

**City of Milton-Freewater  
City Council Minutes**

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, January 9, 2012 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albee Room of the Library, 8 SW 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue, Milton-Freewater, Oregon.

The following members were present: Mayor Lewis Key, Councilors Orrin Lyon, Brad Humbert, Sam Hopkins-Hubbard and Steve Irving.

Councilors Jeff Anliker and Ed Chesnut were absent.

Youth Representative Micaela Epifanio was present.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Fire Chief Shane Garner, Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer, Lead Emergency Communication Specialist (ECS) Betty Jane Bugbee, Police Officer Rob Paine, Police Officer Michael Bump, ECS Debra Stack, ECS Karry Paine, ECS Kristina Thoma and Police Officer Scott Hays.

Citizens present were: Tara Patten, Steven Patten, Mindy Birdwell, Nathan Carper, Felix Pereyda, Bruce Bugbee and Christine Boedigheimer.

Press member Melanie Hall of the Valley Herald was also present.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

The consent calendar items consisted of:

- Council minutes from the December 12, 2011 meeting
- Executive Session minutes from the December 12, 2011 meeting
- Accounts payables from December 8, 2011 through January 4, 2012

Councilor Humbert motioned to approve the consent calendar items. Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Youth Representative Epifanio was in favor of the motion.

**PRESENTATION:**

**INTRODUCTION AND RECOGNITION OF THE POLICE DEPARTMENT**

Manager Hall began with thanking members of the police department for their involvement in the tragedy of C. Rob Carter being fatally shot on December 30, 2011. She expressed how proud she was of the entire team on how they handled the situation. She commended the leader of the department, Chief Doug Boedigheimer. She gave some examples of the service that was provided from dispatch, patrol, investigative efforts, aiding in the attainment and execution of search warrants. Manager Hall explained Milton-Freewater Police Department was the first to respond to the scene and Chief Boedigheimer took over performing CPR from one of Mr. Carter's employees, Nathan Carper, who was on the scene when the shooting occurred. Milton-Freewater was the host of the incident command center and police department staff helped write and fax back and forth the search warrants while searching for the person of interest. The tactical command center was hosted in the fire training facility on County Road. Manager Hall once again thanked

the police department staff for everything they did, not only on that day, but for what they do on a daily basis to ensure our safety. She explained that not all the members of the police department could be present at the meeting due to the nature of police department coverage. At this time she introduced Chief Boedigheimer. Chief Boedigheimer then introduced each member of the department that was present at the meeting. He also expressed how impressed he was with his entire team during the crisis. He then introduced the members of his team which were present.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard asked if there was a need for emotional debriefing due to the incident.

Chief Boedigheimer said there was counseling available to staff.

Mayor Key asked how the communication worked between law enforcement agencies.

Chief Boedigheimer said it was lacking in communication and there could be some improvements.

### **BUSINESS ITEMS:**

#### **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE EMERGENCY OPERATION PLAN ALONG WITH THE ADDITION OF A SUPPORT ANNEX, FLOOD INCIDENT INSERT FOR MILTON-FREEWATER CONTROL DISTRICT**

Fire Chief Shane Garner reviewed the City of Milton-Freewater Emergency Operation Plan, which is required to be reviewed annually. The plan was originally adopted by the city council in October 2007. The plan is designed to provide guidance for strategic thinking and decision making as it relates to emergency operations. He gave a brief presentation on the proposed additional support annex, Flood Incident. The Flood Incident insert is for the Milton-Freewater Control District (MFWCD) and explains their involvement and an action plan for a joint Milton-Freewater Water Control District, City of Milton-Freewater and Umatilla County response. The insert is also a requirement for MFWCD to gain recertification back into the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers rehabilitation program.

Manager Hall thanked Chief Garner for his work on this project and felt the additional two pages of information regarding the involvement for the MFWCD was a good way to have it included in the plan.

