MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING 5/09/2023

Mayor Sean Simmons
6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members: Jennifer, Dunaway, Shannon Schrader, Mark Swayne, Doug Donner and Mike Gladhart-by phone

Staff: Administrator-Ryan Smathers, Clerk Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Building Official Todd Perry, Public Works Supervisor-Shane Miller, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin, Police Chief-Vincent Frazier and Fire Chief Bart Jones

Guests: Loretta Stout, Amy Gladhart, Susan Jacobson-CCED Director, Tina Lauria, John Erbst, Shelly Donner, Helen Clark, Mary Stanley and Steven Kinzer

Media: Elizabeth Morgan and Nancy Butler

Absent: Josh Tilley

MINUTES

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes as written held on April 25, 2023. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

A copy of the Regular Urban Forests of Orofino Meeting Minutes held May 2, 2023 was submitted to the Council for review and information only.

BILLS AND CLAIMS

Councilmember Donner made a MOTION to approve the regular bills, the additional bills and the payroll dated May 6, 2023. Councilmember Gladhart seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

PETITIONS, APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

City of Orofino Budget Schedule for FY 2023-24 – Copy of the schedule was provided to the council as information only.
City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 5/09/2023
III-A Medical Insurance-Adopt Joint Powers Agreement and Participation Agreement – Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adopt the III-A Joint Powers & Participation Agreements. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

Good Faith Amendment to April 25, 2023 Agenda - Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to ratify Council's decision on the Good Faith Amendment added to the April 25, 2023 Agenda for information from the City's Attorney Jennifer Douglass regarding the Stoddard Litigation. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

CCED Director, Susan Jacobson – CCED Annual Support Agreement – Director Jacobson provided the annual letter of request to the council for their continued support of the Clearwater County Economic Development program at a funding level of $10,000 as well as providing the office space, benefits and the shared cost agreement. Councilmember Donner made a MOTION to approve the continuation of the $10,000 CCED Annual Support Agreement for Fiscal Year 2024. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

CCED Director, Susan Jacobson – CCED Updates – Director Jacobson reported that there are a couple of grants that are out there right now. There is one that's the safe streets for all grant. That particular grant has a lot of objectives in it that are similar to the work that we're doing. We had to back off on the CDBG because the cost of construction for the debt bridge and the whole project out that way. This grant may be able to come in and address some of that. It's a planning grant as well as the demonstration grant opportunity. If the engineers that are working on that program currently can say that the action plan that is in place meets all of the needs that they require in the planning phase, then we could go right into requesting a demonstration grant from that and if the council would like her to continue to pursue and look at that closer. She shared with Chief Frazier about a DOJ (Department of Justice) grant that is out there that is a violence prevention grant. It has a lot of outreach and equipment and different opportunities and it is 100%. He is looking at that; they are getting into a window of a turnaround so there might be an opportunity, that they may be able to put it together. Jacobson reported that State of Idaho Parks and Rec are going to come for a visit. It will be Kathy Muir. She is the federal grant manager. They are going to have some discussions about some possible projects. Jacobson state that she has been getting a lot of feedback from the community and others in a good way. There are different projects that can happen, like looking at some ways to connect to the ATV trails. Another is to look at improving the waterfront to be able to make it easier for the kayakers and rafters to exit and enter. The plan is for Kathy to be here for two days. Jacobson stated that she is going to bring her to look at some projects here and the surrounding area. Jacobson reported that she has been at a few different events over the last couple of months. She was in Burley and there was an interesting presentation from a Boise State professor. He facilitates conversations regarding Old West versus New West into a concept of the next West. As we talk about the comprehensive plan and its need for an update and if the community wants to guide where we're headed. Just encouraging that the city begins to take the City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 5/09/2023
steps in updating that comprehensive plan. She did have a conversation with CEDA, about their capabilities of maybe putting together a grant and leading those efforts. They are capable of doing that and they could potentially have some grant funding that they could do that working alongside the engineers. Jacobson stated with some of those events that she has been to there has also been conversations about how the communities are looking to revitalize their downtown like some of the current plans that are beginning to take shape in Orofino. But they've also done it as a place to be gathering the community again, having events and doing things like that along the way. With that, guiding it what they've done is they've created entertainment districts in their downtown area for when they have the Show-n-Shine or the jet boat races for example. They set forth a list of ordinances that govern that; allows them to shut down the roads to have a party downtown, whether it's a concert or car show or whatever. She has had some early conversation with Chief Frazier regarding what would those ordinances look like what are other cities doing? What could the city do to put some ideas around that? She thinks just looking to the council all as well. Should the city begin to head in that way and start crafting something that maybe the council could take a look at, or is there any interest in that? Mayor Simmons stated yes that there is interest. With that in mind, she has been working with the Orofino Farmers Market, they are going to be having their summer market on Tuesday mornings in the park as before, but they had a rapid assessment done last year by University of Idaho assessing the market; talking about their strong points, their challenges, how they can approve what the public wants to see. And overwhelmingly there was a push to have an evening market. There is some hardship with some of the vendors to do every week evening market, as well as how to make it all work. The proposal came forward to do once a month on a Thursday night. They decided the third Thursday to come to Johnson Avenue. They will be requesting to shut down one block of Johnson Avenue on the third Thursday of the month, beginning in June running through September to hold the Farmer's Market downtown on a Thursday evening. There are about eight or nine vendors that are pretty interested. Councilmember Gladhart inquired how that would work with Lumberjack Days at that particular time? Director Jacobson stated they would have to do like they do in the park. They cannot be there then. Councilmember Schrader inquired if the businesses were on board with the Farmer's Market? Jacobson stated that she has spoken with a couple of them. The next step would be to go to each business. There has been some conversation and a couple of the open houses. There is a lot of excitement around the idea. The hours would range from 4:00-7:00 p.m. Councilmember Dunaway suggested that Jacobson has those conversations with the businesses prior to the next council meeting to get their feedback and if they are in favor as well. Jacobson reported on the workforce housing options. There have been different ways to address this issue in different communities and it breaks down into four areas of options that are successfully being implemented in other communities, other rural communities, and some of them are happening in cities too.

