

City Council Meeting

Hybrid Meeting in Person and Via Zoom

Monday, September 18, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Baker called the City Council's hybrid meeting to order on Monday, September 18, 2023, at 6:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL:

PRESENT: Terry Baker, Karen Shrader, Angie Vermillion, Scott Clauson, Krista Peterson

STAFF PRESENT: Eric Swanson, City Manager
Bonnie Pickett, City Recorder
Joe Slaughter, CEDEV Director
Derek Bowker, Chief of Police
Matias Mendez, PW Superintendent
Doug McGeary, City Attorney

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

3. PRESENTATION:

- a. Colleen Padilla, Executive Director – Southern Oregon Regional Economic Development, Inc. (SORED) Update.

Eric Swanson introduced Randy Jones with Arrowhead Ranch, and Colleen Padilla, Executive Director of SORDI, noted their presentation topics to the Council.

Randy Jones spoke about the proposed future for the PH5 and MD5 area mostly owned by Arrowhead Ranch. He noted the build-out of land will take up to 20 years to complete.

Colleen Padilla presented to the application SOREDI has applied for 40% of Economic Revitalization to help the business continue to recover from the Almeda Fire. She explained how they plan to use the money to get the hands of the businesses.

Ms. Padilla spoke about the requirements of businesses in the Jackson County area, including PH5 in Phoenix. She spoke about businesses opening up in the Rogue Valley and their ribbon cuttings.

Mr. Swanson spoke about the CDBG – DR where the PEIR Funding comes from, noting that the State of Oregon determined that 90% of the funding should go to housing and the other 10% to PEIR. He noted that the PEIR group has received more requests for funds than what Jackson County has been allotted.

Ms. Padilla noted that SOREDI is willing to work with other applicants offering the same services as SOREDI requesting PEIR funds.

Mr. Swanson spoke about PAC Wall coming to Phoenix and the family-wage jobs they bring. He noted that he would like to work on a ribbon cutting for the new business and link the school with PAC Wall to learn skills.

Mayor Baker spoke about a conversation with Brent Barry about possible work experience for Phoenix High School Seniors by working with PAC Wall.

Ms. Padilla noted that she has been working with Pac Wall on their ribbon cutting and facilitating student learning experiences. She spoke about the reason SOREDI uses code names for businesses that are looking to make moves to Oregon or expand in the Rogue Valley so they can do their due diligence.

b. New City Phoenix Website

Bonnie Pickett, City Recorder, presented the new city website to the Council, pointing out various improvements.

4. PUBLIC COMMENT:

Tony Chavez, Phoenix, noted that he supports the Phoenix Police Department and Fire District No. 5. Still, he is concerned that the overages for the new Government and Public Safety Center will fall to the taxpayers.

Chris Morgan, Medford, spoke about the legality of the City of Phoenix moving land from a special district to another special district. He noted that they were not notified of the public hearing and questioned if the City had gotten the authority of the property owners.

Dan Sylvester, Medford, questioned who completed the study for annexing properties into Phoenix. He stated that the District No. 2 did not receive notice of the public hearing. Mr. Sylvester noted that the insurance rates are higher for District No. 5 than District No. 2.

Dan Marcisz, Medford, noted that he doesn't believe that the City has the authority to remove properties from a special district and move them to another special district. He stated that the City might be in litigation if they move forward with the annexation.

5. CONSENT AGENDA:

a. Reports for Information & Possible Action:

1. Phoenix Police Department Surplus Vehicle.
2. Resolution No. 1114 – Adopting Medford Water Commission Resolution 1902 Modifying the SDC Rate.
3. Intergovernmental Agreement Between Jackson County, the City of Talent, and the City of Phoenix for Fuel Reduction Work on the Bear Creek Greenway.

b. Minutes to Approve and File:

1. Minutes from City Council Meeting August 21, 2023.
2. Minutes from City Council Executive Session August 21, 2023.

Motion: I Move to Approve the Consent Agenda. **MOVED BY VERMILLION, SECONDED BY CLAUSON.**

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Vermillion, Clauson, Peterson, Shrader

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

6. CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS PULLED FOR DISCUSSION:

7. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Appointment of the 2023 City Council Vice-President.

