

Siletz City Council
Work Session
Monday, February 12, 2024
Siletz City Hall

Present: Mayor Worman, T. Retasket, S. Trachsel, W. Smith, J. Whitehead
Staff: City Recorder B. Chestler, Public Works Lead D. Viar

1. Call Meeting to Order and Establish a Quorum

Mayor Worman called the meeting to order and established a quorum.

2. Lease Agreement Between the City of Siletz and the Siletz Valley Rural Fire Protection District (SVRFPD)

The council reviewed and discussed the draft of a lease agreement between the City of Siletz and the Siletz Valley Rural Fire Protection District. The conversation included clarifications from previous versions of the document, modifications based on attorney recommendations, costing details surrounding attorney fees, and minor questions about specific lease terms, such as the buildings' return conditions and duration terms of the lease. The importance of establishing clear responsibilities for maintenance and upkeep was also highlighted.

It was noted that the SVRFPD had not yet presented the draft to their board and planned to do so shortly after the discussion. The discussion concluded with the council seeming content with the current state of the agreement.

3. Surplus Property

A discussion took place about surplus property items. It was addressed that there is a resolution stating the rationale for disposing of surplus items, allowing for the sale or destruction of items based on low value or if they go unsold.

4. Siletz Tribal Charitable Contribution Fund Report

The council received a briefing on the completion of final reports submitted to the Tribe concerning the use of the charitable contribution funds. These funds had been historically applied towards community events and initiatives. Councilor Retasket also mentioned future grant requests planned by the city, potentially integrating movies and concerts, while addressing challenges surrounding licensing and costs.

5. Budget Considerations

The City Council deliberated on various fiscal wishes and potential budget considerations. These included transparency in budget reporting to aid in allocation comprehension, planning for potential emergencies, maintaining an annual acknowledgment event for city appreciation, adequate staff

training, saving for replacing aging vehicles, and other significant purchase items like accounting software.

The council mentioned the idea of having potential funding for emergency preparedness and law enforcement capabilities within the city. It was highlighted that currently there is no provision for an adequate emergency communication system such as a satellite phone.

6. Mill Park/Green Thumb Park Updates

The council was apprised of the ongoing developments at Mill Park, with engineering studies having been conducted, assessing the stability and potential structural options for the location. Alterations to the original plan were presented, focusing on adjusting the park's layout to ensure long-term stability and usability within the confines of geological and legal restrictions.

Mention was also made of the developments and continuing work at The Log and the anticipated determination of city ownership regarding land use and its subsequent impact on park projects.

7. Rate Study Engagement

City Recorder Chestler informed council that the city had successfully engaged with Donovan Enterprises for a rate study after some complexity with previous agencies. The study's scope includes water and sewer rate assessments, and the work is anticipated to commence shortly, with conclusions drawn before the end of May.

8. Policing and Community Safety Concerns

An extensive discussion arose regarding concerns over law enforcement coverage and response within City limits and surrounding areas. It was revealed that community members are seeking more proactivity and engagement from the Sheriff's department and exploring the possibilities of revising the current contract with opportunities for amendments. The need for a forum where citizens can present their law enforcement concerns was expressed, along with an emphasis on the collaboration between the city and tax districts for better policing solutions and oversight.


There was dialog surrounding traffic safety and property issues affecting community well-being. This included a scene whereby vehicles on Swan Avenue posed a hazard, and a local property garnered community backlash due to substance use-associated problems. The council considered possibilities for addressing such concerns more effectively.

10. Open Session Actions

The council may have convened into an Open Session during the work session meeting to take action on any of the discussed topics in accordance with Oregon Public Meetings Laws.

11. Adjournment

Trachsel moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:50 PM.



Mayor Will Worman

ATTEST:

Makenzee Goodell
Recording Secretary Makenzee Goodell