



HERMISTON CITY COUNCIL

180 NE 2nd Street – Hermiston, OR 97838

Regular Meeting

January 25th, 2016

A G E N D A

COUNCIL/CITY MANAGER WORK SESSION-6:00PM
City Budgeting 101

1. CALL MEETING TO ORDER– 7:00 pm
2. DECLARATION OF QUORUM
3. FLAG SALUTE
4. PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITIONS
5. CITIZEN INPUT ON NON-AGENDA ITEMS (Anyone wishing to bring anything before the council that is not on the agenda is asked to please do the following: 1. Limit discussion to not more than FIVE minutes; 2. State your name and address; 3. Direct your comments to the Mayor.)

6. CONSENT AGENDA

A. December Expenditures

Bonded Debt	41,975.00	Energy Services	623,755.04
General	723,945.07	Regional Water	36,072.68
State Tax Street	108,213.62	EOTEC Construction Fund	494,975.93
Transient Room Tax	3,122.33	Law Enforcement Special Revenue	17,117.26
Utility	333,271.12	Library Special Revenue	2,653.69
Recreation Special Revenue	0.00	2014 Water & Sewer Bonds	2,841.87
Reserve	1,118,484.89	Senior Center Construction Fund	3,750.00
Municipal Court	17,451.32	HURA Fund	1,023.00
Miscellaneous Special Revenue	5,051.78	TOTAL	3,549,303.48
Conference Center	15,598.88		

- B. Minutes of the January 11th, work session and regular City Council meeting.
- C. Minutes of the October 29th, Community Enhancement Committee meeting.
- D. Minutes of the November 12th, Parks and Recreation Committee meeting.
- E. Minutes of the November 16th, Hispanic Advisory Committee meeting.
- F. Minutes of the December 14th, Community Livability Oversight Committee meeting.

G. Approve annual report for Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency

Action – Motion to approve consent agenda items.

Roll Call

7. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA

8. PUBLIC HEARINGS

9. RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES

10. OTHER

- A) Amend contract with C&E Trenching to perform additional work to upgrade the Regional Water System pumping capacity and construct a flushing system.

Motion to approve. Roll Call

11. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- A) City Committees and Liaison: Airport Advisory, Budget, Hispanic Advisory, Library Board, Parks & Recreation, Planning Commission, Recreation Projects Fund, Faith-Based Advisory Committee, Community Enhancement Committee, Public Safety Committee, Public Infrastructure Committee.

B) Mayor’s Report –

C) Council Report –

D) Manager’s Report –

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

- A) An Executive Session will convene pursuant to ORS 192.660 (1) (e) which allows the Council to meet in Executive Session to conduct deliberations with persons designated by the Council to negotiate real property transactions.
Call Recess.

UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS		
At City Hall unless otherwise specified		
Jan 25	6:00 pm	City Council Work Session
Jan 25	7:00pm	City Council Meeting
Jan 27	4:00pm	Library Board Meeting (Library)
Jan 29	7:00 <u>am</u>	EOTEC Meeting (Stafford Hansell Government Center)
Feb 2	4:00pm	Faith-Based Advisory Committee Meeting
Feb 3	4:00pm	Airport Advisory Committee Meeting
Feb 8	12:00pm	Community Livability Oversight Committee (Umatilla Electric Co. Conference Room)
Feb 8	6:00 pm	City Council Work Session
Feb 8	7:00pm	City Council Meeting
Feb 10	7:00 pm	Planning Commission Meeting
Feb 11	5:30pm	Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
Feb 15		PRESIDENTS DAY
Feb 16	7:00 pm	Hispanic Advisory Committee Meeting

13. RECONVENE

- A) Consider purchasing property as discussed in Executive Session.

Motion to approve. Roll Call

14. ADJOURNMENT

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Work Session

January 11th, 2016

Mayor Dave Drotzmann called the work session meeting to order at 6:00 pm. Present were Councilors Myers, Gutierrez, Primmer, Hardin (arrived 6:10pm), Kirwan, Davis, Beas-Fitzgerald, and Smith. Staff members in attendance were City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Gary Luisi (arrived 6:01pm), Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Bill Schmittle, Roy Bicknell, Larry Fetter, Dan Earp, and Lilly Alarcon-Strong. News media present was Michael Kane of Northeast Oregon Now.

Budget Preview

City Manager Smith stated the City will be presenting a work session on the City Budget before the Regular City Budget Meeting in May. The presentation will include potential changes and different ideas regarding the upcoming budget to gain input from the Council.

Parks and Recreation

Utility Mowing- Parks and Recreation Director Larry Fetter stated utility mowing has been a discussion between the Parks & Rec, Water and Recycled Water Departments for a couple of years. Currently the pump and lift stations throughout the City are being maintained through an outside contract with maintenance standards declining. The idea is to have the Parks & Recreation Dept. take over the landscaping aspects of all of these areas, as they already provide this service for parks throughout the City. Mr. Fetter stated allowing the Parks & Rec. dept. to take over the mowing contract will elevate the level of service to these areas and enhance the appearance of the neighborhoods these stations are located within. Financially, taking over all of these areas will cost the Parks and Recreation Dept. an estimated \$20,000 to \$25,000 per year to purchase additional equipment and add two seasonal, six month employees.

Composting Program- Mr. Fetter stated he and Recycled Water Superintendent Bill Schmittle have been working on a composting program that would be located near the Recycled Water Plant. The conceptual plan would be to remove the poplar trees located next to the Plant and convert part of this space into a composting area that would allow for public (commercial and residential) access, a couple times a week for about five months of the year. All organic waste will be accepted, and although composting is an involved process, it would be beneficial for the City and environment, as re-composting materials can be given back to the community and be used by the City as well. During the well-attended Community Recycling Event, many participants brought in items to be chipped, Code Enforcement respondents would also benefit from this service. Although the City does have free yard debris permits, this program would allow yard debris items to be chipped and reused, either sold or given away, instead of being taken to the landfill.

Mayor Drotzmann stated the tree farm near the Plant at one point had a purpose, does it no longer have a purpose.

Mr. Fetter and Mr. Schmittle both stated the good trees have been removed and the only items remaining are poplar trees, which are too mature to transplant. New trees would be planted to have a visible buffer between the road and the composting area.

Mr. Fetter stated the area by the Recycled Water Plant, could also have a water access point for a water trail program to include Riverfront Park for river rafters, inner-tubers, etc. The water trail would be

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about 1 ½ miles. Before continuing with this plan, the City will meet with: The tribes, ODFW, adjacent property owners, etc. Grants are available for this water access idea.

Mr. Fetter stated Stanfield has a composting site and they are willing to help with research and information. An industrial wood chipper would need to be purchased at about \$45,000, with a life span of 15 years. Potential partners for this program could be UEC, the County, and School District.

City Manager Smith stated the City recently participated in a Pilot Curbside Recycle Program that did not have a lot of support, but one of the big components of waste that can be pulled out is green waste, it can then be reused within the community.

Mr. Fetter stated the Parks Department purchases about \$2,000 of bark a year, having this system will supplement this cost, as well as being able to use more bark throughout the City. The Christmas tree recycling event could also be moved to this site.

Councilor Kirwan asked if information has been gathered from the EPA regarding the Composting Program, especially being so close to the river. Mr. Fetter stated no, the presentation tonight is to form a consensus from the Council on whether or not to move forward before investing more staff time and resources with these programs.

Family Aquatic Center- Mr. Fetter reminded the Council about the tour they took at the Family Aquatic Center and the needed repairs to the facility, to include: a new solar panel pump system at the cost of \$50,000, with no annual utility costs. This system will last about 15 years. To replace the current system with its equivalent costs \$20,000 with annual utility costs of \$18,000. With ongoing repairs, this system has lasted about 12 years. Replacing the corroded tile around the multi-family pool with a concrete lip is another needed project that will cost about \$40,000.

After some discussion from the Council, there was a clear consensus to allow Mr. Fetter to move forward with more in-depth research regarding utility mowing, composting program, solar panel pump system replacement, and the repairs for the family pool area.

(Mr. Fetter and Mr. Dan Earp exited the meeting 6:30pm)

Public Transit

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated the concept being presented tonight is to get the Councils thoughts and ideas about what the City has been working on, and whether or not to move forward with this project. Like Mr. Fetter's presentation, there will be some questions without answers, but depending on what direction the Council wants to take, these questions will be researched and brought before the Council again.

To enhance the public transportation system, the City has been working on supplementing the current taxi system with a Dial-A-Ride System. Currently, the City offers an immediate response system, where participants buy taxi tickets for \$2.00 and can call the taxi company to pick them up fairly quickly, with the City supplementing the taxi company an additional \$4.15 for a total of \$6.15 per one-way trip. Dial-A-Ride participants would buy their program tickets for \$1.00 each, call Dial-A-Ride at least 24 hours in

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advance to schedule where they would like to go, and the City would supplement the ride at \$3.00 for a total of \$4.00 per one-way ride.

Assistant City Manager Morgan stated one of the biggest reasons the City is looking into supplementing the taxi program is because many participants complain that it takes the taxi's too long to be picked up for a ride. 43% of participants are using the taxi program from 12:00pm to 5:00pm, and 23% from 8:00am to 12:00pm, therefore 2/3 of participants want to use taxi services from 8:00am to 5:00pm, which is causing some issues. With 30,000 taxi trips per year, and the population of Hermiston growing, this is causing back-ups with the taxi service. Having another option for residents to use, like Dial-A-Ride, will alleviate many complaints, while still providing exceptional service, and save money to the participants, as well as the City taxpayers.

Assistant City Manager Morgan stated if the Council chooses to move forward with this program, he would suggest the City purchase a 16-18 passenger, wheelchair accessible bus. In conversations with JD Tovey, the Planning Director for the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, they are potentially interested in running the program for the City. The City usually has costs of \$2,500 per month to operate the taxi ticket program. Since terminating the contract of one of the taxi companies, the City has had costs of \$1,600 per month as the terminated taxi company continues to offer rides at \$2.00. Although the City has currently saved about \$30,000 to \$35,000, this is not a long term savings scenario for the participants or for the City. Assistant City Manager Morgan suggested the City take the \$35,000 in savings to place towards a bus for the Dial-A-Ride Program and apply for additional grant funding to cover the rest of the potential \$100,000 cost it would be to purchase the bus. There are also Federal Grant opportunities that could help cover over 50% of the operational costs of this system.

Mayor Drotzmann asked if Dial-A-Ride would only be available for seniors and disabled residents.

Assistant City Manager Morgan stated the figures provided above are all based on seniors and disabled residents, it is difficult to say if other individuals will be able to Dial-A-Ride and if so, at what price, as this all depends on the grant funding that the City ends up receiving.

CTUIR Planning Director JD Tovey stated this program would coordinate with the programs CTUIR currently operates and would help boost participants in both areas going both directions. There are many grants the City can apply and qualify for and he would be more than happy to help get this program online, as well as receiving help from Region 5 ODOT Transit Coordinator Laura Slayter.

Assistant City Manager Morgan stated this is another reason he feels partnering with CTUIR will be beneficial for the City and its residents.

After some discussion, Mayor Drotzmann stated the Council would like City staff to continue its research regarding the Dial-A-Ride program and present the information back to the Council at a later date.

Mayor Drotzmann ended the work session at 7:00 pm and immediately convened the regular City Council meeting.

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Regular Meeting

January 11th, 2016

Mayor Dave Drotzmann called the regular meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Present were Councilors Myers, Gutierrez, Primmer, Hardin, Kirwan, Davis, Beas-Fitzgerald, and Smith. Staff members in attendance were City Manager Byron Smith, City Attorney Gary Luisi, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Chief Edmiston, Bill Schmittle, Roy Bicknell, and Lilly Alarcon-Strong. News media present was Michael Kane of Northeast Oregon Now. The pledge of allegiance was given.

Consent Items

Councilor Primmer moved and Councilor Davis seconded to approve all Consent Agenda items, to include:

1. Minutes of the December 28th, regular City Council meeting.
2. Minutes of the December 2nd, Airport Advisory Committee meeting.

Motion carried unanimously.

Council Report

Councilor Primmer stated the Hermiston High School Marching Band traveled to San Diego, California to perform and congratulated them for representing Hermiston well and receiving many awards.

Managers Report

City Manager Smith stated the City Council has been invited to the County Fair Dinner at Thompson Hall on Saturday, January 30th at 6:00pm; please RSVP with Executive Assistant Lilly Alarcon-Strong.

City Manager Smith asked the Council what Saturday in January or February work best to have the Goal Setting meeting for the future growth of Hermiston. After some discussion, Mayor Drotzmann suggested a Doodle Poll be sent to choose a date.

Adjournment

There was no other business, and the meeting was adjourned at 7:08 pm.

SIGNED:

/s/ David Drotzmann

MAYOR

ATTEST:

/s/Lilly Alarcon-Strong

ASSISTANT CITY RECORDER

Community Enhancement Committee

Committee Meeting

Date: 10/29/15

Time: 5:00 p.m.

Location: City of Hermiston, Council Chambers

Committee Members in attendance:

- Karen Zacharias

City Council Liaisons

- David Drotzmann, Mayor
- Jackie Myers, Councilor

Committee Members Excused:

- Billie Jean Morris
- Debbie Pedro
- Phillip Spicerkuhn

City Staff in attendance:

- Mark Morgan, Asst. City Mgr
 - Larry Fetter, Parks & Rec. Dir.
-

1. Call to order: Mayor Drotzmann

2. Public Comment: None.

3. Old Business:

- Approve Minutes of 9/16/15- Postponed due to lack of quorum.
- Public Art Plan- Mark Morgan stated that the City Council had unanimously re-affirmed it's desire for the CEC to develop a Public Art Plan on Oct. 26. He stated that the City has applied for a \$4,500 Arts Builds Communities grant, which would also require a \$4,500 match from the City if awarded. The review of these grants will take place November 9th, with selection soon thereafter.

Most of the meeting consisted of reviewing a draft Work Plan Outline which Morgan presented to the group. The work plan outline will be used to develop a Request for Qualifications seeking to hire a short-term contractor to assist in developing the Plan.

Staff will develop the RFQ in November, advertise in late November, through early January, and then review the responses before bringing them to the CEC for their review in mid-January. The purpose of going with an RFQ, rather than an RFP is so that the CEC can specifically request what it wants from the contractor, and have more involvement in the development process.

The contractor is expected to begin in early February, and take approximately 2 months to accomplish the various work tasks to develop a draft plan.

Starting in April, the contractor will have two months to accomplish most of the public outreach portions.

In June, the contractor will incorporate all of the public comments and actually write a proposed final plan for presentation to the CEC, at which point it will be presented to the CEC for final comments before presentation to adoption by the City Council in July.

The members present agreed that the outlined work tasks appeared appropriate, but there were several concerns about how long the process was scheduled for. Morgan replied that by structuring it the way that it is, the contractor could reasonably accomplish all of the work within about 100 hours of work, however, this is by no means going to be someone's full-time job, and finding a qualified person who is willing to work with our budget will be difficult. Therefore, the long schedule is designed to give the contractor the most flexibility to accomplish the specific tasks assigned.

Karen Zacharias recommended that the RFQ be sent specifically to the Pendleton Arts Center, so that they can help distribute it. There was then conversation that this job will definitely require direct solicitation to those types of groups, as well as regional universities where there may be a student who could do the project as part of a capstone project, or Master's project.

Morgan stated that he would send out the draft work plan outline to all of the CEC members, and seek input no later than November 2. Then, depending on that feedback, staff will begin drafting the RFQ.

4. New Business:
 - a. None- Mayor Drotzmann asked about any of the other CEC projects that the group should be working on. Morgan responded that the group, in the past, had decided that it would rather tackle one task at a time.
5. Officer/Staff Reports: None.
6. Next meeting: TBD, but the next meeting won't be until mid-January
7. Meeting adjourned at 5:35pm by chairman Drotzmann.

City of Hermiston
Parks and Recreation Department
Regular Meeting

November 12, 2015

5:30pm

Attendance:

- Briana Cortaberria
- ✓ Jean Stahlberg
- ✓ Carlisle Harrison
- ✓ Steve Williams
- ✓ Lisa Garcia
- ✓ Mike Kay
- ✓ Ryan Severs
- ✓ Jackie Myers, Council Liaison
- ✓ Doug Primmer, Council Liaison

Staff:

- ✓ Larry Fetter, Director
- Dan Earp, Recreation Supervisor
- ✓ Gina Wicks, Department Assistant

In the absence of Chairperson Cortaberria Director Fetter called the regular meeting to order at 5:30pm. Present were members Stahlberg, Garcia, Williams, Harrison, Severs, Kay, Councilors Myers and Primmer. News media present was Jade McDowell.

