

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

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session Monday, March 9, 2009 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, Jeff Anliker, Brad Humbert and Steve Irving.

Councilor Keith Woods was absent due to being out of town.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw, Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer, Police Officer Robert Guerrero and City Recorder Leanne Steadman.

Citizens present were: Merle Sherman, Christina Guerrero, George Gillette, Wes Koklich, Christine Boedigheimer and Brad Baird of Anderson-Perry & Associates.

Press members present were Melanie Hall of the Valley Herald and Samantha Bates of the East Oregonian.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

The consent calendar items consisted of regular council meeting minutes from February 9, 2009, Executive Session minutes from February 9, 2009, accounts payable from February 18<sup>th</sup> through March 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and updated job descriptions for the Aquatic Center Cashier/Concession Position, Lifeguard/Instructor Position and Fire Department Captain Position.

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

**PRESENTATION:**

**RECOGNITION – MARCH 2009 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH; ROBERT GUERRERO, POLICE OFFICER**

Councilor Lyon recognized March 2009 Employee of the Month, Robert Guerrero. He said Robert was a Police Officer and also served on the Umatilla/Morrow County Major Crimes Task Force Team. Officer Guerrero was very instrumental in the investigation of the Lucas Polanco homicide. He single handedly organized an overwhelmingly complex case, and by following through all necessary investigative action, clearly showed that he is a law enforcement shining star and one deserving of the recognition of the “Employee of the Month” award. Councilor Lyon also said in the spirit of teamwork, he would like to recognize and give credit to Officers Steve Sutton, Alan Parker, Jon Roberts, and Scott Hays for their exemplary efforts in assisting Officer Guerrero in the Polanco case along with other difficult cases in the recent months. Councilor Lyon then recognized the dedicated leadership and technical assistance that Chief Boedigheimer, Sergeant Pat Garrett and Corporal Scott Clayton have offered as well. On behalf of the Mayor and the other City Councilors, Councilor Lyon presented Officer Guerrero with a one-hundred dollar (\$100) check to show their appreciation.

Officer Guerrero said it was an honor receiving the award and that the Polanco case was truly a team effort.

## **REVIEW – WATER SYSTEM MASTER PLAN**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw introduced Brad Baird of Anderson-Perry & Associates. Mr. Baird was instrumental in compiling the City of Milton-Freewater Water System Master Plan. Mr. Baird explained that the plan was a requirement of the city through the Drinking Water Program (DWP) and that there must be a plan on file every twenty (20) years. The plan evaluates the water system and its ability to meet current and future water demands over a twenty (20) year planning period. Along with Mr. Baird's presentation he presented graphs that showed; the historical and projected population for the city, a summary of the annual water production broken out by the production of each well, which there are seven (7) city wells and a graph that showed the static water levels. The plan also addresses water storage needs for the projected population which is estimated to be nine-thousand seven-hundred fifty (9,750) people by year two-thousand twenty-eight (2028). Mr. Baird commented that the city shows the water storage to be sufficient according to the estimated growth chart. He suggested some key improvements to the current water system; discharge line for Well #1 into the middle reservoir, paint the middle and north reservoirs and address aging, undersized main lines to provide improved looping system. Mr. Baird said that the city has a fantastic system and that it is being operated very efficiently.

Councilor Anliker asked how come Well #1 and Well #8 were not used as much as the other wells.

Mr. Bradshaw said that Well #1 currently had an air problem and if it was used it would cause the water to look milky. Well #8 was the farthest away well and it costs approximately three (3) times as much to pump the water from. He said the well is available if it is needed but he tries to run the wells the most efficient way possible. Mr. Bradshaw said that Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) had preformed an energy audit on all the wells approximately six (6) years ago. As a result of the audit, the pump assembly for Well #6 was replaced to be more energy efficient.

Councilor Chesnut asked what could be done to establish whether or not someone within the five (5) mile radius was effecting or causing a decrease in the city's static water level.

Mr. Bradshaw said the procedure was to contact the Water Resources Department at the State level and have water monitoring stations installed to monitor how much the water volume was dropping due to those wells that were installed.

Mr. Baird confirmed that was the procedure.

Councilor Anliker asked if wells outside the five (5) mile radius had an effect on the aquifer as well.

Mr. Baird said yes that the aquifer was basically one big system. He said they probably wouldn't affect the wells immediately but it would affect the overall system. The State Water Resource Department has a very clear idea of individuals that are tapped into the aquifer and what their allowed water rights were.

## **UPDATE – PRELIMINARY FLOOD INSURANCE RATE MAP FROM FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY (FEMA)**

The agenda item was postponed to the next council meeting due to City Planner Gina Hartzheim being ill.

George Gillette – 15 SW 10<sup>th</sup> Ave., asked if the maps were the preliminary rate maps.

City Manager Linda Hall said yes, and that FEMA sent a package that included maps and information about the flood insurance rates. These would be presented at the next council meeting.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**BID AWARD – CONTRACT #224 – HVAC MAINTENANCE CONTRACT**

Public Works Superintendent Dave Bradshaw reported that the current HVAC maintenance contract was soon to expire. He said the city advertised and received sealed bids. There were three (3) bids received; Grassi Refrigeration, Johnny’s Refrigeration, and College Place Heating & Air Conditioning. Staff was recommending awarding the bid to Grassi Refrigeration as they were the apparent low bidder.

Councilor Humbert asked why there was no after hour emergency rate included in Grassi Refrigeration’s bid.

Mr. Bradshaw said they usually just charged the same rate as the unit price.

Councilor Anliker made a motion to award Contract #224, HVAC Maintenance to Grassi Refrigeration of Walla Walla, Washington as they were the apparent low bidder for the term of the 2009 calendar year, beginning March 9, 2009 with the option for staff to extend the contract on a year-to-year basis up to a total of five (5) years as outlined in the contract. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**APPOINTMENT TO ADVISORY COMMITTEES; LIBRARY BOARD, PLANNING COMMISSION, AND BUDGET COMMITTEE**

Mayor Key said he and Council President Lyon reviewed the applications submitted for the various advisory committees. They were suggesting appointing incumbent Judy Piper to the Library Board. They also suggested appointing the Planning Commission incumbents, Nathan Lyon and Carlotta Richardson to the four (4) year terms, Ben Silva to the two (2) year term and Scott Gilmore to the one (1) year term. There were no applications submitted for the Budget Committee.

Councilor Chesnut made a motion to approve the recommended appointments to the various boards as suggested by Mayor Key and Council President Lyon. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**ACCEPTANCE OF KEITH WOODS’ RESIGNATION FROM CITY COUNCIL WARD 3 POSITION**

Manager Hall reported that Councilor Woods’ announced he would be moving out of town and stepping down from his city council seat at the council meeting of November 10, 2008. She said he submitted his letter of resignation effective March 22, 2009. The council position vacancy had been advertised and the deadline for applying for the position was March 13, 2009.

Councilor Humbert made a motion to accept Councilor Woods’ resignation from his Ward 3 Council seat effective March 22, 2009. Councilor Irving seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

## **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Hall reported that she had met with all the department heads and reviewed their preliminary budgets for fiscal year two-thousand ten (2010). She said she was proud to say that all departments did a great job of keeping their budgets at no more than a three (3) percent increase above last year's budget. In reviewing the preliminary budget she was able to cut one-hundred six-thousand (\$106,000) dollars off the total budget. She said she felt confident that she would be presenting a conservative budget to the committee later in the spring. Manager Hall said she was very concerned about the American Legion grandstands. She said at the request of Councilor Humbert, a rot inspection was completed by Pacific Crest Pest Control and the results showed that the grandstands were rotten and not safe to continue to use. She said staff's recommendation was to demolish the grandstands and explore avenues of replacing them with steel or aluminum bleachers. She asked for Council's recommendations.

Merle Sherman – 716 Pierce, said he was on the Recreation Committee and he recommended that the grandstands be torn down because they were not safe.

George Gillette – 15 SW 10 Ave., said he was also on the Recreation Committee and he felt the grandstands were a liability to the city. He felt it was in the best interest to tear them down and that the High School could possibly help with portable bleachers until they were permanently replaced.

Councilor Anliker suggested putting the word out that the grandstands needed to be torn down and replaced and possibly citizens would be willing to help with replacing them.

Mr. Bradshaw said that a couple of citizens had contacted him already about helping to replace the grandstands.

Councilor Humbert asked if the bathrooms were part of the grandstand structure and if they would be able to be salvaged or if they would need to be replaced as well.

Mr. Bradshaw said that they would need to be replaced and if new ones were built they would have to be to the American with Disabilities Act (ADA) compliance.

Manager Hall reported that the city had some old cell phones that did not work and had no monetary value. She said she would like to donate them to the YWCA, who has a program of refurbishing the cell phones for the battered women program. She also reported that the city had applied for stimulus grant money in the amount of one-hundred forty thousand (\$140,000) dollars for street improvements or overlays and fourteen-thousand (\$14,000) dollars for bus shelters for the public bus program. She said she would keep the city council abreast of the outcome of the request.

## **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Lyon said that the Annual Milton-Freewater Junior Show fundraiser was scheduled for Friday, March 13, 2009 at the Milton-Freewater Community Center from five (5:00) p.m. to seven (7) p.m. They were going to serve breakfast for dinner, green pancakes.

Mayor Key said he brought an article from the East Oregonian regarding citizens complaining about the noise from wind towers in Ione, Oregon.

Councilor Chesnut said he would be attending a meeting on Tuesday, March 10, 2009 as a private citizen regarding the windmills in the area.

Councilor Anliker reported that the Milton Seventh Day Adventist Church was holding a Revelation series, five days a week, Friday to Tuesday from seven (7:00) p.m. to eight (8:00) p.m. with topics of politics, world history and information regarding the new government and the director it is going.

There being no further business, council adjourned to an Urban Renewal Agency regular meeting at 7:46 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor