

City of Phoenix

City Council Meeting

Public Works Office

1000 S. "B" Street

Monday, October 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Bellah called to October 21, 2013 City Council Meeting to order at 6:32 pm.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Karen Jones, Stan Bartell, Carolyn Bartell, Terry Helfrich, Chris Luz, Bruce Sophie and Jeff Bellah.

ABSENT: None

Staff Present: Steve Dahl, City Manager/Recorder
Derek Bowker, Chief of Police
Steve Weber, Finance Director
Kurt Knudsen, City Attorney
Kevin Caldwell, Public Works Director

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

MAYORS COMMENTS

- 1) Mayor announced that the City has tentative agreements with the Cities two bargaining units. The General Unit and the Police Unit, he went on to say that he believes these are fair contracts and mentioned how the employees sacrificed last year taking furlough days to help the City out and that that helped create a three year contract where the employees will get a cola each year and the city will have some cost controls on health care in the future.
- 2) Mayor announced that he signed a letter of support today for a Phoenix/Talent School District grant application. The grant application expands their technical and career

education path. This allows for more students to do job shadowing and internship for students who may not be going to college.

NEW BUSINESS

After his opening statement the mayor moved the presentation supporting putting a Library Tax Levy on the May 2014 ballot to be next on the agenda. Jackson County Commissioners Doug Breidenthal and Don Skundrick were on hand to present the information. Commissioner Skundrick stated because of the financial condition of Jackson County they are no longer able to support the libraries in the long term out of the general fund. They believe it is in the best interest of Jackson County to set up a county wide special library district that will be governed by a separate elected board of five people not the county commissioners. The funding for this district will be provided by an up to \$.60 per \$1,000 property tax that will have to be approved by the voters. If, voters do not approve of the increase of the property taxes than the libraries of Jackson County will be shut down. The resolution brought to the council meeting would allow the citizens of Phoenix to vote on the levy.

Lee Gonnella 576 C Street, Phoenix, Oregon, a member of Friends of the Phoenix Library spoke about the importance of the library to the community. He pointed out that the library is the only place that offers access to books, movies, and music for free to the community and that it would be a shame to lose it.

Micah Firlong 2355 Camp Baker Road, Phoenix, Oregon, stated that the number one priority for a society is to educate its young people. The people today need more education in Science and Technology than ever before. He went on to point out the libraries are the great equalizer and that Phoenix would be a poor community without one.

Victoria King 7305 Adams Road, Talent, Oregon, says she volunteers at the Talent Library and that the library is a place where mothers and children interact with each other and their counterparts on a daily basis. Senior citizens come to the library not only for materials but to interact with people.

Doug Brandenthal (Didn't hear address) stated that we have eight months and 10 days to save our library, he went on to ask that the council allow the people to vote on the library.

The council wanted to review the resolution and vote on it later in the night.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

- 1) Approval of Minutes from October 7th Regular City Council Meeting
- 2) Approval of Minutes from October 15th City Council Special Workshop

MOVED BY COUNCILOR JONES AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR C. BARTELL, TO APPROVE THE CONSENT CALANDER.

There was no further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS

Ayes, Sophie, C. Bartell, Luz, Jones, Helfrich, S. Bartell

MOTION APPROVED WITH SIX AYES.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- 1) Motion to approve public works purchase of \$9,732.34 plus shipping of water meters. Jeff Ballard the City Engineer stated that the reason this was on the agenda was that the Council has a spending limit on what staff can purchase without approval by the council. That these water meters will be installed almost immediately when received to replay faulty one currently in the ground and that we will maintain a small supply or extras to meet immediate needs when they arrive.

MOVED BY COUNCILOR SOPHIE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR LUZ TO APPROVE THE PURCHASE OF THE REQUESTED WATER METERS WITH THE FUNDS TO BE TAKEN OUT OF THE WATER SUPPLIES LINE ITEM.

There was no further discussion

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS

Ayes, Helfrich, S. Bartell, Sophie, C. Bartell, Luz, Jones

Break

NEW BUSINESS-Continued

- 2) On coming back from break the City Council had received and reviewed copies of the Resolution supplied by Jackson County approving a Jackson County Order to Initiate Formation of a Jackson county Library Special District and Consenting to the Inclusion of City Territory within the Boundaries of the District. The Mayor began discussions on the resolution stating that he was uncomfortable with section G which made it sound like the City Council supports this measure. He wasn't sure that this is what the council discussed or agreed to but that they would support putting it on the ballot for the Citizens of Phoenix to decide on the issue. Commissioner Skundrick said that other cities who have had that issue have replaced section G with the statement, As a city Council we neither oppose or support this measure. The council agreed with that idea and asked that section G be removed from the resolution and the statement be added in its place. The council then asked that a resolution number be given the resolution and resolution number is 877

MOVED BY COUNCILMAN STAN BARTELL AND SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMEN KAREN JONES THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OF PHOENIX APPROVE RESOLUTON NO. 877: A RESOLUTION APPROVING A JACKSON

COUNTY ORDER TO INITIATEFORMATION OF A JACKSON COUNTY LIBRARY SPECIAL DISTRICT AND
CONSENTING TO THE INCLUSION OF CITY TERRITIRY WITHIN THE COOUNDARIES OF THE DISTRICT.