Public:

Neighbors of Northside Park attended the regular scheduled meeting to discuss and offer input in making improvements to a pocket park (Tot Lot – 100’X50’) that currently exists on Beebe Street (behind Pizza Hut).

In attendance;

- Jackie Linton
- Brenda Richter
- Cecilia Borchert
- Eileen Laromoe
- Andrew Cooley
- Dan Fetter
- Ken May

REPORTS

Overhead photos

A) NORTHSIDE PARK

Director Fetter opened up the November meeting by welcoming the residents that surround Northside Park. Each park member along with those in attendance introduced themselves and why they were present at the meeting. With a picture of the park being shown, Mr. Fetter gave a brief layout of the park that included a slide, a merry go round and a set of swings along with a building that once served as a neighborhood restroom that is nonfunctional. L.Fetter asked the guests if they had any history of the park they would like to share how it came to be.

Linton said she remembers in the 60’s when visiting her grandparents she played in the park and the same playground equipment still remain. She continues to use the playground with her grandkids, with the merry-go-round being their favorite.

Neighbor Brenda Richter along with others in the crowd also expressed an interest in keeping the merry-go-round, saying it is still being used. The restroom she said had never been vandalized that she knew of but does remember pipes breaking and flooding the area.

Ken May stated that the Jaycees originally built the park. The service group was given the play equipment from Dun Rollin. Over the years the Park has been called Candy Stripe Park, Jaycee Park and now Northside Park. Mr. May stated originally, the lot had a house on it, it burned down then the Jaycees were able to make a park for the neighborhood.

Mr. Fetter’s concerns of the park was that none of the existing play equipment would not meet today’s ADA playground standards. He stated that any unsafe, not up to code equipment has to be removed from city parks per insurance liability. He indicated the swing set *could* meet requirements if relocated and a soft surface was used around it.

Mr. Fetter asked the attending neighbors who the park services and what would they like to see in their park. Ideas that were generated;

1. The neighbors agreed that park usage comes from children, teens, and adults
2. Swing Set
3. Merry-go-round
4. Shade Structure
5. A place to learn, discovery opportunities, climbing wall/feature (Director cautioned that a climbing wall is a perfect canvas for graffiti)
6. Separated playground with soft surface and basketball court with hard surface that could be dual used
7. Lights on a timer, bench, trash can
8. Add low maintenance, low-growing landscaping for surveillance purpose

Member R. Severs stated that if in fact the merry-go-round could not be restored to and ADA standard then possibly it could be repurposed into something useful to use in the park.

Director Fetter said he would like to save the existing hard surface, the backboard, swings and replace the slide with a play structure that would incorporate a slide. Although there is no existing irrigation within the park there is some area of landscaping on west end of park that could be revitalized, keeping anything added low enough for surveillance purpose.

Next meeting will be discussions on Northside Park.

Meeting adjourned at 6:30pm

Chairperson Eddie De La Cruz called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. Committee members present were Manuel Gutierrez, Clair Beas-Fitzgerald, Jesus (Chuy) Rome, and Claudia Jimenez. Hector Ramirez and Bryan Medelez were excused. City representatives present were Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Officer Erica Sandoval, and Executive Assistant Lilly Alarcon-Strong. The Pledge of Allegiance was given!

Introduction of New Committee Member Claudia Jimenez

Eddie introduced and thanked new Hispanic Advisory Committee member Claudia Jimenez.

Claudia thanked everyone for the opportunity to serve on the committee and stated she is very excited to be a member as she considers Hermiston her home. Claudia stated she and her family moved to Hermiston from Mexico when she was a teenager; Maria Duron was one of her ESL teachers that helped teach her English, and thanks to people like Maria who helped her along the way, she was able to go to college in La Grande and then finish her education in Portland. Claudia stated she studied Business and Accounting with a Masters in Financial Analysis and works for Barnett & Moro. She was able to travel and lived in France for a year, and is also fluent in French. Claudia stated she is very grateful and blessed for all the opportunity she has had in her life and would like to pay it forward and help others succeed.

Minutes

Manuel moved and Clara seconded to approve the minutes of the September and October Minutes, with a correction to the October minutes excusing Manuel from the October meeting. Motion carried unanimously.

New Business

School District Presentation

Eddie, Deputy Superintendent Wade Smith and Hermiston High School Principal Tom Spoo thanked the Hispanic Advisory Committee for helping with translation services at parent teacher conferences. And through translator, Maria Duron, Mr. Smith presented the Committee with information regarding the growing number of students in the Hermiston School District, aging infrastructure, and safety issues. In 2007 a Long Range Facility Planning Committee and Blue Ribbon Panel saw a \$90 million need to replace Armand Larive Middle School, Sunset, Rocky Heights and West Park Elementary Schools, as well as build a new elementary school. The Blue Ribbon Panel consisted of 15 diverse community members who spend about 3 months analyzing if there was really a \$90 million need. This committee came back and stated yes, the School District does have a \$90 million need. After doing numerous community outreach, the feedback they received was unanimous; there will be support replacing Armand Larive, Sunset and West Park schools but not to replace Rocky Heights or build a new elementary school at that time. Therefore, the School District prioritized these projects to what the community felt they needed and continued with the bond at \$69 million to ensure its passage.

Mr. Smith stated the School District has received a great number of positive feedback from the school improvements, coming in at or under budget, and keeping their timeline on these projects. \$12 million of the \$69 million bond went back into the community as the School District hired local contractors, subcontractors, and vendors.

Mr. Smith stated two years ago the School Board directed staff to start this process again as the current facilities are not sufficient enough to house all of the students. This newly formed committee has been working for the last 18 months to gather information, some of this information from Portland State University, Population Research Study, predicts the number of growth in the community, development, and students. The Committee returned to the Board in June and stated, the community has a need of \$131 million for the replacement of Rocky Heights, which should have been replaced 8 years ago, and building a new elementary

school to address the current 24 modular classroom buildings and the growing need of them, expanding Sandstone Middle School, addressing safety issues at Highland Hills Elementary School, and most importantly, the High School is going to exceed 2,000 students within the next 8 years. If nothing is done, there will be about 24 to 30 modular buildings to accommodate high school students alone.

Mr. Smith stated Portland University study predicts Hermiston's student growth until about 2023. There were 3 types of growths analyzed, small, medium and high range growth. Student growth has been steadily increasing at 1.5% to 2% every year up until this year, where Hermiston exceeded the highest range growth rate expected at 3%, which caught the School Board off guard as medium growth is what had been planned for. If the School Board and community do not address these issues, the School District will have over 1,500 students in over 80 modular buildings throughout the school in less than 8 years at this high range growth rate.

Mr. Smith stated within the next year, the School District and a newly formed Committee will be doing a tremendous amount of community engagement and outreach to gather information and ideas about the bond and its passage.

Manuel stated his main concern is for the safety of the children at school, especially with gun violence and asked if the bond would only be for city limit residents or for all of Hermiston residents.

Mr. Smith stated when Rocky Heights and Highland Hills were built in 1960 and 1980, safety issues of this sort weren't an issue like they are today. Mr. Smith stated the bond would be for all Hermiston resident.

Gary West asked when will the current bonds mature.

Mr. Smith stated the 1999 Bond will be paid off in two years which will create the capacity to potentially look at another bond with a low or no tax increase. The School Board understands for home owners, the tax rate is already pretty high right now.

Celso De La Cruz suggested that police officers show their presence at all schools to detour violence of this nature.

Mr. Smith and Officer Sandoval explained there are two officers, one officer who rotates between all of the elementary schools, and the second officer who rotates between the two junior highs and high school.

Manuel stated he and his wife will vote yes for this bond and neither have school aged children. But, they will both vote yes because education is very important.

Eddie agreed and stated the best investment a community can make is one in its children's education and safety.

Hermiston Herald

Hermiston Herald Editor Gary West stated Hermiston Herald is forming an Advisory Group, looking for people in the community to help the Hermiston Herald be more interesting and valuable for the people living in the community. Mr. West stated Hermiston Herald wants to make sure the paper is reflecting enough Latino voices, people, and events. Mr. West stated the Advisory Group will meet once a month and be made up of six members, and Clara is one of those members.

Eddie stated he will announce the Hermiston Herald Advisory group on air from the radio station.

Clara stated the Advisory group is looking for diverse individuals, including high school students, to join. Clara stated being a part of this Advisory group is very important as she wants to make sure accurate information is being published and her family has a vast background in media.

