

May 19, Version

Minutes of the Millersburg City Council Meeting
Tuesday, May 9, 2017

Meeting Call to Order

Roll Call Dave Harms, Jim Lepin, Scott McPhee, Don Miller and Scott Cowan present

Pledge Allegiance

Agenda Changes and Additions - Mayor Jim Lepin noted there would be an executive session later in the meeting.

Consent Agenda

- **Approval of April 10, 2017 Minutes**
- **Approval of Invoices from last Council meeting to May 3rd 2017**

Councilor Don Miller made a motion to approve the minutes and monthly invoices and seconded by Councilor Scott McPhee – motion approved unanimously.

Guest Presentation: Tarah Campi – community and economic development planner – Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments provided information about the current state of the Regional Transportation Plan with the intent of gaining audience feedback about what in the plan might be of concern or to respond to questions. She handed out a pamphlet that provided information about the planning process.

She advised that all jurisdictions in Oregon who have a population base of 50,000 or more have formed a Metropolitan Planning Area [MPO] and Albany to include Millersburg for planning purposes has attained that population threshold. The MPO was formed in 2013 so it is fairly new. And the MPO is in the process of developing its first regional transportation plan. The plan is evaluating all modes of transportation and she wished to share the agency's findings so far. She said the plan would likely be formally adopted in the next year. She said they planned an extensive outreach. A primary aim is how to increase transit service. She said at present transit services in Albany and the outlying areas were fairly limited. She said they had three tiers of transit timelines extending from 3 years to 20. She said there is limited opportunity for transit service in the Millersburg area in the 5 to 10 year planning horizon. If transit service were provided it would likely be on Conser and Old Salem Road. She said there was discussion about a bridge from North Albany to Millersburg which would eliminate a lot of traffic going through downtown Albany; however the costs tag was about 168 million and thus it is unlikely to be a realistic construction goal. Another goal would be to manage congestion through active transportation by adding bike lanes, safety improvements, walking paths and increasing transit service that goal's price tag is 140 million but that is the focus at this time. She said there was a software program they relied upon for data analysis to determine transportation strategies. She was asked how did they determine the amount of individuals in Millersburg needing bus service and she responded that is determined by workforce location, number of people who commute and those who do not have access to vehicles but it was not a precise count. Mayor Lepin commented that when the City was developing its transportation plan there was a discussion about the bridge access and little to no interest. A concern was expressed about getting rid of Dial a Ride as part of the transit pursuit. Tarah advised that the planning process would not impact that service. She advised this would not be the last opportunity for comment as they plan would not be adopted for another year. To a question about changing the highway ramps she said that ODOT was pursuing that action not the MPO. Councilor Don Miller noted he was the City's liaison to the MPO and he was very impressed by the way in which they worked to connect the transportation pieces.

- **Linn County Sheriff's Report**

Lieutenant Michelle Duncan provided the monthly sheriff's report providing an overview of the enforcement actions they undertook in Millersburg and noting they had invested 110 hours in the community during that time period. She noted the city Hall substation was in the works and this location would assist with public interface and provide an ability to expedite reporting processes. Mayor Lepin requested a little more focus on Millersburg Park. Mayor Lepin noted that we had the best crime per capita rating in the County.

- **Public Comment**

Concern was expressed about the delay in completing the Alexander pedestrian crossing and Janelle Booth, the City's engineer, replied that the City was awaiting two bacons to complete the work. She said the work ought to be completed in about two weeks.

- **Councilmember Comments**

Councilor Scott Cowen expressed concern about an empty brick sign located at Becker Ridge he suggested it was an eyesore and ought to be replaced with something permanent. Mayor Lepin asked if it was one of the conditions of the development's approved to which Barbara Castillo responded no. Councilor Scott McPhee suggested that the City consider making the sport pickle ball available at Millersburg Park. Mayor Lepin responded that Scott should ask the lady who was suggesting this activity provide the city with support letters. Councilor McPhee suggested one medium for gaining feedback was Survey Monkey [a type of survey process]. Discussion followed on how to get quality public feedback. Scott also suggested that this fall after the conclusion of the baseball/softball season we consider placing soil and soil amendments on the ball fields to improve their capacity for sports activity next season.

Councilor Don Miller requested that Sean Shearer, the City's maintenance supervisor, provide council with a repot everyone now and again.

Councilor Dave Harms said he had received enumerable complaints about the Alexander crosswalk and the City should have done a better job of scheduling and the parts ordered that would be lengthy to obtain prior to starting the work. Discussion followed about bidding conditions.

Councilor Scott McPhee inquired about the possibility of investigating the existence of drain tile in the south half of Millersburg Park.

Mayor's Comments

Mayor Lepin noted Barbara Castillo's 42 years of public service and alluding to the fact that she would be retiring soon. He noted the City planned a community celebration to honor her service June 28th. In response to his comments Barbra received a standing ovation from those present. He also noted that Sarah Cook had been hired as the new city recorder to replace Barbara. He noted that the regularly scheduled June Council meeting would be held a week early June 6 to afford council members the opportunity to attend school graduations. Finally, the Mayor noted he was cancelling the strategic goal review committee for two months simply because the City was experiencing so much growth and change. He said he would send out a list reflecting efforts to date to address these goals in the next few days.

City Manager's Report

Development Coordinator Position

Steve Hasson provided an overview of efforts to refine the development coordinator position. He noted the various skill sets this person would need to possess and also advised the Budget committee, which

was comprised of all the Councilors and the Mayor had tentatively approved this person in next years' budget as part of the budget review process. With that assessment he asked the Councilors to confirm this position so he could advertise it. Conversation followed clarifying the planning roles. Councilor Scott Cowen moved that we approve the development coordinator position with a salary of up to \$65,000 and seconded by Councilor Dave Harms. The motion was approved with Councilor Scott McPhee voting no.

City Hall Generator - recommendation

Steve Hasson said there have been discussions about having a large generator installed at City hall to serve as a backup power system in the event of a substantial natural catastrophe. However the reality if there is such an event then our citizens are more likely to seek refuge elsewhere and the City hall at best will be a warming station. He said, given the cost of the generator will be more than \$150,000 that seems excessive and he recommended against the expenditure. Mayor Lepin noted that this item was removed from the budget by the budget committee the previous week. In response to this inquiry Councilor Miller made a motion not to install the generator and also that if the item was to be resurrected at some future date that an evaluation of City Hall be conducted to assure it had the capability to withstand a natural calamity as part of that evaluation process and seconded by Councilor Harms. Councilor Cowen asked Steve to keep his eye open for any grants that might provide an opportunity to evaluate the building for its structural ability in light of a natural disaster.

Other matters:

Steve noted that the Love's Truck stop groundbreaking is scheduled for July 18th with an opening date in December or January 2018. Councilor Harms said he desired that when the truck stop is up and running that our law enforcement due what it can to assure compliance at the onset so the truckers would have the message not to engage in any inappropriate type of behavior. Connie Lepin expressed a similar concern about safety issues associated with the truck stop. Dennis Gunner asked as part of this conversation had there been any further discussion on a feel tax?

Steve also brought the Council up to date on issues the City had with the Oregon Department of Lands concerning wetland mitigation issues. A discussion followed about the manner in which this state agency goes about its business.

City Attorney's Report

Mayor Lepin advised the audience that the Council would need to adjourn to an executive Session in accordance with ORS 192.660(2) (e) – real property transaction for a short period of time.

Unfinished Business

Ordinance 126 Encouraging safe and appropriate dog behavior in the City of Millersburg

Steve Hasson noted the City has experienced recent animal control impacts whose resolution was less than satisfactory and therefore the City staff had attempted to construct an ordinance with considerable input from its citizenry that provides Linn County Sheriff's department additional teeth to respond to City's animal control related matters. Attorney Reid advised that he had constructed this ordinance with input from Craig Ziegenhagel who has considerable familiarity with this subject. He noted the language found in the ordinance was intended to complement State animal control statues. Considerable discussion followed concerning the ordinance's provisions. Several citizens' expressed concern that the ordinance was overreaching, in that, to cure animal control conflicts the ordinance, more or less, made it so that citizens of Millersburg could not take their animal out for a walk/run without them being tethered to a leash. It was clearly understood by those present that under no circumstances [with or without this ordinance] was it appropriate for a dog to be off its leash in the Millersburg Park. Citizens expressed the view that a way to minimize dogs running at large was construction of a dog park. Scott Stimpson said he had a petition in favor of constructing a dog park with 50 signatures and counting. After more discussion it was apparent there was not much in the way of public support for this proposal.

Councilor Don Miller made a motion to approve ordinance 126 and seconded by Scott McPhee –motion failed. Steve noted in response to the many comments in support of a dog park that the City had in mind a couple locations for this type of facility.

- Ordinance 128 adopting Municipal Code Chapter 110 section 110.03 Business registration license
- Action to approve Millersburg Park playground drainage area and reliant on a combination City and consultant labor for resolution with an estimated cost of \$10,000.00
- Status update: review of Fire and EMS protection services

New Business

- Appointing a Planning Commission Member [the City has two candidates]
- Discussion of an MOU – followed by Council direction and possible action to approve
- Ordinance 127: Granting a non-exclusive electrical utility franchise and general utility easement to Pacificorp for a ten year period [through 2027] – with payment of five percent [5%] of its gross revenues
- Intergovernmental Agreement [IGA] between contract Cities of Linn County [to include Millersburg] and Linn County Sherriff's Office - with June 30th 2017 the effective date
- Ordinance 129 an ordinance amending ordinance number 55 allowing the possession of an alcoholic beverage in the Millersburg Park via a City issued alcohol use permit.
- Community Support Donations

Closing Public Comments

Closing Council Comments

Adjournment:

Note: Council may adjourn to executive session in accordance with ORS 192.660

- **Executive Session – Real Property Transaction in accordance with ORS 192.660 (2) (e)**