

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

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met Monday, May 24, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. in the Albee Room of the Library.

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

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo, Corporal Robert Guerrero, Sergeant Steve Sutton and Police Officer Jon Roberts.

Citizens present were: Steven Patten and Tara Patten.

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

CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:

The consent calendar items consisted of council minutes from the April 26, 2010 meeting and accounts payable from May 5, 2010 through May 19, 2010.

Councilor Humbert motioned to approve the consent calendar items. Councilor Anliker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

PRESENTATION:

RECOGNITION – JUNE 2010 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH, POLICE OFFICER JON ROBERTS

Councilor Chesnut presented Jon Roberts with the June 2010 Employee of the Month Award. Jon has worked for the city since December 2004. Recently Jon has been assigned as a mentor and field training officer for our newest Police Officer, Shane Phillips. He has demonstrated that he is a reliable, dependable and knowledgeable training officer with an excellent outlook and superior attitude towards the job, his co-workers and the extra responsibility of training. Councilor Chesnut, on behalf of the entire council, presented Jon with a one-hundred dollar (\$100) check to show their appreciation.

BUSINESS ITEMS:

RESOLUTION NO. 2170 – AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE (UEC) MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING FOR EMERGENCY CONNECTION TO UEC CUSTOMERS ON THE SOUTH FORK WALLA WALLA RIVER ROAD

Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo reported that Umatilla Electric Cooperative's (UEC) service area borders City Light & Power's service area on the South Fork of the Walla Walla River Road. There are approximately 30 to 40 utility accounts in that area, many of which are summer cabins. The primary power source for those UEC accounts comes off the adjacent mountain and is occasionally subject to storm related outages. UEC has contacted the city to enter into a memorandum of understanding to supply those customers with short term emergency feed. The usage would be metered by one of the new AMI meters and would be billed to UEC.

Councilor Anliker motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2170, Authorizing Signature to the Memorandum of Understanding between Milton-Freewater City Light & Power and Umatilla Electric for Emergency Connection to UEC Customers on the South Fork Walla Walla River Road. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2171 – AUTHORIZING SIGNATURE TO UMATILLA ELECTRIC COOPERATIVE MUTUAL AID, EMERGENCY AND OUTAGE RESPONSE AGREEMENT

Electric Superintendent Mike Charlo reported that the proposed mutual aid agreement between Umatilla Electric Cooperative (UEC) and Milton-Freewater City Light & Power could be a benefit to either of the utilities. In case of an emergency, upon request, one utility can dispatch a line crew to work on the lines and equipment of the other utility. Along with the normal terms and applications of a mutual aid agreement, City Light & Power's lineman may be dispatched to perform switching to energize the UEC's portion of the South Fork Walla Walla River Road. This would only be done at the request of UEC and after our staff had been fully trained on the equipment to be operated.

Mayor Key asked if UEC would be able to work anywhere in our service area.

Mr. Charlo said yes, only if the city requested it and in the case of an emergency.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard inquired about who would be responsible for the training.

Mr. Charlo explained it would be similar to a safety meeting. All of the linecrew would be trained by UEC staff here in Milton-Freewater.

Manager Hall announced the city did try and negotiate with UEC to obtain those 30 to 40 customers. UEC did not want to release them.

Councilor Humbert motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2171, Authorizing Signature to the Umatilla Electric Cooperative Mutual Aid, Emergency and Outage Response Agreement. Councilor Anliker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

RESOLUTION NO. 2172 – GOLF COURSE PROFESSIONAL FRANCHISE AGREEMENT

City Manager Hall reported the Golf Course Professional Franchise Agreement was due to expire June 30, 2010. She explained the Golf Pro, George Gillette, has held the franchise agreement for 37 years. He manages the Golf Course pro shop and facility, which is open 12 months a year, 7 days a week, sunrise to sunset with the exception of Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. The proposed changes to the contract were the elimination of the locker rentals, which have been removed, and to freeze the golf pro's wage. Manager Hall reviewed how other Golf Pro's were paid at other Golf Courses and felt the contract being proposed was fair under the current economic conditions. She did ask to reserve the right at some point during the contract to review the wage status if the economic climate changed. Her recommendation at that point would be brought back to council for consideration. She had spoken to Mr. Gillette and he was in favor of the recommended changes. The contract is proposed for five years beginning July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2015.

Councilor Anliker asked if the proposed wage freeze was for the duration of the contract.

Manager Hall said yes, but reiterated the point of being able to review his wage if things turn around economically.

Councilor Humbert felt the proposed wage of \$44,789 per year was a fair amount especially in light that he is running a business and takes care of all labor costs and payroll taxes for his employees.

Councilor Chesnut disclosed his son was married to Mr. Gillette's daughter and asked if anyone had an issue with him voting on this agenda item. No one in attendance had any problem with Councilor Chesnut voting.