One is a land trust? The Land Trust format is where a nonprofit owns the land. Land which rises and falls and values that nonprofit keeps control over it, sets forth rules and covenants, that determine what the housing standard is, how the yards have to be upkept, all of those types of things, and the homeowners actually purchased the homes but at a discounted rate. So the way they factor it is whatever market value is, whatever it costs it to build. Then they look at that City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 5/09/2023
workforce, kind of pricing what is the affordability level you need in order to let typically teachers, nurses, police officers, those kinds of people to be able to get into homeownership that is now kind of priced out of their level. There were some concerns that were coming forth with the land trust option, specifically in parcel that is in the county not in the city, but out there in West Gate. There is a lot of questions around that. She had a follow up meeting with those individuals. One thing they want they want people to understand about land trusts is the person buying the home, they have to qualify under all normal mortgage situations. The lending process takes out people that really are unable to afford to own and live in a regular house. You have they have to go through all of the lending approvals, they have to have a certain income level. They said that selection process is really set forth by the lender. If a person qualifies for the house, the differences is when they go to sell the home instead of them being able to sell it again if the markets double they buy it as an investment inexpensively and then they flip it for double the money. They can only make the profit of what has happened with cost of living and they have to stay in whatever that ceiling was determined at the time of sale. So if it was 80% of market value, they can only sell again at 80% of market value, if that's the number that ends up once the construction is done. So that's kind of the land trust. That's also a combination of another format they call deed restriction. They can own the land; own the house, but then when it's sold, there's a restriction to the deed that it can't they can't flip it and make a whole bunch of money. They can just make an average increase instead of out of control and it keeps certain subdivisions where they can remain entry level or workforce housing. There's a lot of tiny home subdivisions going up. So that's another thing that you can get those entry level a lot of conversation about how do we keep our kids home? This would be one of the ways is to be able to find different homeownership options for them. The other piece is looking at your zoning, they talked a lot about that it within your zoning. Are you making it hard on developers or easier? Does it make sense to maybe set up some different programs that allow fast tracks of building or it allows incentives to the developers where for a limited period of time you waive certain fees, or you go get grant money that offsets those fees and it sits in a pool and you can sub grant it then to developers that are going to meet these objectives. So you determine this is the kind of housing we want. We're going out to the developers, we're going to ask them to build out this area and here are the incentives that happened with it. They also make it easier with fast tracked pre designed plans. So the Here are four homes that we would like to see this style in Orofino or an apartment that looks like this. And they're already designed. The developer doesn't have all of that plan, check review period that goes through.

