

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

The Council of the City of Milton-Freewater met in regular session Monday, October 12, 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, Sam Hopkins-Hubbard, Jeff Anliker, Steve Irving and Brad Humbert.

Staff members present were: City Manager Linda Hall, City Recorder Leanne Steadman, Human Resource Officer Teresa Dutcher, Finance Director Dave Richmond, Accounting Supervisor Luke Billings and Building Specialist Pat Didion.

Citizens present were: Shelley Didion and Clarence Mader.

Melanie Hall of the Valley Herald was present.

**CONSENT CALENDAR ITEMS:**

The consent calendar items consisted of regular council minutes from the September 14, 2009 meeting, accounts payable from September 22, 2009 – October 6, 2009 and Resolution No. 2148, Authorizing Signature to an Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) with Portland State University for Oregon Solutions Team Project Management Services.

Councilor Chesnut requested an explanation of the IGA with Portland State University.

City Manager Linda Hall explained the IGA as being part of the process of the Governor's assigned project team known as Oregon Solutions. Portland State University is the designated headquarters for the Oregon Solutions Team and they are responsible for designating managers and keeping track of the paperwork and team's accomplishments. The goal of the team is to bring all parties together to help resolve and repair the failed levee on the Walla Walla River. The Oregon Solutions Team process calls for a small match of funds to pay associated costs of managing the project. The total cost of the project is \$30,000. Portland State University believes in the project so much that they have offered to pay one-third of the cost, with the City of Milton-Freewater and the Milton-Freewater Water Control District paying for the other two-thirds.

Councilor Chesnut was satisfied with the explanation at which time he motioned to approve the consent calendar items. Councilor Lyon seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**RECOGNITION – OCTOBER 2009 EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH, BUILDING SPECIALIST PAT DIDION**

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard presented Building Specialist Pat Didion with the October 2009 Employee of the Month award. Pat has worked for the city 18 years. In that time Pat has performed duties such as conservation, employee safety, building inspections, energy efficiency audits and painting electric transformers in the heat of the summer. Pat's latest accomplishment was working on a grant to bring in \$154,000 for lighting and a HVAC system for City Hall and windows and other improvements at Public Works and the Herb Saager Fire Station. On behalf of the Mayor and the other City Councilors, Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard presented Pat with a one-hundred dollar (\$100) check to show their appreciation.

**AWARD – CERTIFICATE OF ACHIEVEMENT FOR EXCELLENCE IN FINANCIAL REPORTING FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT- DAVE RICHMOND AND LUKE BILLINGS**

Manager Hall and Mayor Key, on behalf of the other councilors, presented Finance Director Dave Richmond and Accounting Supervisor Luke Billings with the prestigious award for the Comprehensive Annual Financial Report for fiscal year 2009. The award was given out by the Oregon Government Finance Officers Association and only a select number of applicants were chosen by the panel of judges. Manager Hall congratulated and commended Mr. Richmond, Ms. Billings and the Finance staff for all their hard work in producing the report.

Councilor Chesnut also thanked and commended Mr. Richmond and Ms. Billings for all their hard work in obtaining this recognized award.

**BUSINESS ITEMS:**

**RESOLUTION NO. 2149 TRANSFER FUNDS DUE TO UNFORESEEN REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**

Finance Director Dave Richmond reported during the budget process there were unforeseen circumstances that could not be budgeted for. He explained both items on the proposed resolution were transfers in the electric budget; one being the balance of the award from Bonneville Power Administration for the Loss Analysis and Reporting System (LARS) and the other was for Green Power sales.

Councilor Chesnut motioned to adopt Resolution No. 2149, Resolution to Transfer Funds Due to Unforeseen Revenues and Expenditures. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**CONSIDERATION OF REAPPOINTMENT OF MIKE SWINNERTON AS THE CITY'S REPRESENTATIVE FOR THE MILTON-FREEWATER AREA FOUNDATION BOARD**

Mayor Key explained the Milton-Freewater Area Foundation as being a non-profit foundation that people could and have donated to including entire estates. He gave a brief report of the investment statues and said the current value of the foundation was \$850,000. He said the foundation gave various \$1,000 scholarships out which could be designated by the person who donated the funds. There are board members that oversee the funds and process of scholarship recipients. Mayor Key recommended Mike Swinnerton to remain as the City's representative as he has shown an interest to continue as a board member.

Councilor Irving motion to approve the reappointment of Mike Swinnerton as the City's representative on the Milton-Freewater Area Foundation Board. Councilor Humbert seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

**OPPORTUNITY FOR CITIZENS TO APPROACH THE COUNCIL WITH ISSUES NOT ON THIS AGENDA**

Clarence Mader - 53525 Mader Lane, approached the council and suggested the City of Milton-Freewater and the city councilors look at adopting an ordinance that would help control the gangs in town. He said Pendleton, Oregon, Waitsburg, Burbank and Tri-Cities Washington and other large Oregon cities had adopted an ordinance that he knew of.

Manager Hall said she understood that Mr. Mader had spoken to a couple of councilors already and she checked with Police Chief Doug Boedigheimer which called the Pendleton Police Chief to find out if they had an ordinance that addressed this subject. There was no obvious ordinance that Pendleton had matching this issue.

Mr. Mader said he thought it was an amendment to their curfew ordinance.

Councilor Anliker thanked Mr. Mader for coming to the council meeting and said they would have to make sure an ordinance was legal that addressed gangs. He suggested Manager Hall do some research and check with the legal counsel as well.

Manager Hall said there had been some gang related incidents in Milton-Freewater in the past which our police department has and will continue to address. She said the police officers do approach suspicious people and investigate suspicious activity currently. She thanked Mr. Mader for coming and speaking to the council and said she would investigate the request and let him know if she learned anything helpful.

### **COUNCIL ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Councilor Chesnut reported he was invited to attend the Oregon Planning Institute Conference back in September as a panel member on one of the sessions discussing wind power siting. He wrote a report about the conference and classes he attended which he handed out to the other councilors and the city manager. He felt anytime a council member attended a conference or class that they should report what they learned. Councilor Chesnut also talked about the classes he attended while at the 2009 League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference held in Portland, Oregon. He listed the classes he attended as being; It's Not Easy Being Green, Economic Development for a Healthy Community, Innovations for Green Infrastructure, Resources for Alternative Revenue and Cool Decision Tools in Action. He said an item caught his eye at the trade show and that being a radar sign that recorded traffic speeds and generated data. He felt this could be a potential item for the city to look at in the future. He referred back to the Economic Development for a Healthy Community session and said a speaker, Tom Hogue of the Oregon Department of Land Conservation Development said the following statement during his portion of the presentation, "My friends in Milton-Freewater are doing it right, they're working on an intergovernmental agreement with Umatilla County regarding cooperation and decision making in an Urban Reserve area". Councilor Chesnut also noted in the handouts there was a map that listed industrial sites in Oregon and the Milton-Freewater south hill was listed and included on the map.

Councilor Irving said he was very appreciative of being able to attend the League of Oregon Cities conference again this year. He was unable to attend the Community Wellness in Tough Times session due to the class being full. He listed the other session he attended as being the Economic Development for a Healthy Community, Building Community Leaders from the Ground Up and Emergency Preparedness and Community Team Building. He had spoke to Manager Hall previously and suggested reviewing the emergency networking policy annually, which she agreed. He reported that State funded insurance program went into effect October 1, 2009 and said he was unsure of how that information would get delivered to people in need now that the Milton-Freewater branch of the Umatilla County Health Department was closed due to budget cuts. He also spoke about the H1N1 Swine Flu virus vaccination and listed who would be at most risk. The source was unknown but he reported there was going to be a more liberal use of gray water which would allow the water to be dumped on lawns for watering. He said he spoke to School Board member George Gillette about working together and trying to fill the youth positions on the city's various boards and committees. Mr. Gillette was very receptive and willing to work towards that goal. Copies of the application and a list of committees and board positions along with their meeting dates and times were given to Councilor Irving and Councilor Humbert who were also going to work towards filling the positions.

Councilor Humbert said there was a scheduled bomb training event hosted by the Oregon State Patrol on October 14, 2009 at 6:00 p.m. which police and fire personnel were invited to attend.

Councilor Hopkins-Hubbard thanked councilor Humbert for allowing the bomb training to be hosted at his place of employment.

Councilor Anliker said the City of Molalla received an award for providing a booklet that included all types of information and important phone numbers. They also listed it on their website. He suggested the City of Milton-Freewater doing something similar. One of the seminars he attended at the League of Oregon Cities showed examples of a porous pavement used for sidewalks, parking lots and were also used for swells. A discussion ensued on whether or not a product like that would work for the city and sustain our weather conditions.

Mayor Key reported that he went on a city tour of Gresham, Oregon while at the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference. He said they were collecting methane gas off their digester from their sewer plant which supplied 60% of their electric costs. They also have street water runoff that collects into several swells. The Boeing Company donated 17 acres to the City of Gresham which allows the water to run through channels back and forth for approximately 4 miles with native plants and by the end the water is clean enough to return to the Columbia River. Toyota won an award for their green building. They have 5 acres of roof that they collect water off of and use to water their lawn and flush toilets with. Their hallway is made up of recycled rubber and their break room chairs were made up of old auto body bumpers and parts.

### **MANAGER'S REPORT**

Manager Hall reported there had been an approved application for the Business Incentive Community Development Block Grant. El Sombrero Mexican Restaurant had applied for a loan through the grant program which would help create jobs. There were two recruitments that ended last week; one for the library and the other was for a utility worker. There were over 200 applications handed out for the utility worker position and there would be 12 people interviewed over a two day period. Interviews went well with the library position and a job offered had been presented to the top candidate. A project she has been working on and felt needed to be reviewed was the city's farm contract. A discussion ensued on several different options of how the contract should read. She contacted the City of Condon to find out how they contract or lease out their farm. The contract would have to remain in compliance with the permit the city had with the Department of Environmental Quality with regard to the reclaimed effluent. She received a phone call from Nathan Rea. He was raised in Milton-Freewater and his family has a farm locally. He now works for United States Representative Greg Walden. He said he understood Milton-Freewater was having some struggles with the Walla Walla River levee repair and floodplain maps. Mr. Rea said he had been briefed on a bill HR3415 which puts a moratorium on the adoption of the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) new floodplain maps if a community is working on or has a plan in place to repair the levee that would cause a change in the floodplain map. Manager Hall said she informed Dick Townsend, Project Manager for the Oregon Solutions Team about this bill.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:03 p.m. to an executive session pursuant to 192.660(2)(h) to consult with counsel concerning the legal rights and duties of a public body with regard to current litigation or litigation likely to be filed. The executive session ended at 8:27 p.m. at which time the meeting was adjourned to another executive session pursuant to 192.660(2)(d) to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the governing body to carry on labor negotiations. Also, pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(4), representatives of the news media shall not be allowed to attend.

The meeting was returned to open session at 9:00 p.m., there were no citizens present.

Councilor Humbert motioned to ratify the Public Works Employees contract as presented. Councilor Chesnut seconded the motion which passed unanimously.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 9:03 p.m.

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Lewis S. Key, Mayor  
J. Orrin Lyon, Council President