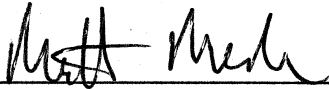
Councilor D'Lynn Williams asked when the annual community clean-up was going to take place. Melody said that it is usually held in September or October. Mayor Matt Meske asked that an event be added to the clean-up that involves kids and families. The community clean-up was tentatively scheduled for September 1-17, depending upon the availability of the drop boxes. A special clean-up day is scheduled for Saturday, September 15 when people are encouraged to meet at the Portal at 9:30 and break into groups to address trash in different areas of Westfir, the rivers in particular. Everyone is welcome to join a potluck at noon at the Portal after the clean-up efforts. Councilor D'Lynn Williams suggested reaching out to the Forest Service and the Watershed Council for support and resources.

ADJOURN MEETING:

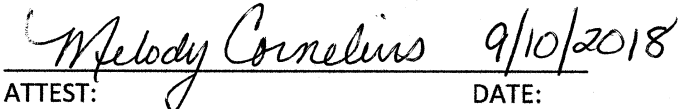
Councilor Thalia Lerin motioned to adjourn the meeting, Councilor Randy Stark seconded and the meeting was adjourned at 8:00pm.

AYE: 5 NAY: 0 ABSENT: 0

Respectfully Submitted,



Matt Meske, Mayor

 9/10/2018

ATTEST:
Melody Cornelius, City Recorder

DATE: