

CALL TO ORDER The Regular meeting of the Seaside City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Jay Barber.

ROLL CALL Present: Mayor Jay Barber; Councilors Tita Montero, Randy Frank, Dana Phillips, Seth Morrissey, and Tom Horning.

Absent: None

Also Present: Mark Winstanley, City Manager; Dale McDowell, Public Works Director; Dave Ham, Seaside Police Chief; Joey Daniels, Seaside Fire Chief; Bruce Holt, Seaside Police Lieutenant; and RJ Marx, Daily Astorian/Seaside Signal.

AGENDA Mayor Barber asked for a motion to approve the agenda.

Councilor Frank so moved with a second from Councilor Morrissey; carried unanimously. (Frank/Morrissey)

INTRODUCTION – SWEARING IN PATROL OFFICER Dave Ham, Seaside Police Chief, swore in new Patrol Officer, Michael Crowe who was congratulated and introduced to the City Council.

COMMENTS – STUDENT REPRESENTATIVE Lizzy Barnes, Seaside High School Student Representative, stated Tuesday, January 24, 2017, was the first Club Fair. Every club in the school that has a club charter will be part of the fair and students can learn more about the clubs and get more involved. Ms. Barnes further stated for sports: Tuesday, January 24, 2017, girls and boys basketball teams play at home against Valley Catholic; Thursday, January 26, 2017 swim meet against Valley Catholic; Friday, January 27, 2017, swim meet against Rainer and boys and girls basketball against Tillamook; Saturday, January 28, 2017, wrestling match at Ilwaco. The SnoBall Dance is Saturday, January 28, 2017, and was put on by the Key Club.

COMMENTS – PUBLIC Phillip Mancill, 2945 Highway 101, Gearhart, stated his son owned a landscaping business and he helped him out with properties he took care of. Mr. Mancill further stated his wife put together a packet for Council because they have discovered an issue with feral and stray cat colonies in the City of Seaside and that the City of Seaside doesn't have any type of cat ordinance that would enable our code enforcement/animal control officer the authority to deal with these animals. Cats need to be included in the job description for the code enforcement/animal control officer.

Deanna Mancill, 2945 Highway 101, Gearhart, stated she would like to submit a letter and other information to Council regarding the issue's with feral and stray cat colonies in the city of Seaside. The City of Seaside does not have any type of ordinance to enforce the control of cats. The letter stated: We have discovered an issue with a feral and stray cat colonies in the City of Seaside. We found that the City of Seaside doesn't have any type of cat ordinance that would enable our code enforcement/animal control officer the authority to deal with these animals. Cats need to be included in the job description. Our personal experience with the issue started a few years ago. A stray pregnant cat, abandoned by its owner, adopted us. This recent issue started when a friend in Seaside started feeding feral cats. He did not take the responsibility of neutering these cats. Tri-City Spay and Neuter Shop offers this statistic: In seven years, one cat and her young can produce 420,000 kittens! In rental properties with transient renters in Seaside, many cats are left behind to fend for themselves. They join the feral cat colonies dispersed at various locations around Seaside. Each colony claims a certain territory. In Clatsop County, there are hundreds of these colonies, representing thousands of cats. In researching the matter, we found that Clatsop County Animal Control jurisdiction covers areas outside of incorporated cities, such as Seaside. Lorna Brandt, Seaside code enforcement/animal control told us trapping cats was not in her job description. We noted that Seaside has a dog ordinance, but nothing covering feral cats. The Humane Society recommends a Trap-Neuter-Release program to control cat populations. We found Rita Smith, River Song Foundation, Hammond, Oregon; a non-profit funded by private donations that humanely deal with these feral cats. She runs a Trap-Neuter-Release-Feed Program. The cats are trapped, neutered, immunized, and treated for fleas and worms. Tame cats and kittens found within the colony are removed and found homes. Because the cats are territorial, healthy ferals are taken back to their colony. Existing cats keep newcomers from setting up residence. Through natural attrition, numbers are reduced quickly. Where do all these cats live? They are under houses where foundation vents are rusted out, pulling down insulation to keep warm. They are under decks and any place there is shelter from the elements. They can cause considerable property damage. According to the Humane Society, there are at least 70 million stray and feral cats in the United States. The definition of a feral cat is a cat that has been born to other ferals or from a stray cat. These ferals are not accustomed to human interaction. Stray cats are socialized cats that no longer live in homes, but mix with ferals to produce offspring.

Also, house cats that are allowed to roam outside end up in these colonies, Stray and feral cats survive mainly off human handouts, dumpster diving and scavenging activities. Because they are domesticated animals, they have a hard time feeding themselves from just hunting, although they still follow the instinctual drive to hunt. The ownership issue when you feed a feral cat is simple: you own it and take full responsibility. ORS 167.310, Section 9, provides for the minimum care sufficient to preserve the health and well-being of an animal. It includes food and water, shelter, and veterinary care. Failure to follow this rule is animal neglect. That said, being a feral cat "owner" or caretaker could subject that person to civil and criminal liability. 13 states and the District of Columbia have enacted statutes to address feral cats. Illinois exempts feral caretakers from its definition of animal ownership, as long as the caretaker is participating in an authorized trap-neuter-release program. The legislative intent was to solve the problem of good Samaritans and exposing themselves from civil and criminal liability. Illinois attempts to ensure that (1) fear of potential liability does not create a disincentive to participate in such a program and (2) other individuals who might qualify as caretakers are held responsible for their actions. We would like the City of Seaside to pass a cat ordinance that would deal with stray and feral cats. We could use the Illinois law as a model, or incorporate an education program for citizens who want to be caretakers for feral cats. We should also educate our citizens that when they are unable to care for their cats, they should be taken to the animal shelter. By taking these steps, we can control the feral cat problem. We should partner with River Song Foundation, the Humane Society, Clatsop County Animal Shelter, and other animal organizations and permit our animal control officer the authority to take action. Lorna Brandt is supportive of this idea.

Robert Austin, 2062 Cedar Street, Seaside, stated he had a concern on Inauguration Day. Driving around downtown there were a lot of flags up at businesses. That was an important day and Inauguration Day all public buildings, schools, should be flying the flag. Mr. Austin noticed however that City Hall and every city flag pole but no flag. The high school and junior high school had no flag. In talking to the Vice Principals at each school they stated they had failed to notice the flag was not out. In talking with the City Manager he stated he had a lack of man power and was unable to get the flag up. Mr. Austin further stated it was essential especially on Inauguration Day that we make the utmost attempt to keep the flag up and the flag code required any city building or school has to have the flag up at all times.

CONFLICT Mayor Barber asked whether any Councilor wished to declare a conflict of interest.

No one declared a conflict of interest.

CONSENT AGENDA Mayor Barber asked for a motion for the consent agenda.

Consent Agenda: Payment of the Bills - \$512,763.49; and Approval of Minutes January 9, 2017.

Councilor Frank so moved to accept the consent agenda with a second from Councilor Phillips; carried unanimously. (Frank/Phillips)

**VACANCY –
SEASIDE CIVIC AND
CONVENTION CENTER**

Mayor Barber stated there was one vacancy on the Seaside Civic and Convention Center Commission with applications received from Erik Marston, Sandra McDowall, and Alan Evans. Mayor Barber further stated interviews were conducted prior to the City Council meeting. Mayor Barber asked what Council wished to do.

Councilor Morrisey moved to appoint Erik Marston to the Convention Center Commission with a second from Council President Montero; carried unanimously. (Morrisey/Montero)

The term expiration for Erik Marston would be October 25, 2020.

**VACANCY –
COMMUNITY CENTER
AND SENIOR COMM.**

Mayor Barber stated there was one vacancy on the Seaside Community Center and Senior Commission with no applications received.

**VACANCY –
PLANNING COMM.**

Mayor Barber stated there were two vacancies on the Seaside Planning Commission with two applications received from David Posalski and Teri Carpenter. Mayor Barber further stated interviews were conducted prior to the City Council meeting. Mayor Barber asked what Council wished to do.