Manager Hall asked Councilor Chesnut if he had financial ties to the Golf Course Pro Shop or any part of that business.

Councilor Chesnut replied, no.

A brief discussion issued regarding ideas of future negotiations on the Franchise Agreement.

Councilor Anliker asked if the liability insurance and bond requirement were still in effect.

Manager Hall said yes it was.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2172, Authorizing the City Manager's Signature to the Golf Course Concession Franchise Agreement. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

ADOPTION OF COUNCIL GOALS

Manager Hall reported that council suggested 14 potential goals to provide direction of resources for City staff. As council suggested, staff sought the public's input by conducting a survey on the city's website and included the survey in the city-wide newsletter. The survey was open for a period of 30 days in order to gain citizen input on prioritization of the goals. There were 137 responses from the newsletter and 15 responses from the city website. Citizens were asked to rank each question from 1 to 5; 1 being extremely important and 5 being not important at all. A summary was compiled and presented to the city council in their packets. Manager Hall felt the list of goals were very ambitious and respectfully asked for a longer timeframe to accomplish them.

Councilor Humbert suggested removing the goal of obtaining an asphalt grinder. He explained it would be much less expensive to hire the work done than to purchase the equipment. The entire council agreed to remove this from the goals' list. As a result of removing this item it was decided to add to another goal to include alleys to "pave all unimproved streets and alleys".

Councilor Humbert then suggested removing the goal that talked about implementing a School Resource Officer. He felt the goal was already in place and set to begin at the beginning of the next school year.

Manager Hall recommended leaving this goal. She explained that was the plan to provide a School Resource Officer if staffing schedules allowed for it. Chief Boedigheimer is working out the details and feels it can be an obtainable goal. At which time she informed the council that she had received an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) from the Milton-Freewater Unified School District for the School Resource Officer. She confirmed that a police officer would be provided as long as the scheduling allowed for it and the city reserves the right to pull that officer off those duties at any given time.

A discussion ensued about the goals and roles of what a School Resource Officer would do. The

entire city council agreed that the city should not enter into an IGA with the school because this was not a promised, permanent position.

Councilor Humbert suggested that the police officers rotate in and out of the position. He felt that would allow for the children to get to know more than one officer.

Manager Hall said she would certainly suggest that to the Police Chief. She said not all the officers were interested in participating in position.

Councilor Humbert motioned to approve the priority order suggested by Milton-Freewater citizens, with the deletion of the goal to purchase an asphalt grinder and add alleys to the goal of pave all unimproved streets and authorize a five year time frame to achieve. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

MANAGER'S REPORT

Manager Hall thanked Tara and Steven Patten for coming to the council meetings and showing interest in the city and their local government.

She then announced there was an added agenda item. Staff was proposing to make a minor change to the Aquatic Center Lifeguard-Instructor job description. The current job description requires a Water Safety Instructor (WSI) certification. There are no classes offered in the area for applicants to obtain this certification. The pool is set to open over the Memorial Day weekend and staff is having a hard time filling all the required positions with this mandate. The recommendation is to still request the WSI certification but not make it mandatory and to list it as "preferred". Manager Hall explained the Aquatic Center lifeguards would still be required to show that technique to the pool manager as part of their orientation.

Councilor Humbert motioned to approve the updated job description for the position of the Aquatic Center Lifeguard-Instructor. Councilor Anliker seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

Manager Hall shared an email she received from Paul Seaquist titled, "only in Milton-Freewater". Mr. Seaquist expressed his appreciation for a Public Works employee who helped a citizen in a wheel chair cross the street during a tree trimming project that blocked the way for this citizen to cross.

Patsy Sandoval, a previous youth councilor, invited the entire council to her graduation ceremony at Walla Walla Community College on June 6, 2010.

COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS

Councilor Anliker announced that applications for Volunteers in Policing Services (VIPS) were still being accepted in the police department.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard reported there was an Oregon Solutions meeting last week. The Corps of Engineers has the report from Anderson Perry who performed an inspection of the levee on March 30th and 31st. Preliminary reports have indicated the project is much larger than anticipated.

Manager Hall said the Corps has divided the levee up into four separate systems. She expressed she would lobby to have the system that directly affected the city repaired first.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard said during the meeting Greg Graham of the Corp of Engineers

expressed he felt the problems were not only from lack of operation and maintenance.

Councilor Chesnut asked how the levee was broken out into the four systems.

Steven Patten who was an audience member and is an employee of the Walla Walla Basin Watershed Council provided the following descriptions of how the levee is broken out. On the east side from the Walla Walla River Road to Grove School bridge, beginning upstream from the cemetery bridge, Nursery Bridge to Tum-a-lum Bridge, on the west side from Couse Creek to Tum-a-lum Bridge.

A discussion ensued regarding the levee and vegetation removal.

Councilor Anliker commended the Water Control Board for cleaning up the levee.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Lewis S. Key, Mayor