Jacobson gave an update on the EV grant. They had a meeting with Avista. They came and looked at the sites for it. They’ve got an electrician that has installed EV charging stations in the area that is going to be coming out and doing another site visit and looking at that. They are getting some pricing on the actual charging stations. Some of the questions the council had about, what do they look like? She went around and visited a whole bunch in the area and took some pictures. Down in Burley, Tesla had a whole bank of them at the Walmart. Most of the ones in the area are a dual charge, rapid charge level three system and those are the ones that charge in 20 minutes. They have two outputs on them. Then there is the slower charge one that would be more like an overnight. What they are looking at right now based on what they are understanding about how it hits the power grid. A lot of times how they charge or the fee structure does not offset what the actual City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 5/09/2023
power distribution fees are. They are looking at potentially having two of them. That would be located in the parking lot kind by Hanson's garage, and then one over at the Best Western. Both of those areas do border city property but they did find out the grant application would come through the city. It is possible for the city to actually get into a lease agreement with the businesses to have it located on their property. And then it's also permitted within the grant to have them operate that location. The city does not have to do the operation. Those entities can operate and maintain and the grant can help offset those costs. It says that they don't have to operate, charging or fueling stations is funded through the grant; the grant recipient isn't required to own or operate. Then how long will the charging or alternative fuel stations remain publicly available? The only piece is it has to be in a public location. And it says for not less than five years. It is very similar to what was done with the Rex Theatre. Councilmember Gladhart inquired is part of this grant to upgrade Avista's power grid? Jacobson stated that as part of the grant the service provider provides the match. In the two locations where they would be located, they looked at the poles and there is actually enough power and service capability they need to put boxes in that feed those. Councilmember Donner inquired how do people pay for their charge and who maintains them? Jacobson stated they are done via a card reader and all the maintenance is required by the person that is chosen to contract with to be the host of that place. The grant deadline is May 31, 2023.

DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrator - Administrator Smathers reported we had our kickoff meeting yesterday with the downtown revitalization committee meeting here and it went well, there was a lot of ideas, a lot of participation. He is anxious to see where that goes. He reported Chief Frazier had brought in the proposed new dispatch agreement with the county and the attorney and they are working together on that. The city attorney wanted some things added. Clayne and her are working together. It will be brought to the council for budgeting.

Clerk Treasurer - Treasurer Wilson reported besides the revenue recap report, she stated that Joni had received scholarship to attend the League of Idaho Cities CISM training in Boise. The training is crisis and group crisis intervention training. It will be interesting to see what type of information she will bring back from the training.

Building Official - Building Official Perry reported he is working on his budget. The tree committee is still planting trees. They still have three more to plant on D Street. He has been adding trees to the inventory on the tree plotter website that they received from IDL. He stated it is good website that didn’t cost anything. He has been reviewing a new grant application that they received from Urban Forestry; just seeing if it is something they want to pursue. Mayor Simmons inquired on what the does the grant entail? Perry stated it is a big grant, but he thinks it is for a very large infrastructure projects that involve urban trees. Councilmember Donner inquired if there is still a budget for tree removal? Perry stated there is a budgeted line item for hiring people to trim or remove trees.
Public Works Supervisor Miller reported last Council meeting he stated he was concerned with the inmate program and whether they were going to be able to get good guys or guys at all this year. Everything’s going really well; Mike Curtis works really hard to get us the best guys he can to come down and work. They have two guys and are working really good. One of them actually is a flagger, which are needed to flag quite a bit when they have certain projects. Craig is going to start painting crosswalks, within the next couple of week, that guy will be able to work with him on that. The sprinkler systems fired up and all the bugs worked out. Got some asphalt patching done. A lot of these patches aren’t very good. That cold mix they had over the winter was very difficult to deal with. Next time they get a load of hot mix they will level those out and smooth them out a bit. To give an update on the Champion Park; Mark Fowler with Cascade Falls Construction were up there and they poured the footers getting everything ready. Miller stated he got them all the parts so they are going to stub out the sewer and everything, Jason Phillips told me he would donate the plumbing and he would plumb everything in for a community project. He received a call with Kelly Watkins and he will hook up the electrical, which that building already has all the electrical there, the meter box and everything was on the side of the building. So it’s a pretty quick hookup. They dug a ditch for Avista and laid conduit. It’ll be pretty easy once it gets here. Miller reported on the CIPP project went really well. They were planning on being in the RV park for three days; they ended up losing the day because they got a bunch of water in the diesel tank on their big pump. He got them a 55 gallon drum and they were able to drain that out. It was too late in the day because it takes until almost eight o’clock at night sometimes to cure the liner with UV lights that they drag through. They moved over to Swayne Lane and they have a line over there that they haven’t been able to get our jet rodder through for some years now. It coincided when they put the new storm drain in. He thinks there is just so much water running under the ground down there, that it undermined the pipe and it dropped it like a V and still flowing through. They had to do a change order on that and Thursday they will be digging that up to 12 feet deep and will patch a piece in. They will be able to pull the liner through and line that whole pipe. He has a video of everything. In the first approximately 30 to 40 feet of that there is one spot that is easily as much water coming through as when you take a shower each night. It's that much water coming through that seam and another 10 feet down. There is one that's like having a hose on. That much water that they'll be able to eliminate from the sewer system just by slip lining. They will keep knocking those down pretty and pretty soon there will be a noticeable difference. It's really actually going pretty good. That has been the biggest hang up and they are expecting to get that done sometime towards the end of next week. The next time they pour concrete there is a six by eight foot slab right beside the bathroom down that they are going to put the bike repair station on. At that same time they have a three by three square in the splash pad that's fixed, then we'll pour concrete and that will all be fixed too. Councilmember Donner inquired where they slip lined from? Miller stated they slip line from space 15 which is where the line from the VFW field comes from, which catches that whole side of town, the prison, playground, Swayne Lane and catches all that. From that point clear down to the gate at the Public Works shop. That is where most of the worst restrictions with roots and sediment was. The pipe has been completely cleaned all the roots cut out and now it's got a brand new 18 inch liner in it. There is probably 1% or less of what is out there that needs to be rehabbed. It feels good to get those lines with known issues taking care of.

City of Orofino Regular Council Meeting held 5/09/2023
Police-Police Chief Frazier reported his officers have been fairly busy being very proactive. They've had a few little incidents that for as young as they are, he feels they acted very professionally. Some very erratic information. They had a pursuit with a motorcycle in town. All over town matter of fact. They eventually located the individual and that was taken care of, but they acted professionally. They conducted themselves, not putting people in harm's way when it could have been a lot more dangerous than what it was. So kudos to them. As the council is well aware, he really focuses on their mission statement for Orofino Police Department which is: “Orofino Police Department is dedicated to providing progressive, proactive service through partnerships that build trust, reduce crime, create a safe environment, and enhance the quality of life here in Orofino.” He stresses that to the new recruits, the new people in their office. They are not a stats driven department. Not under his watch will they ever be a stats driven department. They are out there focusing on reducing crime. Now being an old watch, dealing with the younger environment and the younger officers and their motivation and what inspires them. They want a lot of kudos and want positive reinforcement about the things they are doing. Chief Frazier stated that he has been working on an idea that he came up with at his own expense a way to honor them when they meet the standards. He came up with a belt. The first person to receive this belt last month was Officer Ty Smith, for all his interaction at the school that’s positive and feedback they have received from the community. He is keeping that in his office as positive reinforcement for that. And throughout the months when people exceed his expectations of their mission statement they will pass on the belt during their department meetings. Chief stated that yes, it may seem a little corny, but they have received it as very positive and the camaraderie that he is trying to build within the department. Chief reported on something that happened at the Chamber auction. That shocked him completely. Again, it comes back to this mission statement and what was behind. An individual created a flag; dedicated to former Chief Wilson that is number 6C3. Very extravagantly done. Beautiful! The chamber took it upon themselves to have that auctioned at their chamber auction that he went to. By the time the auction is over, that flag made Christmas 911 $10,000 towards that investment of that great thing that Jeff put together. They stressed that they wanted that legacy to be continued. And again, he think it goes back to again the same mission statement that he says that that wouldn't have been that way if Jeff didn't show that to that commitment to our community. He just wanted to put that out there. They are going to still move in that positive direction. It's nice to know Christmas 911 will be able to continue to help the community and help Jeff's legacy and in turn, have young individuals know the importance of our mission statement and the investment in our community, which is what we're striving for. The major contributor for this was Chis Loseth at P1FCU. Scott Roughton is the individual who made the flag.

