

City of Mt. Angel
City Council Meeting Minutes

CITY COUNCIL

September 6, 2016

7:00 PM

The Mt. Angel City Council met in a regular session in the Community Meeting Room, 290 E. Charles Street, Mt. Angel, Oregon.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:** The regular session of the City Council was called to order at 7:25 p.m. by Mayor Otte.
2. **FLAG SALUTE:** Mayor Otte led the salute to the flag.
3. **ROLL CALL:**

COUNCIL

Andrew Otte, Mayor
Kelly Grassman, Council President
Darren Beyer, Councilor
Ray Eder, Councilor
Don Fleck, Councilor
Pete Wall, Councilor
Karl Bischoff, Councilor

STAFF

Mike Healy, Interim City Manager/Police Chief
Justin Hogue, Assistant to the City Manager
Dan Bernt, Public Works Superintendent
Carrie Alexandria Caster, Library Director

4. **PRESENTATIONS, GUESTS, AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

Matthew Cofer from Republic Services appeared before the Council. Councilor Bischoff recused himself from the discussion and any vote as he is employed by Republic Services. Mr. Cofer explained that Marion County increased the disposal rate by 30%. Marion County is a flow controlled County meaning all waste generated in the County is required to be disposed of within the County. He explained the County Commissioners' reasoning for deciding to increase the disposal rate. There was a 2 million dollar shortfall in the departmental budget as operational costs increased and other revenue generating activities associated with solid waste disposal became significantly less lucrative than in the past and could no longer supplement the budget, all of which led to a decision to implement a significant rate increase. Mr. Cofer respectfully requested that the Council consider an 11.8% disposal rate increase, which is a pass through expense to Republic Services customers, to compensate for the increase. Councilor Grassman asked him to explain the cost increases provided in the packet. Mr. Cofer explained what the increases meant to various types of customers. Councilor Eder asked what might happen if the Council did not approve a resolution to allow such an increase. Mr. Cofer said he would inform Republic Services of Mt. Angel's decision and approach the Council yet again about the proposed increase. Councilor Wall pointed out that a resolution would need to be prepared before the Council could take action. The Council instructed staff to prepare a resolution for the rate increase effective October 1, 2016 to be presented at the October Council meeting.

Mayor Otte asked where the disposal boxes would be for the annual clean up. Mr. Cofer said they will be placing the boxes up at the Legion Hall for the community.

5. APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS:

None

6. REVIEW CORRESPONDENCE:

A letter was received from Father Bernard Youth Center thanking the Council for their support and the City's assistance with the sidewalk project at the Youth Center Retreat House.

7. REVIEW WRITTEN STAFF REPORTS:

Councilor Grassman stated she was glad that the soccer field at Ebner Park is being used. Mayor Otte said that the middle school principal had shared with him that the middle school soccer team did not have a location for the team to play. Mayor Otte suggested they contact City Hall to see if the field at Ebner Park was available. He is glad that the team would be able to use the field and pleased with how promptly staff handled the request.

Councilor Fleck asked about the new brewery at the Abbey. He wanted to know if it would significantly impact the wastewater treatment plant. Public Works Superintendent Bernt said that they are waiting for the specifications on the new brewery, but that he did not expect a significant impact on the wastewater treatment plant. He explained that pretreatment will take place similar to what Pepsi does before it enters the system and that it appears the brewery intends discard the majority of the product waste by hauling it away.

Councilor Beyer asked Public Works Superintendent Bernt to give him a refresher on the smoke testing. He was concerned that extensive repairs would need to be made and wondered if there will be a need to budget for a significant repair project. Public Works Superintendent Bernt explained that there was smoke that leaked through during the tests and they are awaiting the final report. The Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) provides a window of time to address any significant problems within the system from the time the report is received to following calendar year, allowing for an additional year to remedy system deficiencies. Public Works Superintendent Bernt suggested that the infiltration and inflow (I & I) funds could be used to address the lines found to be inadequate. This is only for the public portion of the system and there is not a lot that can be done for private lines at this time. The City is making an honest effort to address the deficient lines through contacting private property owners about issues. Additional measures the City has taken such as increasing the I & I budget are considered by DEQ to be an adequate response to amend deficiencies in the wastewater system.

Councilor Grassman thanked Public Works for cleaning up the nature play area at Ebner Park. It looks nice and citizens have been mentioning to her that they appreciated the effort.

8. REVIEW ACCOUNTS PAYABLE:

No comments on Accounts Payable

9. CONSENT AGENDA:

- a. **Approve City Council Regular Meeting Minutes for August 1, 2016**
- b. **Approve City Council Special Meeting Minutes for August 9, 2016**

Councilor Beyer moved to approve the consent agenda. Councilor Wall seconded.

