

- CALL TO ORDER** The Regular meeting of the Seaside City Council was called to order at 7:00 PM by Mayor Barber.
- ROLL CALL** Present: Mayor Jay Barber; Councilors Tita Montero, Steve Wright, Tom Horning and Dana Phillips.
- Absent: Council President Frank and Councilor Seth Morrisey.
- Also Present: Mark Winstanley, City Manager; Dan Van Thiel, City Attorney; Jon Rahl, Assistant City Manager; Russ Vandenberg, Convention Center & Visitors Bureau General Manager; Joshua Heineman, Director of Tourism Marketing, Seaside Visitors Bureau; Dave Ham, Seaside Police Chief; and Joey Daniels, Seaside Fire Chief.
- Mayor Barber stated can we have something that says Dana it is so good to have you back.
- Councilor Phillips stated thank you for understanding that I had to be where I was at with my husband.
- AGENDA** Mayor Barber stated now I will entertain a motion for approval of the agenda as circulated.
- Councilor Phillips so moved with a second from Councilor Montero; carried unanimously. (Phillips/Montero)
- COMMENTS – PUBLIC** Mayor Barber stated I will open the floor for any public comments from the public on any item not on the agenda. If anyone would like to speak go to the microphone in the back, state your name and your address and limit your comments to four minutes.
- There were no public comments and Mayor Barber closed that portion of the meeting.
- 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 stated I'll entertain a motion to approve the consent agenda.
- Consent Agenda: Payment of the Bills - \$1,220,538.33; and Approval of Minutes June 22, 2020.
- Councilor Wright so moved with a second from Councilor Phillips; carried unanimously. (Wright/Phillips)

REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS:

ANNUAL REPORT – SEASIDE CIVIC AND CONVENTION CENTER/ SEASIDE VISITORS BUREAU

Mayor Barber stated Reports and Presentations Seaside Civic and Convention Center/Visitors Bureau 2019 Annual Report by Russ Vandenberg and Josh Heineman.

Russ Vandenberg, Convention Center & Visitors Bureau General Manager, stated he would give his portion of the Seaside Civic and Convention Center/Seaside Visitors Bureau Annual Report 2019 and then I'm going to ask Joshua Heineman to step up and give the report for the visitor's bureau. Mr. Vandenberg and Mr. Heineman presented the annual report and the minutes will reflect a few of the highlights of each report. The full report can be found on the City of Seaside website at <http://www.cityofseaside.us/departments-services/convention-center> and <http://www.cityofseaside.us/departments-services/visitors-bureau>. The convention center objectives: Our primary objective is to utilize the convention center to its maximum capacity and to generate economic benefit to the Seaside community. A secondary objective is to provide services and facilities to respond to the needs of local and civic related events. Convention Center annual usage and impact with attendees and economic impact comparison 2015-2019 and the 2019 average usage per event – 2.51 days graph for 2015-2019. Convention Center Expansion Project: Project began May 21, 2018 and was completed on April 27, 2020. The project has endured sustained challenges balancing construction and event schedules, as well as other trials and tribulations. Overall we are thrilled with our newly renovated and expanded convention center. Highlights include Necanicum Room increase by 1,685 sf (35%) while improving meeting rooms, storage capacity, and various exterior and interior improvements. Overall increase of 8,564 (16%) square footage. Project team consisting of HOLST & Convergence on architectural, O'Brien and Company on construction, and Klash Group, Inc., on project management. The customer service rating is 95% for 2019. Our ratings have remained in the mid to high 90 percent range since 2007.

In 2019 we sent surveys to 78 clients with 53 of them responding for a 68% return rate. Industry Trends: food and beverage options stand at the forefront of trends for event attendees, Coffee, and bright colors. Before COVID-19 we also noted these strong trends: Demand outpaced supply and attendees wanted more face-to-face time. Mr. Vandenberg acknowledged all staff of the convention center, visitor's bureau, Oregon Fine Foods, Convention Center Commission, and city staff. Mr. Vandenberg stated he would turn it over to Joshua.

Joshua Heineman, Director of Tourism Marketing, Seaside Visitors Bureau, presented his report on the Seaside Visitors Bureau and the highlights of the visitor bureau report. Official Mission: Grow the local economy by attracting and servicing visitors to the City of Seaside and those traveling along the Pacific Northwest coast. Between-The-Lines Mission: Help Seaside tell its story. Show the diversity of experiences, attraction and recreation opportunities. Shine a light on community events. Shape a behavior – i.e. overnight stays. Share our love of Seaside with visitors. Bed tax history chart for 5 years, budget allocations – Advertising Committee 2019 -2020 advertising committee budget = \$482,500 for advertising, printing, postage, grants, travel/meeting. Digital advertising – leading tactic in 2019-2020. Broadcast advertising – TV + Radio Partnerships. Print advertising – 36 ad creative for 14 different publications. Development – behind the scenes work. Looking Forward: Challenges (mostly) and Opportunities. COVID-19 impacts. Prom Centennial: Ad + Book + Passport Program. The bright spots are the Prom 100 year Centennial coming up in 2021. And, from an advertising perspective, we'll be celebrating that all year long. We got a grant from travel Oregon to make a little commemorative book and a little holographic passport program that we'll have prizes for people who come stay in Seaside that year with the chance to hopefully come four times that year and hopefully help with some of the recovery. There's a committee in town that has started meeting to try to come up with the Centennial year from a community standpoint, with many, many different perspectives, and that meets every third, Thursday. And then lastly, we joined the North Coast Food Trail this year and that was really, that's still a program I really feel strong about. It's an award winning program and still gets accolades. It didn't get a fair shake because of COVID. Looking forward to that ownership in the future and that's it, I'll let Russ back up for any questions.

Councilor Montero stated can I ask you a question? You had one slide that you went past pretty quickly. I think it was a detail that one and, I would love to get a copy of that. That's not in our packet.

Mr. Heineman stated I'd love to talk to you about this, but it's a long conference.

Councilor Montero stated we don't need to talk about it, but, I'd like to study something like that.

Mr. Vandenberg stated thanks Joshua. Appreciate the time. As you can see, he has spent a lot of time building upon this brand. And a few years ago, back when Jon was the Director of Tourism Marketing and then Joshua came in, I think two years he's been in his position. We've continued to build upon that and gain the momentum. Every sign, the exterior signage on the convention center, our website, if you notice, will look very familiar in the style and that's, so we send that consistent message from the time they drive into our city or they looked at our websites, they remember, and they recognize that branding. With that, I'd like to open it up for any questions that you might have for either the convention or visitors bureau presentation.

Mayor Barber stated who would like to go first.

Councilor Wright stated I don't really have any questions. I worked with Joshua some from the museum standpoint, then on this prom, and all of that, is just going to be amazing as soon we can get all this COVID stuff behind this and, you know, the convention center getting finished and all that. Just kind of the worst time for this to happen. We'll do whatever we can to get through this so we can look forward to a better year. You've done great things so far. We're looking forward to seeing what will happen in the future.

Councilor Montero stated my comments again, no questions. But, it's wonderful to have the convention center finished. It looks so good. And, I think, we have nowhere to go, but up, maybe taking a little dip right then didn't hurt. I don't know. I don't know, but it hurt, but it's, you know, it gives us something else to strive for. You know, I get both Portland, monthly magazine and AAA magazine. Last night, I got my AAA and I'm reading it. Oh, there is Seaside it, how to, Everybody Needs a Beach is the one and then Portland monthly. It's always nice, thank you for your work both of you.

Mayor Barber stated Dana I know you are our representative on the commission.

Councilor Phillips stated I am so very impressed. I know Tita just reminded me is that after spending three weeks at, ST. Vincent Hospital and staying at a hotel, we were looking through one of the magazines and here, I am in Portland and here's the Seaside ad. Home was still very close. It's a very impressive job. It's really, between Jon and, you, you've made strides this last few years, it's just a real blessing to see this and look forward to the future when we're not dealing with COVID. As far as the convention center, I am very proud of all the work that all of you have done and your staff, the commission, that is the jewel of our community. And I look forward to when you can really open the doors and have the conventions back. Thank you.

Councilor Horning stated a great presentation and it's a very impressive amount of work that's gone on. I think it's a great investment for the community, but I'm kind of curious, going back to the beginning, when we were discussing funding, the room tax increase and the budget increase for the repairs and changes, it was a part of, it was driven by the expectation that the market was changing and that all of our familiar conventions were getting too big to fit. And so by enlarging the building, we'd be able to keep them and then recruit more. So statistically with the things that I've seen, I haven't seen anything that carves out the impact of that thinking. Can you show in your statistics that you've gotten a retention, higher retention number on conventions that were outgrowing us?

Mr. Vandenberg stated I mean, it's the fact that we haven't lost any is, the statistics, our bridge tournaments, our school, our student council organizations, our chess tournaments. I mean, the fact that those groups have stayed with us and they've given notice prior that if we hadn't expanded, they were going to look for a larger venue. We've booked, I think I brought this at my last presentation. When I discussed the closing of the center, we're not mistaken. We've booked at least 30 to 40 brand new events that have never been to Seaside before. And that is a reflection of the expansion. Now, these groups our reach has improved our ability to, hold groups of this size now are, and has increased by, I think it was 20% over where we were before. I mean, those statistics that shows the, the expansion advantage, if you will.

Councilor Phillips stated and Gretchen never gives up she's on that phone.

Mr. Vandenberg stated market penetration. That's the word I was thinking. That's the word I was trying to come up with?

Mayor Barber stated my comment that goes, with what's been said, but we, have really been hurt by the COVID-19 definitely. But I think the blessing that we have is that we have a new convention center and we have a visitors Bureau, that's aggressively getting the word out. I think those two tools are going to help us recover. If we didn't have those two. And I think of other communities on the beach that don't have those kinds of resources, it's going to take them years to recover. We be able to recover.

Mr. Vandenberg stated our recovery will be quicker than larger facilities, because I mean, right now we're able to operate at 250 social distancing, of course, which is very difficult. And it's not the easiest, manageable thing for a conference, but larger facilities such as Oregon. And some of the bigger centers are going to take a lot longer to recover because their numbers are in the thousands. And that could be a long time before we ever see numbers of that size approved through the state to start gathering in venues again. But we're signing contracts. I mean, although COVID is playing a major role, we're still seeing a demand and we're signing contracts. Like I said, up to 2030, and we'll continue on a tenure schedule starting next year. We'll go up to 2031 and so forth. And our books look very good for the future.

Mayor Barber stated well, thank you both for a good report and good questions from the Council as well or comments. Thank you very much.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

**VACANCY –
PARKS ADVISORY
COMMITTEE**

and

CITY TREE BOARD

Mayor Barber stated under unfinished business, we still have vacancies on the Park Advisory Committee and the City Tree Board. I don't think we have any new applications so we'll continue to get the word out there.

NEW BUSINESS:

RESOLUTION #3968

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY OF SEASIDE, OREGON, AMENDING RESOLUTION #3963 REGARDING BUILDING, PLUMBING, MECHANICAL, AND MOBILE AND MANUFACTURED HOME PERMIT FEES

Mayor Barber stated and then new business is Resolution #3968, Mark, you want to give us a little background on that?

Mark Winstanley, City Manager, stated I'd be happy to Mayor. Resolution #3968 is the epitome of housekeeping. We, probably don't do resolutions that have this little impact on people, more than this one. Well, we're making a one-word change in the description of this, resolution. The building official, brought this to our attention, it is not including the word residential, while it does cover all residential fees. As far as the building department is concerned, the, description does not have the word residential and he believes that that would be a very good improvement. He hands this out to a number of people, and they look at it and they go, well, if this doesn't cover my home, when in reality it does. And, there's one word change in this to residential, and that's all we're asking for. We did give you an updated resolution, we did find an error. We did not, put the right resolution number, that's being repealed. We'd like to have you, please consider the one that was given to you prior to the meeting.

Mayor Barber stated at this time, I'll open the floor to any public comments regarding Resolution #3968. Seeing none or hearing none, I will close the public comments.

Mayor Barber opened the floor to Council comments, there were no comments. Anyone, a motion to read by title only.

Councilor Montero so moved with a second from Councilor Phillips; carried unanimously. (Montero/Phillips)

Dan Van Thiel, City Attorney read Resolution #3968 by title only.

Councilor Wright moved to adopt with a second from Councilor Montero; carried unanimously. (Wright/Montero)

**BID RESULTS – SEASIDE
CIVIC AND CONVENTION
CENTER STORAGE
RENOVATION PROJECT**

Mayor Barber stated bid results. Russ you want to talk to us about that?

Mr. Vandenberg stated well, again, mayor councilors good to be here. Tonight what I'm here is to talk about storage. When the project, the initial expansion renovation project was in the early works, we had discussed adding storage on the West side of the building. We were going to extend the West side to Edgewood and just lead a sidewalk there and maintain a larger facility for storage is what we anticipated. And when we started running the numbers, the estimates that came out about \$5 million in addition to what the project had already had in design, and that would have pushed the project into the \$20 million mark. Immediately we had to scale back, we had to value engineer. We had to decide what we could eliminate and what we should keep. Well, it was more important at the time to keep space that we could actually rent versus space that was going to be used for storage. We had to utilize the \$15 million in the best manner and cost effective manner. We decided to forego knowing that in the future, we may have to go back and visit that again, but we decided let's wait, open the building and just see how much storage we have. Because the project did increase our storage to some extent, but once we purchased the additional equipment that was necessary for the expanded facility and chairs and tables and, other issues and other related products, we found that we do not have enough storage. And some of the storage is our meeting rooms, which doesn't work very well because you're moving it around constantly from one room to another, as based on which rooms are used. When the whole building is utilized, then you have to put it somewhere. There's just no room. We had a lot of discussion and we started looking at what we had remaining in the facility. And this is where Roger Schultz being a former architect was really helpful in our planning of this. It was brought up that why don't we take the West side restrooms on the South side of the building, that's very seldom used. Very few people even know they're back there, because they come in through the main East doors and now they're going to come in through the West, but they don't see those restrooms. They don't know they're there. They see the main restrooms that were near, you know, the pre-function space. We started realizing, well, those are very seldom occupied. Why don't we take those restrooms and convert them into storage? And it was a brilliant idea. I mean, honestly, like I said, Roger can take, a lot of credit for this, being the architect that he is, he brought this up at some meetings and a light bulb just went off in our heads and we said, we can do this for a lot less money. We can repurpose that space. We're not going to eliminate the restrooms. We're going to incorporate one unisex restroom in there. It can be used for people that are backstage without having to go walk all the way around to the main facility. So this I'm calling it, the storage renovation is, I'm going to gain an additional 1000 square foot of storage, which is going to put us in a great position for the remainder of the time that we're using it, as far as I can see anyway. We went out to, look for an architect and we selected the same architect that did the original design Holst out of Portland, who knows the building better, who had the plans, who had all the information we needed. There wasn't much to design it, but we also put out an RFP and we obtained two bids, one from O'Brian construction, who did the original work on the building for \$125,020.36. And we also had a bid from Cove Built, a local construction company for \$145,049.42. Of the two based on, the confidence that we have in O'Brien as well as being the low bid. We are recommending that we accept their bid and we will enter into a GMP, Guaranteed Maximum Price, just like we had before with that company, which proved very successful, in the amount of 125,020.36. We are using our capital funds this year to cover the cost of this project.

Mayor Barber stated any questions from the Council?

Councilor Phillips stated a brilliant call, Roger. That's great.

Mayor Barber stated as they say, you can never have too much storage.

Councilor Montero stated you can always expand to fit what you have.
Mayor Barber stated I'll entertain a motion to approve the low bid.

Councilor Phillips so moved with a second from Councilor Horning; carried unanimously. (Phillips/Horning)

Mr. Vandenberg stated thank you very much. Oh, by the way, we will begin the project the end of this month and it will be completed near the end of September. It's an eight week project and since we don't have anything, that's is going to be interfering with this project it should go very smooth.

**COMMENTS –
CITY STAFF
AND OTHERS**

Mayor Barber stated okay. That comes to the conclusion of our agenda. I would like to hear from our city staff that are present. Chief, if you want to start.

Dave Ham, Seaside Police Chief, stated good evening, everybody, thanks for having me. I was asked to come by and give you a little bit of a rundown on what the police department saw for the 4th of July. And we saw some people in town, just my own observations of driving around town. I don't think we have the amount of vehicles that we've seen before at our normal choke points for parking and illegal areas. I just did not see a filled up beach. Obviously, as you probably saw it was busy, people were in town and enjoying themselves. And for the most part, as far as kind of our stats are showing we're pretty much, kind of behaving themselves, especially for more of the rallies, it was bad but it wasn't as bad as probably we've seen in the past, especially for Saturday. So, one of the things that, some stats that popped up phone calls over the three day period, which would be the third, fourth and the fifth, the long weekend, , there was a total of 192, 911 calls that our dispatch center took and there was a total of 714, non-emergency phone calls that we took. 906 phone calls that our dispatchers were taken care of, primarily Seaside, but obviously we take care of Gearhart and Cannon Beach as well. Stats for those agencies when we're talking about calls for service, we had a total between the three agencies, 438 different calls for service, with that being said, that could be anything from a just a log entry that something was happening or it may very well been an arrest. Lots of activity going on, we stayed busy chasing different calls for service down. One fun fact that Mitch, the communications manager threw in was one 911 call that came in from a, person who's reporting, probably a blood pressure issue that basically went into an altered stated and the phone call was pinging in the Cannon Beach area, but he was saying he was in Wisconsin. Come to find out he was in Wisconsin. And for whatever reason, Verizon was having some kind of trunk system failure, one call from Wisconsin. Then they got on there and made sure that they got attention to him in Wisconsin. I'm going back to our calls for service just the 4th of July, is that right? And this is all weekend. 207 calls for service, I believe is what we were reporting. It might be off a little bit, no that is right. Although it's calls for fireworks alone, which is probably pretty low compared to what was being seen out there as far as comparisons to other years, it was still high. As far as reported calls for service, for firework calls that were responding to not always finding the culprit so to speak, but we are responding to those calls for service. I know that we had some frustrated callers that, you know, it's happening and why aren't you doing anything about it? And we're trying to track them down, but, we had another one and as you know, somebody can light one here, go over there and we may never get to it. We did have some plain clothes officers on the beach this weekend, Friday night and Saturday night for the third and the fourth, with a total of about 18, there may be a plus or minus here, one or two, but, 18 citations for illegal fireworks for just those days. Overall through that three day period, 11 people arrested for varying charges. Some of it was just local stuff that would have happened regardless of whether it was the 4th of July and some there, but, several locals that were in that mix and probably less out of towners. We worked chasing fireworks down. We were doing the best that we could with what we had out there, and again, there's probably a lot more citations that can be written, but the safety of the officers and making sure that they're paired up actually with some firemen this year, kind of went hand in hand. And again, we're having to identify who's lighting it, not just somebody in the general area we think did we have to make sure that we get the right person who did it and issue in that citation? A lot of seizures provided by photograph. I don't know if it's laying around anywhere the stack of fireworks. It was seized. We have quite a bit that are stacked up every year. The Oregon state police explosives device or unit comes and picks them up and disposes them for us properly. We'll get those taken care of and out of the community soon, we're still chasing firework calls around, every day I'm coming in and seeing some new ones. I had an email from somebody today reporting an area that's been going off every night. So I've asked those night shift officers to focus in over there, you know, for the most part, there was another, probably few tickets that's been written since the third and fourth, that aren't part of that stat. So as we're running into them, if they're illegal, we're seizing and citing. There could be some exceptions to the actual citation, depending on every situation's a little bit different officer discretion and whatnot, but they know to be, leaning more towards the citation than not when it comes to the illegal ones. I think that's probably about it. I don't know if you needed me to hit on, but, one comment I would like to make, and Joey would probably go along with me on this one was not having the parade this year, was nice for scheduling purposes for us, the 11 o'clock parade, that makes me split my resources up to have staff into, work that event by not having it. I can basically start straggling them into where they're coming in by two or three or four in the afternoon, and working later for us instead of about the time where it really gets busy after the sanctioned firework show goes off, is when we really get busy with some knuckleheads running around. It was nice to have the extra staff on later into the evening, just a little comment on that.

Mayor Barber stated any questions of the chief. Great job, I think we all saw improvements. The fact that I, and I'm sure Joey will tell us, I did not hear of any serious injuries from fireworks this year. We'll hear from Joey on that. Chief Daniels, excuse me.

Joey Daniels, Seaside Fire Chief, stated Mr. Mayor and Council, the 4th of July for us was, I don't want to say uneventful. It was uneventful in the morning, but we had a lot of water activity, it's just, we're trading one for the other. There seems to be a lot of beach activity with everybody wanting to get out of the house, probably had the most water calls we've had in 11 years, I've been here already. That's been very active, it's just changing what we do. I agree with Chief Ham about the parade. That's, we've talked about it. It's tough for the morning, especially for us. We have really limited resources to have us in at eight or nine to get ready for the parade to go until two, three, four in the morning on the fifth, and then try to hope that we have, my staff or volunteers to come in on the fifth there's calls and then be able to be moving. So we did see going from an 18 to 20 hour day down to a 12 hour day, it was kind of nice. And the staff kind of liked that. The volunteers, that helped us out. We did do a plain clothes. I got to do it Friday night with, officers. And, we talked to them and decided it was a good move to have one of us with a couple of them just to see what's going on. A lot of times people question what they're doing, and we have the authority, especially the fire department to, seize those. And if they had fire questions or they said, well, this wouldn't happen if such, we would address that there. And then the Division Chief Dugan rode Saturday, and had an experience of a lifetime. So that's what we're seeing on the 4th of July. I think that obviously COVID related. One thing we did do is staffed our lifeguards prior to the mask deal, we put mask in their vehicles and if people asked them, we gave them to them, and we've always had a mask policy for our people. If we engage with the public to try and keep our public safety responders as healthy as possible, the 16th is Thursday. We're going to have the mask handout again, Thursday from four to seven. We did that a couple of weeks ago. County did a great job putting that together, Tiffany Brown. And so we'll be doing that in our parking lot. People can just drive through showing them how many they want by fingers. And then it's pretty simple the way they have it in you just drive on through, we hand you, the bag even tells you how to put it on, and then you drive right back out. That went pretty good. We, they thought we'd go through 2000 or 3000. I asked for 10,000, I thought that was going to be a lot because we asked for the most went through 8,500 mask. People asked about mask and that was some businesses and stuff, we actually diverted them to the chamber who does the same thing for businesses. We probably could've gotten rid of those. I actually pulled another thousand for the 4th of July and the County was really gracious to keep those. We had them to hand out if people asked, which they did and community members have stopped by and asked. This Thursday we've actually got 12,000 coming, so if you guys can help spread the word and get that out there, that we are doing the mask from four to seven. People will show up at three, like they did last time, probably start a little earlier. We are continuing with our debris bin that public works has graciously worked with us. It's actually, they drop it off, but right now I've got one of their employees. And so he actually goes and picks it up in the morning on Tuesdays and drops it off and between 8:00 am and 2:00 pm people can drop off the yard debris in the City of Seaside, for free. And, if they need help, we'll usually go out there and see, you know, a lot of people wave us off just because they don't want help, but we've heard a lot of positives about it because peoples clean up their yard and their neighbors have cleaned up their yard. Because I don't want to drive to Astoria and we get, we can get rid of it for like, it's very, inexpensive for us what we're doing with it. But it's only yard debris, not lumber. Don't bring us your fence posts and stuff, everybody's been pretty good.

Mayor Barber stated and then what days are those?

Chief Daniels stated Tuesday and Thursday from 8:00 am and 2:00 pm.

Councilor Montero stated and where do they go?

Chief Daniels stated just in the parking lot, at the fire station.

Councilor Montero stated the fire station, that's where I thought it was.