ROLE CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS

AYA; JONES, HELFRICH, S. BARTELL, SOPHIE, C. BARTELL, LUZ

- 3) Quarterly Financial Report: Steve Weber the Finance Director for the City of Phoenix went over the first quarter financial report. Over for the first three month revenues are coming in as expect and expenditures are in line with the period and within budget authority. Currently expenditures are pacing reviews but this was mostly because the City received eighty percent of their revenues in November. Currently we are at 28.34% of for the year and that is because there were major expenses for insurance premiums due the first part of the fiscal year. We currently are at 25% of expenditures for both Street and Water funds.

MOVED BY COUNCILMAN SOPHIE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILMAN HELFRICH THAT THE COUNCIL
ACCEPT THE QUARTERLY FINACIAL REPORT. IT WAS APPROVED BY UNANIMOUS VOTE.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Andrea Adams 380 Norton Street Talent, Oregon

Ms. Adams spoke about the need for the City of Phoenix to reach out to the Hispanic community of Phoenix and also to reach out to the death residents in the area. She pointed out that the death residents want to be involved in the community and can feel frustrated when interpretation isn't provided to them. She went on to note that there is a state program that pay for interpreters to come and provide sign interpretation of the meeting as long as they have forty eight hours notice that their services are needed.

NEW BUSINESS-CONTINUED

- 4) Approval of Pear Tree Lane and South Phoenix Road Contract with ODOT: City Engineer Jeff Ballard was invited to come up and explain the contract. As part of the Fern Valley Interchange project the City agrees to allow ODOT to use Pear Tree Lane and South Phoenix Road as I-5 off ramps. There was discussion on the effects of heavy truck use on City streets and how the traffic flow will change because of the new interchange. South Phoenix Road will be completely redone by ODOT and it will be the City's responsibility to upgrade the Pear Tree Lane up to the standard required for an off ramp. In return ODOT will pay the City of Phoenix up to \$150,000 in reimbursement.

MOVED BY COUNCILWOMAN JONES AND SECONDED BY COUNCILWOMAN BARTELL TO AUTHORIZE THE
MAYOR TO SIGN THE COOPERATIVE IMPRONEMENT AGREEMENT BETWEEN ODOT AND THE CITY OF

PHOENIX TO RECONSTRUCT A PORT OF PEAR TREE LANE BETWEEN FERN VALLEY ROAD AND SOUTH PHOENIX ROAD AND TO REPAIR SOUTH PHOENIX ROAD ,AS REQUIRED TO VEGIN 1-5 FERN VALLEY INTERCHANGE, UNIT 2 PROJECT

AYES: C. BARTELL, LUZ, JONES, HELFRICH, S. BARTELL, SOPHIE

UNFINISHED BUSINESS –CONTUED

- 1) Discussion of Water Rated Study by the City Water Commission: The Mayor asked James (Jim) Snyder to come up and discuss this issue with the council. The council went over how the City Water Commission came up with its recommendations and how they purposely choose not to recommend one over the other. The committee felt that a majority of the fund should be by base rate, they see the base rate as a water system access fee. The major difference between the different recommendations was that there was a higher rate for higher users. The council then went on to discuss the three options that were recommended by the commission discussing the positives and negatives of each option. A majority of the council felt that they should try option three for it seems to be the best option at the time. They noted that they could change the rate system next year on the Water Commission Recommendation. The Mayor asked Mr. Snyder would work with City staff to develop a resolution to come before council on the November 18th meeting. Mr. Snyder agreed. The mayor asked if there was a way for the City Manager and the Finance Director to change the water bill to add a line where people could donate to a fund to help low income people.

PUBLIC COMMENT ON WATER RATE

Diana Nelson-Hunter 100 Walnut Place, Phoenix, Oregon

Ms. Nelson noted that she was a member of the water committee and voted for the rate but didn't vote her conscience. She said she was for a higher user rate and a lower base rate preferably around \$28.00 for people who use less than 2,000 gallons. She went on to say that there should be a fund to help low income people with their water bill.

THE CITY STAFF WILL WORK WITH THE WATER COMMISSION TO DEVELOP A RESOLUTION TO COME BACK TO THE CITY COUNCIL NOVEMBER 18TH COUNCIL MEETING.

Questions for Staff

- 1) City Attorney, there has been no change on the litigation front. Still waiting for the appeal on Rogue Sewer Appeal. On the Lazy Boy front no successes in getting ODOT into mediate the issue. Lazy Boy doesn't believe they owe any more money they paid for the permit and they city didn't do the surcharge for Fern Valley Interchange imposed by ODOT. The question is does the

City own the money to ODOT they didn't collect form Lazy Boy. As of right now it seems to be going to litigation. Also discussed home rule in relation to HB 3640 showed that the League of Oregon Cities disagrees with Senator Bates view that cities cannot stop dispensaries come into the city.

It was pointed out that it was now 9:00 pm and the City Council approved a half an hour more of the council meeting.

2) City Managers Report

- a. Leaf Pickup will be December 9th
- b. Council decided to not hold the December 2nd council meeting because many people will be coming back into town after the Thanksgiving holiday.
- c. Introduced Kevin Caldwell the new public works director

Information from Council

Chris Luz-No

Terry Helfrich-Discussed some Urban Renewal information

Bruce Sophie-MPO is cancelled because of a meeting at the state next month will go over that meeting. Also there is a new barbershop in town

Karen Jones- Moved 1500 pounds of cheese/community dinner

Stan Bartell-No

Carolyn Bartell- Will email some questions to staff and talked about Darl Paxon and the parks board.

Respectfully submitted,

Steve Dahl

City Manager/Recorder