

**City Council Regular Meeting
220 N. Main St
Phoenix Plaza Civic Center
Monday, December 2, 2019**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Luz called the regular meeting of the City Council to order on Monday, December 2, 2019, at 6:30 p.m. at the Phoenix Plaza Civic Center.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT: Chris Luz, Angie Vermillion, Terry Baker, Stuart Warren, Jim Snyder

ABSENT: Councilor Westover (excused)

STAFF PRESENT: Aaron Prunty, City Manager
Bonnie Pickett, City Recorder
Derek Bowker, Police Chief
JC Boothe, Finance/HR Director

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Luz recognized Code Enforcement Officer Tim Muck for the exceptional job he did for the City of Phoenix. He noted Officer Muck will be leaving the City of Phoenix and is moving to another state.

3. PRESENTATIONS

a. Armadillo Technical Institute (ATI)

Summer Brandon, Executive Director Armadillo Technical Institute, gave a brief presentation about Armadillo Technical Institute. She noted that they have a wide variety of students learning in ways that work for them. Ms. Brandon noted the goal of the school is to provide a safe place for students to learn.

Ruby Shaprio, Armadillo Technical Institute Senior and Co-Vice President, gave a brief presentation on her choice to enroll in ATI and the experiences she has had at the school. In her previous school, she did not enjoy school and was not doing well. Since she has enrolled in ATI, she enjoys her education and is now three credits away from graduating and is the student Co-Vice President. Ms. Shaprio noted that she is beyond grateful for everything ATI has done for her.

Ms. Brandon shared a story about a senior that arrived at the school a full year behind in credits. After coming to ATI, he discovered during his intake session that he could take the final comprehensive exam for courses and get credit without seat time in the classroom. She noted that he was able to complete two years of courses in one year and

graduate on time and had earned scholarships from community-based organizations. Ms. Brandon noted that the student has enrolled in RCC working toward completing a training program.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS

Mayor Luz read correspondence from Carolyn Marshall, thanking Bonnie Pickett, Event Coordinator for the beautiful backdrop for the pictures of Santa and the children.

Tony Chavez, Phoenix, asked questions about the difference between the water bills for businesses versus residential customers. Mayor Luz and Ms. Boothe answered his questions.

5. CONSENT AGENDA

a. Reports for Information & Possible Action:

1. None

b. Minutes to Approve and File:

1. Minutes from City Council Meeting, November 18, 2019

Mayor Luz requested to pull consent agenda item #5b1.

Councilor Vermillion stated that there were comments regarding the LB1 form and benefits from the November 18, 2019, minutes that she would like added to the minutes.

8. NEW BUSINESS

a. Discussion – Brainstorming how to reduce expenses

The Council openly discussed ways to cut costs for the City.

Councilor Baker suggested selling PHURA property to bring in revenue.

Councilor Vermillion suggested farming out Human Resources, Accounts Payable, Accounts Receivable and Payroll to eliminate the Finance Director position.

Councilor Westover noted that the Council needs to look into property taxes when looking at future planning.

Councilor Warren suggested possibly holding off on completing Capital Improvement Plans. He noted that costs are going to go up, so there needs to be open conversations about budgeting for the future.

Councilor Snyder noted that if management level positions are eliminated to cut costs, the effects will not only be financial, it will affect the level of service that will be received.

Mr. Chavez requested that if the subject of raising fees occurs in the future, he would like all aspects of the increase to be discussed.

Mike Stitt, Phoenix, asked if heard correctly at the last meeting that the City loaned Urban Renewal \$100,000 and why was that done. Mr. Stitt mentioned an article he read on Facebook about funds spent on a road study.

Motion: To direct the City Manager to look at cutting the Finance Director Position and outsource payroll, accounts receivable, accounts payable and human resource with an increase to the City Manager pay for taking on Finance Director duties. MOVED BY VERMILLION, SECONDED BY BAKER. No further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Baker

Nays: Vermillion, Warren, Snyder, Westover

MOTION FAILED WITH FOUR NAYS

Motion: To direct the City Manager to review all staff for cost savings and any other services for cost savings. MOVED BY VERMILLION, SECONDED BY BAKER. No further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Vermillion, Baker, Westover

Nays: Warren, Snyder

MOTION PASSED WITH THREE AYES

10. STAFF REPORTS:

Aaron Prunty, City Manager, reminded everyone about the Rogue Valley Growers & Crafters Market on Tuesday, December 3, 2019.

11. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS/ REPORTS:

Councilor Vermillion enjoyed the small-town Christmas feeling of the Phoenix Christmas tree lighting.

Councilor Warren noted that the Parks and Rec Commission thanked Theresa Syphers for her excellence. The Parks and Rec Commission discussed making the Easter Egg hunt a sugar-free event using less candy and more games and toys. Councilor Warren noted the Easter Egg Hunt will be on April 11, 2020.

Councilor Snyder noted that there was an error in the email thanking people for all they did at the Christmas Tree lighting. He noted that the toys were provided by his wife and the hats were made by his wife's sister, the credit for the work belongs to them.

Councilor Baker no comment.

Mayor Luz no comment.

14. RECESS OPEN MEETING:

15. CONVENE TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

a. ORS 192.660 (2)(d), to conduct deliberations with persons designed by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations.

16. RECONVENE OPEN MEETING

Luz stated that the Executive Session was to discuss labor union negotiations, giving direction to staff in regard to the negotiations.

17. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Bonnie Pickett".

Bonnie Pickett
City Recorder