Beyer:	AYE	Otte:	AYE
Bischoff:	AYE	Grassman:	AYE
Eder:	AYE	Wall:	AYE
Fleck:	AYE		

The motion passed unanimously.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

a. Street Light and Stormwater Fees for Out-of-city Utility Customers

Assistant to the City Manager Hogue provided and explained the information that was requested in the special meeting, addressing a letter the Mayor received from a concerned citizen about the addition of the streetlight and stormwater fees on their utility bill. The letter asked the Council to consider whether these charges are appropriate, as their property lies outside of City limits and there is a City easement and stormline crossing their property. Some discussion took place about the mutual benefit of streetlights to all. Councilor Grassman asked if they could consider granting an exemption for this one customer. Interim City Manager Healy asked the Council if they would like him to confer with the City Attorney and see if there would be any reason the Council could not or should not grant an exemption for the stormwater fee to customers on a case by case basis.

11. NEW BUSINESS:

a. Street light request from Public Works

Public Works Superintendent Bernt presented a request from a citizen to place an additional streetlight on S. Oak Street. He did an assessment of the placement of the streetlights on S. Oak and of those in the direct vicinity and concluded the spacing on S. Oak is no less than on any of the other streets. Public Works Superintendent Bernt said that the citizen has frequently approached Public Works with this request, which is why he has now brought it to the Council. After reviewing the diagram and some discussion, the Council decided by consensus not to place an additional streetlight at that location and retain the current spacing of streetlights.

b. Discussion of Future Agenda Items

The Council reviewed future agenda items with Interim City Manager Healy. Mayor Otte asked to schedule the repeal of the marijuana city tax ordinance for the October Council meeting.

Mayor Otte asked for input on another joint work session with the Planning Commission to update the Development Code. There was consensus upon holding a joint workshop with the Planning Commission separate from a regularly scheduled Council meeting. They asked that a workshop be scheduled on September 27, 2016 and that Angelo Planning Group and the Planning Commission be invited to attend.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT:

Interim City Manager Healy stated that City staff will send out final notices to those who have not provided the City with updated water account applications. City Staff will be offering customers assistance in filling out the application forms at the front desk. City Hall Day is being held in Lebanon this year and the Council is invited to attend the event. Interim City Manager Healy reported that the City Hall staff have scheduled a training on a new Caselle module.

12. COUNCILOR/COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Councilor Grassman said that the dance troupe rehearsal for Oktoberfest will be held in front of the gazebo. She invited the Council and citizens to come watch.

Mayor Otte stated that Council President Grassman will be speaking at the Opening Ceremonies for Oktoberfest.

Councilor Bischoff said that he received a citizen complain about squatters in vacant homes and he wanted to know if and how the City might address it. Interim City Manager Healy said that he has attempted to address the squatter issue since he began working for the City. Staff has contacted the mortgage companies about foreclosing on the property, but the companies are refusing to touch such situations because of new laws passed during the recession regarding mortgages and arduous steps now involved in completing a foreclosure. Several strategies were discussed. Mayor Otte mentioned that he spoke to the same complainant and they are concerned about tires being collected and stored on the property. Interim City Manager Healy said the difficulty arises in there not being a property owner to hold responsible, but he would investigate options. Councilor Grassman asked if the City could buy the properties in order to resolve the situation. Interim City Manager said that option has never been proposed, he would check into the ability of the City to take that action and report back to the Council after exploring the option further.

Councilor Eder said that he will be unable to participate in the interview of another City Manager candidate tomorrow night. Interim City Manager Healy shared the updated interview schedule for the following day.

14. MAYOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Otte brought back information on having an advisory student member of the Council. The Mayor visited with the School District Superintendent who was very supportive of the idea. The Mayor recommended having the high school principal pick the student this year and then prepare a formal application process for the spring. Councilor Wall reported that the School District has started a new strategic planning process, he is a non-educator public member of the team. He believes that may provide a way for the student to participate. Councilor Bischoff asked if a resolution was necessary to make this official.

Councilor Grassman made a motion to bring a student member onto the City Council in an advisory role to serve during the school year and award a \$500 scholarship to the student member for their service. Councilor Eder seconded.

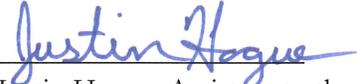
Beyer:	AYE	Otte:	AYE
Bischoff:	AYE	Grassman:	AYE
Eder:	AYE	Wall:	AYE
Fleck:	AYE		

The motion passed unanimously.

15. ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Otte adjourned the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by:


Justin Hogue, Assistant to the City Manager

Attested by:


Andrew Otte, Mayor