Councilor Humbert motioned to accept the addition of the Support Annex 13: Flood Incident, into the Emergency Operations Plan. Councilor Lyon seconded the motion which passed unanimously. Youth Representative Epifanio was in favor of the motion.

#### **ANNUAL REVIEW OF THE URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY REPORT**

Manager Hall explained due to recent changes in the legislation there was now a mandate for the Urban Renewal Agency Administrator (City Manager Linda Hall) to present to the governing body of the agency (City Councilors) an annual report of the financial specifics of the Urban Renewal Agency. The report must be presented and filed with the City Council by January 31<sup>st</sup> of each year pursuant to ORS 457.460. She reviewed in great detail each key element of the statement, which included; the amount of money received during the previous fiscal year (2011), purposes and amounts of expenditures for fiscal year (2011), estimate of moneys to be received during the current fiscal year, budget setting forth purposes for estimated revenues and analysis of the impact of carrying out Urban Renewal Plan on tax collections of all taxing districts.

Once Manager Hall finished presenting the report she gave some background on URA's. The City's plan is 24 years old and it will "sunset" in May 2014. Manager Hall's opinion is that URA's are widely misunderstood and rightly so she explained. The laws and regulations are very complicated and complex. Tax assessors struggle with the complicated formulas to figure taxes unlike the fairly straightforward dollar tax rate per \$1,000 of assessed value in regular taxing districts. Milton-Freewater's URA has invested in small business development grants for storefronts, utility infrastructure, brick and mortar buildings, recruitment of the largest employer, Sykes, and assistance in the growth and expansion of existing businesses. Milton-Freewater has always chosen the lowest form of tax assessment option that exists, Option 1, Division of Taxes.

Manager Hall reviewed the approximate dollar values that the other taxing districts may receive once the URA program sunsets.

Councilor Irving suggested using the balance of the funds in the URA budget to pay off the debt owing.

Manager Hall explained that could be done but once the debt service was met then the plan immediately terminates. As long as there is debt owing then the plan can stay in place.

Councilor Humbert said if it wasn't for the URA program, Sykes would not be located in Milton-Freewater which employs hundreds of employees.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Hall gave an update regarding the Ed Lawrence and Family lease agreement for the nine acres above Marie Dorian Park. As approved by the council at the last meeting Manager Hall offered to extend the lease at an amount of \$40.00 per acre for a total of \$360.00 per year which is an increase of \$210.00 per year. Ed Lawrence's daughter, Susan Talbott, who is the representative for the family has counter offered to lease the ground for \$35.00 per acre a difference of \$45.00 per year.

Council consensus was to stand firm at \$40.00 per acre per year. They felt that was a very fair price. If the Lawrence family declined to accept the offer then the same offer could be made to the farmer who is subleasing the property.

The "old" library lease for Shangri-La Boutique is set to terminate January 31, 2012. Manager Hall suggested extending the lease agreement as is with no rent increase. She said Jeanne LaMon-Ehmer has not missed a rent payment and she has kept her utilities current.

Council consensus was to extend the offer of the lease agreement up to three years, operating on the same terms and with no increase in rent.

2012 will be the year for labor negotiations, beginning with the Police Department which includes the dispatchers. The date for negotiations has been set for February 1, 2012.

The last item Manager Hall gave an update on was a conference call between the Milton-Freewater Water Control District, their Engineer John Wells, GEO Engineers and a representative of FEMA. The MFWCD and their engineer requested from FEMA a checklist of items needed to be completed before the levee could be inspected and considered back into the U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Rehabilitation Program. As it looks now, the goal is to be out of the floodplain designation in year 2013. Manager Hall informed the city council that the city would have to go through another map adoption process once FEMA has accepted the map changes.

## **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Youth Representative Micaela Epifanio announced the Key Club was hosting a talent show as a fundraiser for senior scholarships. The talent show was being held at the Mac-Hi Auditorium, Thursday, January 12, 2012 at 6:00 p.m. Cost was \$2.00 for students and \$3.00 for adults.

The executive session was cancelled.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor