

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE  
CITY COUNCIL  
Agenda Session Minutes  
January 6, 2012

City Council Members Present: Mayor Gary Williams and City Councilors Mike Fleck, Victoria Doyle, Garland Burback and Jeff Gowing. Absent: City Councilors Heather Murphy and Jake Boone.

City Staff Present: City Manager Richard Meyers, Community Development Director Howard Schesser, Police Chief Mike Grover (8:37), Public Works Director Jan Wellman, Finance Director Bert Olsen, City Engineer Ron Bradsby, Community Services Director Pete Barrell (8:18) and City Attorney Sean Kelly (8:24).

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gary Williams at 8:15 a.m. in the City Council Chambers at City Hall.

**Resolution Placing Liens on Specific Properties - Tall Grass, Noxious and Hazardous Vegetation Abatement Program**

Community Development Director, Howard Schesser, said the Resolution was the last of the summer tall grass enforcement. He said there were nine properties that hadn't paid the invoice for the work the City did removing vegetation and grass. He said it was now appropriate to place liens on the property. He said there would be one more lien coming which was for removing of garbage from another property and he was waiting for the thirty days to pass.

Councilor Burback asked if any of the people had responded at all.

Howard said they had two pay out of the sixteen and they had contact with two, one saying they wouldn't pay as the property was going back to the bank. They also had contact with some who had advised the City to go ahead and place the lien. He said they also had some who had taken care of the problems themselves.

Councilor Fleck asked if the City had received any of the letters back as he recognized one of the names of someone who had moved. He said the postal service would only forward mail for about six months.

Howard said the City did get some of the certified letters back because they were refused, but normally didn't get the first class letters back.

## **Request for Approval of the Gateway Arch to Downtown Cottage Grove**

Community Development Director, Howard Schesser, said the Cottage Grove Community Development Corporation received a grant to do the arch for the entrance to the downtown. He said it had gone through the Historic Landmark Commission with approval and there were three items that Council needed to approve. One was the location of the arch since it was in the right-of-way, across from 820 and 819 E. Main Street which was where the H & R Block office used to be next to Holloman Ford. He said the wording on the arch was on page 2 of the Council Memorandum and would say Cottage Grove Historic District. The third item was for the City to accept ownership and insurance responsibility for the arch. He said staff was recommending approval of the location, wording as proposed and ownership.

Councilor Doyle said she had been involved with the process through EBID and CDC. She said she had been following it over the last eight months. She said EBID had suggested that the part of the arch that had the wording be larger. She said she spoke at the Historic Landmark Commission meeting and had spoken in favor of the arch. She said it was brilliant and beautiful and would love to see the City move forward on the project. She had seen the arch planned for Springfield and had seen one in Bandon and was excited about having one in Cottage Grove.

Mayor Williams said the project had been kicked around for fifteen years or more. He said he remembered years ago certain people who were tight on history said it wasn't historical because the City had never had an arch. He said he thought it was a neat deal and couldn't hurt. He said Creswell actually had an arch years ago.

## **Request for Stop Sign and N. 10<sup>th</sup> and Villard Avenue**

City Engineer, Ron Bradsby, said he had looked at the intersection of N. 10<sup>th</sup> and Villard and the request for a stop sign. He said both N. 10<sup>th</sup> and Villard were residential streets. He said there had only been two accidents in the area, one in 1986 and one in 2007 and neither one occurred in the intersection. He said westbound traffic on Villard did not stop, however eastbound traffic stopped at Lane Street with a stop sign. He said he talked with a gentleman who lived in the area who said westbound traffic on Villard didn't slow down or stop much before turning on N. 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He talked about how the 99 and Main Street realignment could affect the problem. He provided guidelines from the Manual on Uniform Traffic Control Devices (MUTCD) and said based on it, he didn't believe it met warrants to install a traffic control device.

Councilor Fleck said he would rather wait until the intersection of Hwy 99 and Main Street was completed to see if it solved the problem before installing any traffic control devices.

Ron said he didn't understand the full situation but if the traffic was coming from Main to Lane to Villard, it depended on the flow.

Councilor Doyle said her parents used to live on the corner of Villard and 10<sup>th</sup> and she didn't remember there being a lot of problems when they lived there. She said there were assisted living facilities in the area.

Councilor Gowing said he brought the matter up originally. He said the people who were complaining to him wanted it on Grover to break up 10<sup>th</sup> Street. He said they would be happy with any improvement in the neighborhood.

Ron said he could understand that.

Mayor Williams suggested waiting until the comprehensive restructuring of the traffic flow in the area was completed to see if it affected the traffic flow. He said once a stop sign was installed, it was difficult to remove.

Richard said they could table the matter for Monday night since it was the incorrect intersection.

Ron suggested bringing the correct location back to the Council at the January 23<sup>rd</sup> meeting.

### **City Council Subcommittee and Liaison Appointments**

Mayor Williams said he didn't make any changes from last year. He said if any Councilors wanted to change a committee to see him.

Councilor Fleck said he may be the Treasurer for the Chamber of Commerce but that he could do both as the Council liaison for the Chamber.

### **Concerns of the Council**

Councilor Doyle reported she was leaving this afternoon for a retreat with EBID and being sponsored by the CDC.

Mayor Williams said there had been conversation about the opportunity to present to the group on the initiatives before the City. He said it wasn't on their agenda but he was asked by a couple of individuals if someone from Council could talk to them about the initiatives. He said Councilor Fleck had prepared a tutorial for Councilor Doyle to speak about the initiatives to the EBID.

Councilor Fleck said he and Councilor Boone were hoping to bring a Resolution forward to Council regarding the initiatives. He was looking for some consensus that it would be acceptable to bring forward.

Mayor said if there were no legal issues, he encouraged them to examine the five initiatives.

Richard said they would bring the Resolution already prepared to put on the agenda. He asked them to provide a digital copy so he could put it on the City's website with the agenda.

Mayor Williams asked if any of the Councilors present had any problems with putting a Resolution on the agenda.

### **Report from City Manager**

Richard said the Chamber of Commerce Annual Dinner was going to be held Friday, January 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30 for social hour, dinner at 6:30 and the program at 7:30. He said the City had a table with eight seats so if Council was interested in attending, they needed to let Trudy know at the Council meeting Monday night. He said he has been nominated as First Citizen.

The LCOG Appreciation Dinner is going to be held on Thursday, January 26<sup>th</sup> at LCC and if any of the Councilors are interested in attending they need to let Trudy know as well.

Richard said the Oregon Tour and Travel Alliance will be here on January 19<sup>th</sup> and 20<sup>th</sup>. The OTTA is a group of about 50 bus and tour guides and travel coordinators who prepare tours and put together events and activities. The City is working with Travel Lane County, the Village Green and the Chamber of Commerce in putting together things for them to look at. He said they contacted Melinda at the Village Green to come here after hearing about things going on in Cottage Grove.

### **Report from City Attorney**

Sean said he had nothing.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:39 a.m.

---

Trudy Borrevik, City Recorder

---

Gary Williams, Mayor