Council President Montero appointed David Posalski and Teri Carpenter to the Planning Commission with a second from Councilor Phillips; carried unanimously. (Montero/Phillips)

The term expiration for David Posalski would be November 1, 2017.

The term expiration for Teri Carpenter would be November 1, 2020.

**VACANCY –
LIBRARY BOARD**

Mayor Barber stated there was one vacancy on the Seaside Library Board with three applications received from Gloria Linkey, Andrew Oberembt, and Matthew Stolberg. Mayor Barber further stated Council had conducted interviews prior to the meeting and Gloria Linkey and Matthew Stolberg were ill and unable to attend their interview. Mayor Barber asked what Council wished to do.

Council President Montero stated she would like to interview Gloria Linkey and Matthew Stolberg at the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Barber stated Council would conduct interviews for Gloria Linkey and Matthew Stolberg at the February 13, 2017, City Council meeting.

**MOU - LIBRARY
ASTORIA, SEASIDE,
AND WARRENTON**

Mark Winstanley, City Manager, explained this was a Memorandum of Understanding between Clatsop County and the Cities of Astoria, Seaside, and Warrenton, for Cooperation in the Provision of Library Services and was effective for three years. Mr. Winstanley stated since 2010, the Seaside City Council has authorized the Seaside Public Library staff to participate in a program that started as a five year fully funded grant program. The program, Libraries Reading Outreach in Clatsop County, (ROCC) is a collaboration between the three public libraries, Clatsop County, and the five school districts in the County. The youth that live in the County, Astoria, Seaside, and Warrenton could use library services from any of these cities.

Mayor Barber stated a motion would be in order to approve the Memorandum of Understanding as stated.

Council President Montero made that motion with a second from Councilor Frank; carried unanimously. (Montero/Frank)

**UPDATE -
WATER TREATMENT
PLANT SCADA SYSTEM**

Dale McDowell, Public Works Director, stated a few months ago he spoke to Council about the SCADA System at the Water Treatment Plant. There was a lot that had been done with the Water Treatment Plant and the City was trying to make even more improvements. There were upgrades done and staff can now talk to the North tank, which could not be done before and was labor driving from one tank to the other to see what was being done and the same with each of the pump stations. With the upgrades staff can see what the water tanks and pump stations were doing which saved on labor. One person spends about three hours in the morning and two hours in the afternoon and the rest of the time they can help with other work that needs to be done. Staff always knows what is going on with the plant which now also rings to the cell phone and we can talk to it and make changes. Mr. McDowell further stated when the school builds someday the City was ready for it by doing all these upgrades.

**FINAL - AIRPORT
IMPROVEMENT
PROJECT**

Mr. McDowell stated there were two projects going on at the airport in 2016 and this project was the lighting, fencing, and landscaping project which had been completed. With all Punch List items addressed and accepted by WH Pacific, and Kevin Yarnell of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) staff recommends based on the information, the City accept the project as complete and release retainage currently held in the amount of \$4,745.69 to the contractor, Kunert Electric.

Councilor Frank moved to release the funds and pay the remaining with a second from Councilor Phillips; carried unanimously. (Frank/Phillips)

**VACANCY –
CITY TREE BOARD**

Mayor Barber stated there was one vacancy on the Seaside City Tree Board with the resignation of Neal Wallace, and one application received from Alisa Dunlap.

Councilor Morrissey stated while he thinks Alisa Dunlap would be a good asset she does not fall along the guidelines of the board. Could the board be potentially changed to start including people that live in Gearhart?

Councilor Phillips stated she agreed with Councilor Morrissey and this was something we as a Council needed to discuss at their goal setting to see if there should be changes to the rules and regulations.

Council President Montero stated there was a member serving on the tree board that lives in Gearhart, and does she work for a business in town.

Mayor Barber stated apparently this was something Council needed to review. The guidelines on all of the commissions were that you lived in the City or owned a business in the City of Seaside. Mayor Barber further stated Alisa Dunlap would be taken off of the application process until a decision was made down the road.

**CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP -
JANUARY 30, 2017**

Mayor Barber stated there was a City Council Workshop scheduled for Monday, January 31, 2017, 6:00 pm, to discuss the signs with Jon Rahl. Mayor Barber asked Mr. Winstanley to explain.

Mr. Winstanley stated he needed Council to officially set the meeting. The Tourism Advisory Committee with Jon Rahl would come before Council to discuss the sign project they had currently been working on. This was an opportunity for the Council to get together with the Tourism Advisory Committee for discussions.

Mayor Barber asked if the workshop met with Council approval for Monday, January 31, 2017, 6:00 pm.

Council consensus regarding the City Council and Tourism Advisory Commission workshop Monday, January 31, 2017, 6:00 pm.

**COMMENTS –
CITY STAFF
AND OTHERS**

Dave Ham, Seaside Police Chief, stated on Friday, January 20, 2017, was Officer Workman's graduation in Salem at the Police Academy. Today Officer Edwards and Officer Quicke started at the academy. Chief Ham stated the Kiwanis Pancake Feed was getting moved up and would be February 21, 2017, and he had tickets to sale.

Joey Daniels, Seaside Fire Chief, stated the Seaside Volunteer Fire Association had a great banquet and unfortunately there were a lot of people sick, with high strains of bronchitis and pneumonia going on. Chief Daniels reminded everyone because of a recent fire to keep the batteries in the smoke detector. The fire was in the walls and the fire department caught it in time.

Mr. McDowell reminded everyone to be careful when out on the beach because of high surf advisories.

Brian Owen, Chamber of Commerce Director, stated the Chamber Annual Awards Dinner was Tuesday, January 24, 2017, and he was looking forward to seeing everyone at the banquet.

Mr. Winstanley stated Dan Van Thiel, City Attorney, received about 4-5 feet of snow at his house in Baker City. Mr. Winstanley further stated Council heard from Mr. Austin and he wanted to take the opportunity to apologize to anyone in the City because we did not have our flags up on Friday, January 20, 2017. Staff had every intention of getting the flags up and had them down because of the weather. There was a couple of a broken line up at the headworks and a significant amount of logs at the Avenue 'G' Bridge. Mr. Winstanley further stated he was not making an excuse and certainly apologized to anyone who was offended. The flags were put up as soon as staff could get them up. Mr. Winstanley further stated Council had their Goal Setting Session scheduled for Friday, March 17, 2017, and Saturday, March 18, 2017.

COMMENTS – COUNCIL

Council President Montero stated she attended the fireman's banquet on Saturday, January 21, 2017, and she was very impressed with the comradery first amongst everybody and then learning about everything the volunteer fire department does and how much time they spent and what they are doing for our City. Council President Montero further stated congratulation to our police department with the Whispering Pines situation. Patience and team work led to the fact there was not a negative outcome.

Councilor Horning stated the Woman's March in Astoria on Saturday, January 21, 2017, showed a tremendous amount of community involvement throughout the region and the issues at stake and the participation was a good sign for the overall health of our community.

Councilor Frank stated the airport for many years had many changes all for the better and he was happy when Dale came in and saw it to the end and took care of things. All the neighboring residents seem happy with the job.

Councilor Phillips stated she wanted to thank Mr. Austin for bringing awareness to something that sometimes a lot of people take for granted and the importance of our flags. Thank you for bringing that to our attention and hopefully that will not happen again. Councilor Phillips further stated to Chief Ham with mental health being such a prevalent problem in our society, well done job. Councilor Phillips apologized for not being at the fire department banquet but her support is always with the department.

Mayor Barber stated he would like to challenge each of the Councilor as we think about goal setting, to be prepared to bring the top three goals to that session. Council would hear from all the department heads and from the City Manager on Friday, March 17, 2017, afternoon and on Saturday, March 18, 2017, all day the Council would discuss the goals.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 7:47 PM.

Kim Jordan, Secretary

JAY BARBER, MAYOR