

**City of Condon
Regular Council Meeting Minutes
January 6, 2016
7 p.m.**

Present:	Staff Present:
Mayor Jim Hassing Councilor Donald Jamieson Councilor Michael Cronk Councilor Jan Stinchfield Councilor Tom Fatland	Kathryn Greiner, City Administrator Dale Scobert, Police Chief

Absent:
Councilor Terri Carnine Councilor Boyd Harris

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jim Hassing called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

City Administrator Kathryn Greiner took roll call and noted that a quorum was present.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Hassing asked for a moment of silence in regards to recent shooting in California.

ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

Mayor Hassing added Main Street Project request from Mike Avent.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

CONSENT AGENDA

A motion was made by Councilor Tom Fatland to approve the Regular minutes of the December 2, 2015 council meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Donald Jamieson and approved unanimously.

Councilor Tom Fatland asked about the VISA charges of Northern Tool and Medical Supply with CA Greiner stating that they were from the wet well equipment and AED machine respectively.

Councilor Jamieson asked the VISA charge to Costco and CA Greiner said that it was for some shop lights for the wet well cleaning project.

OLD BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Hassing presented his Annual report. There were no questions.

Sherman County Commissioner and Frontier Telenet (FT) board member Mike Smith, was present to discuss Sherman County's fiber project. Smith said that after years of attempting to get an Internet Service Provider (ISP) to Sherman County they formed a partnership with Windwave and FT to provide internet access for residents. This partnership, with \$1.4 million of Sherman County funds a \$900,000 from the state of Oregon are laying fiber from Arlington west to Wasco and will eventually go through Moro and Grass Valley. Smith stated that this is a major economic driver for Sherman County and they were able to control the fiber costs through agreements with Windwave. Councilor Jamieson asked if the fiber line was open for anyone to purchase fiber and Smith replied that it was open and accessible to purchase fiber by other companies. Councilor Stinchfield asked if Sherman County owned the fiber and Smith replied that Windwave owned it as the maintenance costs were too expensive, but they have 10 gigs of fiber for laying the line at a fixed cost over a 20 year period. Councilor Jamieson asked for information on Windwave company since he was unable to find much information on their website. Smith stated that Windwave is a non-profit and he will get the council the members of their board of directors. Smith said that fiber lines had a line expectancy of 20-40 years and they were laying a 96 strand fiber through Sherman County. Councilor Stinchfield asked if Sherman County was going to be able to get fiber to the residents and Smith stated that they will get it to a hub in the cities then an ISP will be the party to get it to residents and they are currently in discussion with Gorgenet. Councilor Jamieson stated that he would like to see competition between companies to control costs and Smith stated that ISPs will have the option to purchase from Sherman County, Frontier Telenet and Windwave, and he said they were encouraging competition. Councilor Fatland asked if Sherman County used a telecommunications attorney to work through the agreements and Smith said that they were doing it themselves, but did say that they used legal counsel. Councilor Stinchfield asked who the partners were and listed off the three counties and North Central Education Service District (NCESD), but Smith said that NCESD has withdrawn and it is now just the three counties that comprise FT. Smith stated that if they do not get the fiber to Condon it could be a threat to the 911 call center in Condon. He added that the counties and FT had fallen far behind and when asked by Councilor Jamieson why we were so far behind Smith said that it was because nothing was done until four years ago. Councilor Stinchfield asked Smith for clarification of the letter received by Rob Myers, General Manager of FT stating that FT would sell bandwidth to any ISP or other entity "not otherwise in direction competition with Frontier Telenet" when Smith stated earlier in the conversation that they encouraged competition. Smith replied he did not know why Myers wrote that in the letter. Gilliam County Judge Steve Shaffer said that Gilliam County would also be getting 10 gigs for local government if they follow the same agreement as Sherman County, and other fiber could be purchased by Windwave, Gilliam County or FT. Shaffer also added that e-rate (for providing bandwidth to schools), 911 and Emergency Medical Services funds were funneled into FT to build the microwave system. He cautioned the council to be careful of another provider brought in to provide fiber as it would jeopardize the 911 call center's existence in Condon. He added that

the State of Oregon is pushing for one 911 call center in Bend instead of the regional centers, Mayor Hassing asked how long would it take for FT or the county to bring the fiber line to Condon. Shaffer stated it would take up to 3 years, but if Gilliam County received the approximate \$1.9 million anticipated to cover the costs of the fiber from Arlington to Condon, it would take less time. Shaffer added that they are looking to run the fiber along county roads. Smith stated that the state funds for the Sherman project were secured through their Economic Development District and since Condon is another economic development district they are not in line for the state funds at this time. Smith ended the discussion stating that Sherman County has been “pioneers” in creating this model for the other two counties. The council thanked him for the information.

The council received three Requests for Proposals for municipal attorney services from Baum Smith of La Grande, Ray Sumners of Madras and Bryant, Lovlien & Jarvis, P.C. that the Finance Committee reviewed earlier in the day. CA Greiner stated that all had the qualifications and solid references. The Finance Committee reviewed then recommended the council accept the RFP for Baum Smith of La Grande. **A motion was made by Councilor Jamieson to approve the Finance Committee’s recommendation to accept the RFP of legal services of Baum Smith. The motion was seconded by Councilor Fatland and approved unanimously.**

Mayor Hassing appointed the members of the council to the same committees as the previous year; appointed Jay LaRue, Rhonda Shaffer and Dennis Bruneau for two years of the budget committee; designated The Times-Journal and East Oregonian as newspapers of record; designated Bank of Eastern Oregon and State of Oregon Local Government Investment Pool as the city’s depositories; and designated David Wildman of Anderson, Perry & Associates as the city’s engineer of record.

A motion was made by Councilor Stinchfield to approve the city budget calendar for the 2016-17 budget. The motion was seconded by Councilor Jamieson and approved unanimously.

The council agreed to set the annual council retreat for Wednesday, Jan. 13, 5 p.m. at City Hall. CA Greiner stated that RS Davis Recycling wanted to revise their contract to be in sync with metal prices. She will work with the new attorney to draft up a new contract. CA Greiner also informed the council that the farming lease of John Johnson was automatically renewed.

John Anderson of Wheatland Insurance provided an email to the council asking to provide services as agent of record for the City. CA Greiner stated that Jay LaRue Insurance is the current provider and the council agreed to stay with LaRue.

Mike Avent provided a quote in regards to the property at 109 N. Main Street for the Main Street Project grant in the amount of \$160,900. The council asked that CA Greiner get a better breakdown of the costs of the project, remind Avent that this is on a reimbursement basis and that roofing is not included in the grant. CA Greiner will request the information for either the retreat or the February council meeting, plus update the spreadsheet of the funds available.

STAFF REPORTS

Police Chief Scobert reported that New Year’s Eve was quiet in Condon and had no issues. He also stated that he will be attending the Law Enforcement Executive Training in Seaside all next week.

CA Greiner said that Larry Durfey had ordered the generator for city farm. It will require wiring and a concrete pad to be poured. She said that there seems to be a question regarding the Master Plan grants that were applied for and has a conference call the next day to determine if they are still eligible. Most of the other issues will be discussed at the council retreat.

COUNCILOR INFORMATION

The council received financial statements for July 1 – December 31, 2016 and the Public Works committee notes from December 14, 2015.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING

The next regularly scheduled city council meeting set for Wednesday, February 3, 2016, 7 p.m. The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

_____ Date _____
Jim Hassing, Mayor

ATTEST:

_____ Date _____
Kathryn Greiner, City Administrator