Chief Daniels stated that way they can drive right up to it, drop it off. And then, we get rid of it. We don't collect garbage at night. It'll be here as long as I still have the public works employees because he's the one helping me out. Other than that, each activity is really, really, really busy. I'm hoping that people can get out the word to be safe. We've had a lot of rip currents lately, even though the water looks really, not the waves, don't look as dangerous, the water temperature's getting warmer. But we're seeing a lot more visitors that haven't really been down here much. So a lot of the guards are saying that they've had experiences with people just like, they've never been to the ocean here. They're having an opportunity to get in the hotel room when they wouldn't before, because we'd have events and such. But, if people notice we're also getting a lot more lost children, which is not something I like to see. The guards do a great job of gathering up, getting together with the police department right away. But anytime we hear lost children on a beach, as long as we, when we find them, it's great. I just have lost parents sometimes, but, lost children get a little concerning. And so we see that, but other than that, we've just had you guys know, we did have a person wash up on the beach. I actually was in the ocean, and got brought in by us, by the guards. We really got to be safety conscious. And if we see something, just report it and again, its fire season. So, there's no, you have to be 50 feet away from dune grass, you can't burn in, the stumps, the wood we've been doing patrols on that and the guards do patrols on that. And we just keep trying to educate people, but it's hard to do because you can educate, and then by the time you turn around, they like to be repeat learners. Any questions.

Councilor Montero stated I'm wondering, can we put any kind of a water safety message on our changeable moving signs? Does that help at all?

Chief Daniels stated and we can. I mean, you know, the biggest thing for us is if anybody has any questions regarding fire safety, obviously water safety is on the front of our website.

The first thing you pop up, it talks about rip currents. Genesee has done a good job of pushing that out. It's really when you, right, when you log into our websites, the first thing you see is, and then you see a little note from me saying its fire season.

Councilor Montero stated but I'm talking about the signs at the two ends of town where people driving through. I mean, that's something they're going to look at and, I don't know how you could boil something down. You guys are wordsmiths of that, but something just to bring it to attention, you know, watch for a rip tide. I don't know. I'm not going to say the words because I'm not the one.

Chief Daniels stated I think in the future, maybe. I think right now with the COVID issues, I've talked to Dale McDowell the public works director, and Jon keeping that message short. When people drive by and there not reading four or five things, but they don't actually read the COVID.

Councilor Montero stated I think he's got it on three different messages in a short burst. It might be that one of those could, I don't know. It's worth trying.

Chief Daniels stated no, I think that Dale will be back Wednesday and I can talk to Jon and him.

Councilor Phillips stated speaking of those signs, the one at the North end the way it's situated. It's hard to read it because there's tree branches that are right in front of it. You might ask Dale.

Councilor Montero stated I know it got tagged and they had to clean it off.

Councilor Wright stated one thing I heard both of you mention was about the parade and the traffic. That was one of the goals of our brand new CERT team was to participate in traffic control for the 4th of July of this year. Well, our brand new CERT team kind of got pushed by the side too, for good reason, but so maybe next year. And that was, actually one of the driving interest of mine was to provide relief for you guys on the Fourth of July.

Mayor Barber stated well, thank you both. Thank you for your service and for your force that were out there, really. I saw them working both. I recognized you plain clothes guys too. You weren't hiding from me. It was good. Thank you very much, Mark. You have anything you want to add to the discussion?

Mr. Winstanley stated really not a lot Mayor, but I would echo your sentiment. I think that police, fire and public works did a wonderful job over the 4th of July, it's a difficult, even though we had fewer people, I think in town. It's still a very difficult time when you're working with a pandemic, going on people are, shall we say maybe a little more shall we say a little hypersensitive to things that are happening. I'm sure that contributed to the number of calls that dispatch is handling. While I say it may have been, there may have been fewer people here over the fourth, I'm not sure dispatchers would agree. I think they were taking a large number of calls but the good news was, we did not see, any serious injuries or, have any serious incidences during that time. So great.

Mayor Barber stated great. Jon you want to make any comments.

Jon Rahl, Assistant City Manager, stated no.

Mayor Barber stated Kim, anything you want to add tonight?

Kim Jordan, City Recorder stated no.

Mayor Barber stated Dan it's good to have you here. Joshua anything more tonight.

Mr. Heineman stated I think I talked enough tonight.

**COMMENTS –
COUNCIL**

Mayor Barber stated well comments from the Council, then let's start to my left to Steve. You want to start tonight?

Councilor Wright stated one thing I forgot to say to Chief Ham was I appreciated your, I don't know how long ago now, maybe a month ago, a heads up about the things that DPSST were doing. And I went and attended all of those and thought they were really great. Those things are all online at their website. It talks about all the things that they do to train people and kind of gave an overview of the whole system for the state and realizing that you get trained there, but then you go back to your particular, agency and get the training that was pertinent to your area there. And, you know, what I saw from what DPSST, what Salem does is just tremendous. And they're very cognizant of all of the things that are going on and, addressed a lot of those things. , I also wanted to say that, you know, what you guys do for your two departments. This is a town of 6,500 people or 6,600. And we have police and fire staff and volunteers for that size of a city when it ends up 4th of July and you've got 20,000 to 30,000 people here, all of a sudden they're stretched really thin. And that's why people wonder why, okay, I made a call, why don't they go do something? You know, how many people do we have at one time? And they're not all on call or on duty at the same time, they can't be.

It just amazes me every year, we get through all of that. And just the other thing I noticed just on my walking around town and downtown, that I've seen a tremendous increase in the prevalence of mask wearing. Almost everybody seems to have one hanging down like this, but I've seen just over this past week, really an increase of it going up and over the mouth, even outdoors, people are realizing that our sidewalks are not very wide and you have to kind of weave your way around sometimes. The prom so far has not been that crowded, but occasionally there's a group that just kind of have to scoot by. I'm just very proud of our citizens and the way that they are conforming to what the governor requested. And, you know, it's obviously working here and, compared to even some of the places in Eastern Oregon now that we thought, you know, that never happened there, it's not happening here. We'll see what happens. But so far everything seems to be working really well here.

Mayor Barber stated Tom, comments.

Councilor Horning stated well, everything was pretty good over the 4th of July. I'm kind of, unfazed by large explosions over the roof of my house from my neighbor down the street. But I think, one of the good news is that, we had so much moisture during the month of June that the beach grass was pretty wet and the plus side to it is my berries are now getting nice and plump. It's all worked out pretty well for me. And I'm enjoying it all very much.

Councilor Phillips stated crack me up, priorities. I just want to publicly thank both chiefs, for you and your staff. It's unbelievable how you handle and take care of our community. I really greatly appreciate it. And I told Mark during our meeting just prior to this, that I know in my heart, what happened in Portland would not ever happen in our community because of the, two of you and your group and stuff. Thank you very much.

Mayor Barber stated thank you. Tita.

Councilor Montero stated I've got a list again tonight. First thing is, on the last LOC phone call, they talked about the funding, the federal funding that's coming out to the cities. And if I understood it correctly, the cities, when I looked at the list, it looked like Seaside was, could be reimbursed at about \$150,000. That's the list that they, had posted with the, with the email, and their bulletin, and if I'm reading it right, it looks like we can get reimbursed for the monies that we put out to provide, grants and monies to our businesses. Is that true? Am I doing, am I reading that correctly?

Mr. Winstanley stated it does look like that. There may be, some avenues available to us to receive some reimbursement for some of the monies that we pushed out a month ago. We'll have to wait and see, how that works, but, we're already involved in the program right now.

Councilor Montero stated they said that there was some application you had to do and everything, but I just wanted to be sure I understood it correctly. I also want to thank the two chiefs. You know, what's really nice is being able to email or pick up the phone and know that you're going to get, the chief. And I don't think it's just because I'm a City Councilor. I think it's because I'm a citizen of Seaside, and they're going to listen to me and, not in a way that oh I'm listening to you, but paying attention. And I really appreciate that personal touch. And what I know is that when leadership provides that kind of example, it goes right through the ranks and that's what I've seen too. I really thank you for that. Okay. I'm not done. Now what was that? Okay. I want to let you know for sure, the museum is doing its raffle and this is to, replace the funds that we've lost because we were not able to have our 4th of July social and the tickets are only \$20 apiece. You'll be able to buy them online or from me, or from the museum. So just letting people know my, commercial there. On the 4th of July, I received a phone call from one of our citizens. And, he called me because he was complaining about fires in the dunes and people not wearing masks and all of his concerns about, what's going on in Seaside and what he didn't feel was safe. As we were speaking, he's a man in his seventies, he shared with me that only several weeks prior, he had lost his mother to COVID in a nursing home and he was dealing with that and he wasn't able to grieve. His brother lives in California, they are not able to get together. And, we were on the phone for a couple hours. The reason I share that with you is because I was honored that I was able to listen to him and to help him, and that wouldn't have happened without the fact that I have this position, but the fact that he felt he could trust me as a city official to share that information and to do some, it's no problem solving, but some talking about how he could work with that. I just felt much honored and I felt I needed to share it here. More than just face mask, I got this at, the carousel mall at the tech shop. I've been looking at these, I've seen people in some of the stores wearing them. And so just, you know, you don't have to cover the nose and mouth with something that impedes your breathing.

Mayor Barber stated Tom and I saw one of those today, didn't we at our barbershop.

Councilor Montero stated and they said that, they have one that has sold out that actually is a visor that you can click the mask up. It sounded really cool. Okay. This is the last one. On the 4th of July, I went down to the Cove and, for dinner and I sat in the curve of the Cove during, you know, firework time. And I could see all the way up, Seaside Beach all the way up Gearhart. I could even see Warrenton and watch the fireworks. People were having fun. I think they started maybe a little earlier. They maybe got done a little earlier. I drove from the Cove to my house in North Seaside at 1:30 in the morning and saw not one other moving vehicle. Okay. Here's where I'm going with that. I think that we, as a group should think about and discuss in the intervening months, what we want 4th of July to look like from now on, we've been given an opportunity to reset.

I remember, years ago, maybe five years ago, there was talk about not having the fireworks. Oh, we can't do that. We can't do that. Well, we did it this year. Do we have to reinstate the annual firework show? Do we have to go to the point where we're spending another \$25,000 every year and asking, business people to put in another \$20,000? I would like for us to really relook at how we do 4th of July from now on, maybe that means moving the parade a little bit. Maybe it means not having the full, the fireworks. Maybe there's a better way to use that \$25,000. I'm just throwing that out there.

