



## CITY OF WINLOCK

### CITY COUNCIL

REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 6:00 PM

September 27, 2021 – 6:00 pm

#### 1. **DETERMINATION OF QUORUM**

Mayor Svenson, Present, Marty Poirrier (Call in), Council Position #1; Eric Contreras (Call in) Council Position #2; Lonnie Dowell, Absent, Council Position #3, Jeramy Allman, Council Position #4, Council Position #5, Lindsey Alvord

Penny Jo Haney Deputy Clerk, Marissa Jay, City Attorney

#### 2. **Call to Order**

Mayor Brandon Svenson called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm.

#### 3. **FLAG SALUTE**

Mayor Brandon Svenson led the flag salute.

#### 4. **Approval of Agenda**

Council member Allman states that he would like to amend the agenda asking if there should be a motion to excuse Council member Lonnie Dowell. Mayor Svenson agreed.

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to excuse Lonnie Dowell from the meeting. Council member Lindsey Alvord 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

***- Council member Allman – Motion***

***- Council member Alvord – 2<sup>nd</sup>***

***- Mayor Svenson – N/A***

***- Council member Dowell – Absent***

***- Council member Contreras Approve***

***- Council member Poirrier – Approve***

***- Council member Alvord - Approve***

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to add (E) to the agenda for housing development speed limits.***

***- Council member Allman – Motion***

***- Council member Contreras – 2nd***

***- Mayor Svenson – N/A***

***- Council member Dowell – Absent***

- **Council member Contreras – Approve**
- **Council member Allman - Approve**
- **Council member Poirrier – Approve**
- **Council member Alvord – Approve**

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to approve agenda as amended. Council member Marty Poirrier 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- **Council member Allman – Motion**
- **Council member Poirrier – 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- **Mayor Svenson – N/A**
- **Council member Dowell – Absent**
- **Council member Contreras – Approve**
- **Council member Allman – Approve**
- **Council member Poirrier – Approve**
- **Council member Alvord - Approve**

#### **5. Old Business**

Council member Eric Contreras asks where we are on impact fees. Mayor Svenson said that they are still being worked on. He believes there will be a gentleman in community development and the mayor from Woodland is coming to speak with the council on the 11<sup>th</sup> of October.

Council member Marty Poirrier asks about the progress of the handicap parking spot. Mayor Svenson says that they are waiting for paint.

Council member Jeramy Allman asks where the progress is at with getting tree bids. Mayor Svenson replied saying that he still needs to get a hold of someone to walk that property to do the tree bids.

#### **6. Mayor Comments**

Mayor Svenson said that they did the Nevil Rd. repair. The state came out and helped. The county did not do much. The state used their dump trucks to haul out all the old asphalt and dirt that was pulled out. The state also used their trucks to run to the quarry and get more rocks. They also got onto the backhoe for a while and helped. Svenson stated a thank you to Washington DOT for the help.

DOT did say, that likely there would be an issue with the sink hole again in the future. Svenson said its one of those things that until there is the money to do it the right way, this is the route the city will have to take. Svenson said that he did already apply for that money; however, along with some other things. Svenson hopes that it will hold up until the money to do it right comes in.

The sewage pumping station has been paved and a new fence put around it.

The city has been getting a lot of emails and phone calls, and some have stopped into Winlock in person about the proclamation (from last council meeting regarding Washington State Governor Jay

Inslee) Svenson says that many people have voiced that they want to move to Winlock now. They have been coming to town going to our restaurants and checking out the town. Svenson said that out of 10-15 emails there have only been two (2) negative ones. Overall, people across the state have been supportive in taking that stance.

**7. Council Comments**

Council member Jeramy Allman thanks the mayor, and anyone else who helped him take down all of the flowers.

**8. Committee Reports**

**a. Grants – Contreras and Dowell**

Mayor Svenson asks council member Contreras if he has anything to add to grants. Contreras said that he is still looking but has not found anything at this time.

**b. Finance – Allman and Poirrier**

Jeramy Allman says that they went over things on Wednesday with Penny Jo, and everything is looking good and tracking well. There are still good receipts coming in for permitting. Allman asks Poirrier if he would like him to add anything. Poirrier says that he covered everything.

**c. Parks – Alvord**

Lindsey Alvord read the park update sent to her by Kirsten.

“The Park Board met on August 9<sup>th</sup> at Winolequa park. There had been a public input invitation advertised weeks prior, inviting the community to attend the meeting for the purpose of giving input on what individuals would like to see added or changed in the park over the coming years. Any input from the public is something the park board plans to keep in mind in the future as we plan for grants. No one from the community attended that meeting, but Mayor Brandon Svenson and Winlock councilman Marty Poirrier were in attendance. Marty was there to represent Winlock Youth Sports and the parents of children in youth sports. He relayed to the park board how badly the fields need repaired and has explained the that they are close to being unplayable with the amount of mole holes throughout both fields. Since that meeting, the park board has shifted its focus to the fields and at this time, the fields will likely be the first area of Winolequa Park to be worked on when grant money is obtained. In the meantime, discussion of volunteer days to fill holes and create a drainage ditch to keep the fields playable is on the table for discussion. This is something that can be done to help the situation until a contractor can be hired.

The board has been in contact with Kim Sellers, a grant manager from RCO (Recreation and Conservation Office.) She will be meeting with the members in person on Wednesday September 2<sup>nd</sup>, to view parks and further help with the preparations for the grant processes. Winlock City Council members are welcome to attend.

The next meeting is on September 6, 10:00 am at Winolequa Park.”

**6. Public Comment**

There was no public comment.

**7. Consent Agenda**

**a. Approval of Vouchers \$250,630.08**

**b. Minutes of September 13, 2021**

Mayor Svenson asks if there were any questions regarding the minutes or vouchers. Council member Allman said that he did not but thanks Penny Jo for her explanations included with the vouchers.

***Council member Jeramy Allman moves to approve the consent agenda as it is. Council member Lindsey Alvord 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- Council member Allman - Motion
- Council member Alvord - 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Mayor Svenson – N/A
- Council member Dowell – Absent
- Council member Allman – Approve
- Council member Contreras – Approve
- Council member Poirrier – Approve
- Council member Alvord – Approve

**9. Agenda**

**a. Housing Policy Summit 2021**

Neither commissioner was present, so Mayor Svenson suggested tabling Housing Policy Summit until next meeting.

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to table Housing Policy Summit till the next meeting. Eric Contreras, 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- Council member Allman – Motion
- Council member Contreras – 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Mayor Svenson – N/A
- Council member Dowell – Absent
- Council member Allman – Approve
- Council member Contreras – Approve
- Council member Poirrier – Approve
- Council member Alvord – Approve

**b. Recommendation of Award for 2021 Water System Improvement Project Gray and Osborne**

John Hinton with Gray and Osborne had called in and addressed the council. On September 21<sup>st</sup> they had 6 bids come in for the 2021 water system improvement project. They range from just shy of \$495,000 to all the way up to \$728,000. Jon Hinton recommends the award to Midway Underground in the amount of \$494,952.92 contingent on the completion of the environmental review processes.

They were the ones who did the work on Mickelson Parkway. New letters to the tribes were sent out about 35 days ago and so far, there have been no comments back, so they updated the check list, and the mayor has signed that this afternoon. It has been sent to CBDG and the department of historical preservation. Hinton says his assumption is that they should be getting a final approval letter from them within the next two weeks. Hinton asks if there are any questions. There were none, but council member Allman thanked John Hinton for reminding him that they were the ones who did the work out on Mickelson Parkway.

**Mayor Svenson entertains a motion to accept the award to Midway Underground.**

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to award Midway Underground the water system improvement project contingent to the environmental approval in the amount of \$494,952.92I.***

***Council member Marty Poirrier 2<sup>nd</sup> contingent to the environmental approval. Passed unanimously.***

- **Council member Allman - Motion**
- **Council member Poirrier - 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- **Mayor Svenson – N/A**
- **Council member Dowell – Absent**
- **Council member Allman – Approve**
- **Council member Contreras – Approve**
- **Council member Poirrier – Approve**
- **Council member Alvord – Approve**

**c. Cedar Court Nuisances**

Mayor Svenson says that this is not an action item. He believes that Robert Webster just wanted to bring these things to attention. Robert is the new code enforcement officer for the city. Svenson believes that everyone has read Robert's letter citing these things. Everyone has read it but only a few council members have seen it themselves. These are things like homes with multiple cars on the street and an RV which makes it impossible to use the road correctly, garbage strewn in front of another home, another home with car parts, garbage, and junked cars all over, and more. Svenson stated that over the last year, multiple letters have been sent out to the residents which has by now given ample time to start cleaning up. Svenson says that most people have been cleaning up but there are still a few who have not. Svenson asks if anyone has any questions regarding this before moving on. So far, all the actions taken have been warnings, but no fines have been given. Svenson is trying to avoid fines. There were no further comments or questions.

**d. Payment Plan Solutions – Outstanding Water/Sewer Accounts**

Mayor Svenson says/asks from what he understands, nothing can be done until January 1. Council member Allman says kind of. No shots can be given, but payment plans can be sent out on the next bill. Penny Jo stated that she has a plan to send out plans to individuals who still owe. Haney says that she believes that after 30 days of sending notice, the city can start enforcing. Haney asks city attorney Marissa Jay if this is correct. Marissa confirmed. Svenson stated that what actions to be taken will be up to the council. Haney mentioned that in a lot of the literature that she has been reading in MRSC that there is a lot of encouragement to extend this out for another year. Council member Alvord asks

if there is a number on how many people are behind. Haney says that there are 13 who are severally behind, but most folks are making the effort to get caught up and are not as far behind. Alvord said that in a search that she did, she saw roughly 30 different programs that help with water. Contreras added that there are programs that help with housing as well. Haney says that she would like to put together a one resource for people. She has received one such page that she will print out.

Svenson asked if the payment plan was open ended, and if not what ending date was discussed. The council could not recall. Marissa Jay said that people must enter a payment plan before January 1, or February 1. She could not remember the exact date but did say that they had to enter into a plan before the date.

Council member Allman said that he would love to hear what some of the neighboring cities are doing about this. Council member Poirrier asks if writing the bills off for people would be gifting of funds to which Marissa confirmed that yes, it would be and so that is not an option.

Haney said that the next step would be going to collections. Poirrier stated that he likes the plan of sending people notice with options and a resource list and then if they have not started to pay off their bills by January 1<sup>st</sup>, to then proceed on acting. Poirrier asks how the council feels on that idea. The council generally agreed. Mayor Svenson asks if there is any further discussion. There was none.

**Mayor Svenson entertains a motion to extend the payment program.**

***Council member Jeramy Allman motions to extend the payment program to January 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2022.***

***Council member Eric Contreras 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- **Council member Allman - Motion**
- **Council member Contreras - 2<sup>nd</sup>**
- **Mayor Svenson – N/A**
- **Council member Dowell – Absent**
- **Council member Contreras – Approve**
- **Council member Allman - Approve**
- **Council member Poirrier – Approve**
- **Council member Alvord – Approve**

**e. Speed limits in developments**

Svenson stated that awhile back they took Grand Prairie down from 25 mph to 15 and it seems that most people are happy with that. A few people who called in and said some people were still speeding and wanted to know the cost of some of those bolt-down speed bumps. This raises some questions on the speed limits in the new developments that are going in and wonders about putting in a blanket limit of 15 mph in the ordinances for construction. He thinks it is something to discuss this evening and have it on the next agenda for action. Contreras talked about how in Cedar Court there no speed limit and people drive through there fast which is concerning because of the children that live there. With the new development coming in next to cedar court it would be even better to put a limit in

along with some speed bump if possible. The council continued discussing. Svenson said this could be for future developments or for both future and current.

***Council member Marty Poirrier makes a motion to table speed limit discussion for the next meeting. Council member Eric Contreras 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- Council member Poirrier – Motion
- Council member Contreras – 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Mayor Svenson – N/A
- Council member Dowell – Absent
- Council member Allman – Approve
- Council member Contreras – Approve
- Council member Poirrier – Approve
- Council member Alvord – Approve

**10 Reports/Correspondence**

- a. Financial Statements 8.31.2021
- b. AWC City Voice 9.15.2021 9.22.2021

**10. Adjournment**

***Council member Marty Poirrier motions to adjourn. Council member Eric Contreras 2<sup>nd</sup>. Passed unanimously.***

- Council member Poirrier – Motion
- Council member Contreras – 2<sup>nd</sup>
- Mayor Svenson – N/A
- Council member Dowell – Absent
- Council member Contreras – Approve
- Council member Allman – Approve
- Council member Poirrier – Approve

**The Mayor adjourned the meeting at 6:35 pm.**

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Brandon Svenson, Mayor

Attest:

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Penny Jo Haney, Clerk-Treasurer