Water/Wastewater-Water/Wastewater Supervisor Martin reported he has been working on his budget. They have been trying to finish up the UV project, trying to get the bulbs put in. Unfortunately the INI has been too strong for them to pump the vault all out and clean it. But what Shane's been doing is a noticeable impact. They used to hit 2.3 million gallons just when it would rain or when the water table go up. They have only seen about 1.1 million currently right now. It is really helping and he hopes they can keep going with that and that'll reduce a lot of costs. Aside from that they are gearing up a tour of the Police Department, Fire Department, Water Department and Sewer Department on Friday for homeschool children. Walt Wilkinson and his wife organized
Fire - Chief Jones reported their trainings have been very well attended. They are gearing up for wildland season. They have the PAC test coming up for wildland fire on the 15th. They have Orofino Fire training with County EMS right now doing landing zone ops at the park. He stated that it is good to see them coming together sharing resources so they are all on the same page when things happen. On the 18th they have a career fair going on at the Elementary School. Gearing up for the homeschool tour. Burn season has come to an end for the year. He stated that it doesn’t seem like wildland season, but there have been a few fires already pop up.

PUBLIC COMMENT

John Erbst stated that the orange fence is down at the basketball court. He inquired if the fence will be put up soon? Public Works Supervisor Miller stated that they still need to figure out something with brackets. They aren’t sure how they are going to put that fence up on the top of that wall. John wanted to know if a kid falls off of that wall is the city responsible for it? Miller stated not in the State of Idaho, because there is a statute that the State of Idaho encourages private landowners to open their properties up for public use. You can sue them, but you can't win a lawsuit with them because it's at your own risk. Basically. Something he learned years ago when there was a similar issues that the park. Unless the city is charging for access. At the same time the city doesn’t want anyone to get hurt. John inquired from Chief Frazier regarding people back packing that are passing through that look like they may be transients? Chief Frazier stated that they do watch them and there tend to be an influx of them during this time of year. They try to address them one at a time when there are issues. They are trying lower some of the camping that they have going on. John reported that he wanted to thank Ryan Smathers & Susan Jacobson for coming to the Forest Service meeting. It was a great meeting and very informative. They are going to work on the 250 road, up over Deception and down through Black Canyon. They are going to put in a gravel pit with a rock crusher just before Kelly Forks. They are going to redo the 700 road. They talked to them about going down in to the Weitas Guard Station. They are talking about renting out the facilities at the guard station. Administrator Smathers stated that in his mind the Forest Service is huge and has infinite resources. They have learned that there are having real challenges here running the forest. The are not getting the resources that they need. It may be an avenue for us for some political pressure. Law enforcement is a huge issue out in the forest. They currently pay for half of a position of one of the deputies and that contract hasn’t been renegotiated since the 80s and that is just not enough when you look at the land area and the use that it gets. They have some real Forest Service internal struggles. Smathers stated that it was a very productive meeting and he thinks they are receptive to help and advice from the community. Director Jacobson stated that they asked if people would like to adopt the North Fork. Kind of a grouping formed if anybody is interested in being part of that. If you’re out camping and you’re going to a certain area and have a little chore list to help maintain it and make it good for you and your family.
COUNCIL COMMENT

ADJOURNMENT

At 7:11 p.m., Councilmember Dunaway made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Schrader seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

ATTEST:

Donna M. Wilson, City Clerk Treasurer

Sean Simmons, Mayor