

City of Siletz
Work Session
Monday, March 11, 2024, 5:30 PM
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. Mayor Worman called the meeting to order and established a quorum.
2. Mill Park aka Green Thumb Park - Site Concept and Updates on Geotechnical Work - Oregon State Marine Board - Janine Belleque

Representatives from the Oregon State Marine Board discussed the progress and findings related to Mill Park's development. They covered the conducted hydraulic analysis, geotech reports, and the consultation with the Confederated Tribes of the Siletz. The geotechnical report indicated constraints for vehicle parking due to an underlying historical slide, suggesting potential site changes to stabilize the area. The plan includes a more refined upper bench, parking, picnicking areas in the middle bench, and a boat ramp with ADA accessibility at the lower bench. Funding options and community involvement were highlighted, with a strong emphasis on partnerships to support the project.

3. Utilities Rate Study Kickoff Meeting – Donovan Enterprises, Inc.

A comprehensive presentation was given that outlined a rate study plan for sewer and water utilities. The study considered infrastructure, operational costs, and projected a significant increase in sewer rates due to upcoming major project expenses. Strategies to manage rate increases through phased implementation were discussed. It was recommended that the City pursue additional grants and funding sources, such as a Clean Water State Revolving Loan Fund, potentially with principal forgiveness, and other community development grants to mitigate the financial impact on residents.

4. South Valley/Mid Coast Region - Regional Solutions Advisory Committee Report - Wastewater Treatment Plant Upgrade

Discussion occurred regarding funding for the wastewater treatment plant upgrade, specifically the \$3 million funding allocated through the state. The process and urgency of using the grant to avoid the need to return it and the pathways for other potential grant applications were discussed. There was an emphasis on the importance of updating the master plan to be eligible for the funding applications to the Department of Environmental Quality.

5. Re-establishing Planning Commission

There was considerable discussion weighing the pros and cons of re-establishing a planning commission versus creating a round table or community development committee for the purpose of city planning and visioning strategies. The consensus leaned towards starting with a less formal

committee that could engage broader community input and organize ideas for city development before moving towards a formal planning commission. It was noted that a planning commission would require substantial training and might lead to increased risk of litigation which could be mitigated with proper structure and oversight. The City Council agreed upon starting a community development committee as opposed to a formal planning commission, with the intent to gather community input and guide development strategies. The details of the committee, including its name and functions, were to be decided in an upcoming meeting.

6. LOC - Upcoming Training - Community Visioning and Strategic Planning

A training event by the League of Oregon Cities was presented, taking place on April 2nd, which might provide valuable insight into community visioning and strategic planning. Discussion was held regarding the potential benefit of attending the training for staff members, although it was noted that available dates might pose a challenge for scheduling. The City Council desires to have staff attend the LOC training on community visioning and strategic planning to gather insights that could benefit the city's development endeavors.

7. The City Council may convene into an Open Session and act on any of the above work session agenda items in accordance with Oregon Public Meetings Laws

The City Council convened into an open session at 7:40 PM.

Mayor Worman called the meeting to order. Roll was called.

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Staff: City Recorder B. Chestler, Public Works Lead D. Viar

1. The Siletz Valley Friends of the Library requested the City's endorsement for the continuation of a local option levy supporting the Lincoln County Library District. The levy, specifically Measure 21-222, would maintain the current tax without any increase.

Motion 1: Retasket moved to support and sign Measure 21-222 on behalf of the city. Smith seconded the motion.

Mayor Worman declared it was moved and seconded and called for discussion. There was none.

Vote: Motion 1 passed

Ayes: All were in favor

The decision was made in the reconvened open session of the city council with all council members present, and no opposition was noted.