Mayor Barber stated good thoughts. Good. Thank you. You stole some of my thunder, already, but that's all right. Your theme of listening is what I wanted to talk about, but I think one of the things that I've learned through the COVID and what we're dealing with as a community is that, as I mentioned at our last meeting, I get lots of emails. I get lots of voicemail messages on my home phone, and at times I feel irritated about it, but I've adopted a different perspective is that I think listening is so important. And I, heard you saying that as well, is the privilege of listening to citizens who may have a position entirely different than your own, but you've given them the courtesy of listening to them. And that's one of the things that I've learned. And it, reminded me. I laughed about this today is that I thought my mother is the person who said this. We have two ears and one tongue so that we would listen more and talk less. I thought my mother said that to me, it was Diogenes who actually said it to begin with way back. But, and then finally one of the most sincere forms of respect is actually listening to what another has to say and really intently listening. And so we've listened to our chiefs tonight. We listened to Russ and Josh tonight and to each other. And I think if we're going to move beyond where we are, we have to learn from what we're listening from each other. And, I think everybody knows my kind of the elephant in the room. We've had some disagreement here on Council, but I've learned a lot by listening to another point of view. And I think it's important for us to respectfully listen, before we adjourn. I want to ask Mark, I know you're listening. You listened to the governor's, press conference today. You have any thoughts about any impacts that this is going to have on what we're doing here and in the community?

Mr. Winstanley stated I don't believe that there's going to be a lot of impacts as far as how our businesses, our work currently working, how our meetings are taking place. I don't think that that's going to change a whole lot. I think what the governor was asking more than anything, is she's asking the citizens of Oregon, to not to congregate together in groups and private parties. That one of the things that has been pointed out as of late is a lot of the cases are coming out of those types of settings. The birthday parties, the anniversary parties, and it makes some sense that, under those conditions that a virus that spreads very easily, that could be a problem, but she also complimented a lot of the businesses in Oregon and said that, no, she doesn't want to have to, look at, restricting, the businesses more because she thinks at this point, they're doing a good job. And if we can get a handle on it, maybe that will, keep her from having to do something like that again.

Councilor Montero stated so we don't have to worry about staying to that. I just read it very quickly, but it looked like it.

Mayor Barber stated it doesn't apply to this.

Mr. Winstanley stated although the six foot distancing is still, and that's one of the reasons why we put up, those kinds of barriers so that, yes, you may be just a little bit closer than six feet, but there are barriers around you.

Mayor Barber stated I appreciate you doing that too.

Mr. Winstanley stated keeping six feet apart has proven to be a very important aspect.

Councilor Horning stated Mr. Mayor, I've had a couple of comments from committee chairs, regarding, their desire to be able to have optional, zoom meetings instead of, either no meetings or personal meetings. Is it, possible to, with the technology we've got, for committee chairs to be able to host zoom meetings so that we could take care of this.

Mr. Winstanley stated we're back in a position, Councilor, where they can, we can have meetings again. But one of the issues that we're running into, and I don't know about the one you were talking about in particular, but there seems to be an interest in having a hybrid kind of meeting where, you have a location, where the meetings taking place, but some people want to be able to, be in another location and participate in those meetings. And that's not something that first of all, from a, public meetings law, at this point, is an allowed situation. People can watch a meeting just like they are tonight, but they can't participate in the meeting unless they want to come and be a part of the meeting, and, we're not in a position at this point to have that if you will kind of hybrid meeting where, people want to participate, virtually as well as the meeting, being a public meeting, where it's being held, that's not an allowed, it what you're going to end up with. And I think that's one of the reasons why it's not allowed at this point is you're going to have to have somebody who's monitoring what's happening virtually, and try to integrate that into a meeting that's being held publicly. And we're not in a position at this point to be able to do something like that.

Mayor Barber stated significant staff issue as well.

Mr. Winstanley stated it's a big staff issue. And Mayor, the other thing I see happening is I, see people complaining that, I was electronically having my hand up, but nobody was recognizing me because you're asking people to be monitoring both the public meeting and the virtual meeting. And I think that's one of the reasons why that's probably not something that's going to happen in the current situation.

Mayor Barber stated does that answer it Tom.

Councilor Horning stated it does.

Ms. Jordan stated she could also explain that this is the Airport Committee and Randall Henderson the Chair would like to have public meetings at the airport but also zoom the meeting for the public. The Mayor and Council opened up the public meetings once the phase was reached and public meetings were allowed. I spoke with Dan Van Thiel to get his input and then answered Randall by email on the information Dan and I discussed. I gave him the opportunity to talk to our City Attorney and he did call and speak to Dan about the public meeting law.

Mayor Barber stated with that the meeting is adjourned.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular meeting adjourned at 8:24 PM.

Kim Jordan, City Recorder

JAY BARBER, MAYOR