Motion: I Move to Nominate Councilor Peterson as Council Vice-President. **MOVED BY VERMILLION, SECONDED BY SHRADER.**

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Vermillion, Shrader, Clauson, Peterson

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

- b. Appointment of Councilors as Committee and Commission Liaisons.

Mayor Baker nominated himself for the RVCOG and LOC until the end of the year.

- c. Interviews of Candidates for Open City Council Seats.

Mayor Baker noted that interviews for the Council open seats will be done on October 02, 2023, enabling all candidates to be present.

8. ORDINANCE: READING / ADOPTION:

- a. Ordinance No. 1033 – An Ordinance Annexing 353 Acres Within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary Pursuant to ORS 222.140, Removing the Area from Jackson County Fire District No. 2 Pursuant to ORS 222.524 and annexing the area to Jackson County Fire District No. 5 Pursuant to ORS 198.867 (3)

Joe Slaughter, CEDEV Director, noted this is the second reading of Ordinance 1033, in addition to changing the effective date that all properties will be annexed to January 01, 2024. He noted all the legal descriptions of the properties have been included with the ordinance for a second reading. Mr. Slaughter spoke to the legality of transferring the annexed properties to Fire District No. 5.

Motion: I Move to Approve for Second Reading on Reading by Title Only, Ordinance 1033, An Ordinance Annexing 353 Acres within the City’s Urban Growth Boundary Pursuant to

ORS 222.170, Removing the Area from Jackson County Fire District No. 2 Pursuant to ORS 222.524 and Annexing the Area to Jackson County Fire District No. 5 Pursuant to ORS 198.867 (3). **MOVED BY PETERSON, SECONDED BY VERMILLION.** No further discussion.

ROLL CALL VOTE AS FOLLOWS:

Ayes: Peterson, Vermillion, Clauson, Shrader

MOTION APPROVED WITH FOUR AYES

9. STAFF REPORT:

a. City Manager Eric Swanson thanked Jeff Wilcox and Mr. Slaughter's crew for making the Phoenix Rising Event successful. He highlighted how well the dunk tank went with all the kids. He noted Richard Randleman will be here in October to give an update on the Government and Public Safety Center. Mr. Swanson spoke about his meeting with Rogue Disposal and Recycling and their exciting news regarding the changes to recycling. He also noted that Rogue Disposal informed the City of their annual 3.8% rate increase.

b. CEDEV Director Joe Slaughter spoke about the Phoenix Rising Event, thanking the Council for attending the event. He thanked all the staff who volunteered their time to make the event a success. Mr. Slaughter thanked Jeff Wilcox for taking the reins and running the Phoenix Rising Event.

c. City Attorney Doug McGeary noted that he plans to attend the LOC Conference for continued education. He noted that it was terrific that city staff volunteered their time with the Phoenix citizens.

10. MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENT / REPORTS:

Councilor Clauson noted that he was invited to another event this evening and was told when he declined, "It's on the City of Phoenix ." Councilor Clauson then informed the person of all the things that were happening in Phoenix. He thanked the staff for all they do to make the City better. Councilor Clauson stated that he is proud to be on the City Council.

Councilor Peterson noted that amazing things are happening in Phoenix. She stated we have the right staff and Council. Councilor Peterson noted she is grateful to be on the Council.

Councilor Vermillion noted there have been a lot of accomplishments in Phoenix over the last few years. She noted how warm and welcoming the Phoenix Rising Event was to attend. Councilor Vermillion said she fondly remembers Jim Snyder while putting on her name badge.

Councilor Shrader spoke about the open house she attended for the Oregon Drivers Association in Phoenix. She noted they offer teen driver education, beside-the-wheel

education for adults getting their license for the first time, and refresher classes for adults. Councilor Shrader spoke about the fun times at the well-attended Phoenix Rising Event.

Mayor Baker spoke about how fantastic the Phoenix Rising Events turned out. He noted the event shows how dedicated the staff are to the community of Phoenix. Mayor Baker said he is pleased to hear the community dinners are happening again. He expressed how fantastic the new website turned out. He thanked the Council for their patience in selecting the new City Councilors. Mayor Baker spoke about our incredible staff in public works, police, and other departments. He noted he attended the Southern Oregon Drivers Association open house and was pleasantly impressed. Mayor Baker spoke about how the City does all things above board, so there is no question of the legality of its actions.

11. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by,

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

Bonnie Pickett
City Recorder