Manuel and Eddie suggested once a month, the paper write a news article about a person in our area. Someone who has grown up in Hermiston, left to study, and returned, like Claudia and Jesus.

Eddie thanked Mr. West for doing outreach in the Latino community.

County Commissioner Bill Elfering

Mark Gomolski stated he recently moved to Hermiston from Chicago where he had lived for the last 30 years. He is currently a political consultant for County Commissioner Mr. Bill Elfering. Mr. Elfering is interested in receiving more input from the Hispanic community and giving information on what County Commissioners do and how he can help the community and hope to be back before the Committee within the next couple of months.

Eddie thanked Mark and the County for everything they do, and stated the County has been a supporter Cinco de Mayo and it is very much appreciated.

Martin Luther King Day

Jesus invited the public to participate in the MLK Day on Monday, January 18th, 2016. The next MLK meeting will be December 12th at Starbucks.

Closing Comments

City Representatives

Assistant City Manager Morgan asked the public if there is anyone who would like to participate in the five question Community Livability Survey, they can go online or fill out hard copies that are located on the back table. Assistant City Manager Morgan stated the City Council will again be hearing the Marijuana voting ordinance at the next Council meeting to possibly allow the voters to decide if Marijuana should be allowed to be sold within the City Limits of Hermiston.

Next Scheduled Meeting

There will not be a December meeting. The next scheduled meeting will be Tuesday, January 19th at 7:00 pm.

Meeting Adjourned at 8:17 pm

Future Task Force Members in attendance were City Manager Byron Smith, Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan, Mayor Dave Drotzmann, Fred Maiocco, Kim Puzey, Margaret Saylor, Maria Duron, Tamara Mabbot, Dennis Burke, Philip Hamm, and Donald Daggett.

Community Livability Asset Oversight Committee in attendance were Angela Treadwell, Debbie Pedro, Joe Basile, Councilor Jackie Myers, Robert Green, Chuck Barnes, Jacob Zumwalt, and Jim Whalley. Also present were Lilly Alarcon-Strong, Clark Worth, and Liz Marvin.

Clark Worth from Barney & Worth, Inc called the meeting to order at 12:00 pm and thanked everyone for attending and participating. Mr. Worth stated he will be sharing the results from the second community survey. Mr. Worth reminded the group that they are working towards a vision of priorities for the next 5 to 10 years that will make Hermiston more livable for current and future community members. Mr. Worth stated the Committee has done a great job with community outreach, as they have received over 900 returned surveys this time around, with more being submitted daily.

Mr. Worth reminded the committee what some of the best Hermiston qualities are: a majority of the population is young, with an average age of 32.4 years vs 39.3 years state average, a high labor rate, and a prime crossroads location. The community has weaknesses in: retail and tourism sales, low educational attainment, and limited housing options with no housing over \$300,000.00.

Mr. Worth stated the 978 returned community surveys, are made up of: 50% Hermiston residents; with 51% business owners, 51% workers who live outside of Hermiston, and 600 students.

Phil Hamm asked Mr. Worth if there was a way to separate the returned community surveys by students and non-students.

Mr. Worth stated yes, and he would work on that for the next meeting.

Mr. Worth stated based on the second survey results received, the community feels prioritizing the items below would best help the livability of Hermiston; in order by top priority:

- With 516 votes, Year round aquatic center.
- With 455 votes, Revitalize downtown.
- With 443 votes, Parks, trails, and sports fields.
- With 377 votes, Youth Orientated Community Center- Boys and Girls Club/YMCA
- With 213 votes, Arts and Culture Center- performing arts center, expanding the library, and building a museum.

Mr. Worth also displayed the number of individuals who stated they would support the items above through volunteering or helping pay for the improvements, as well as those who felt the items were not a priority.

Mr. Worth stated recruiting professionals in rural areas has been a recognized problem since 1925. According to the 2015 Colorado Health Institute, factors that influence where rural physicians practice are:

- 70% Recreation/leisure activities
- 55% Good place to raise children

- 44% Opportunity for professional independence
- 40% Desire to retire in rural area
- 39% Work environment/hours per week

Mr. Worth stated although this is specific to physicians, this does apply to all professionals. Another big factor is perception matters. One of the major items that continues to be mentioned is the unkempt image of Highway 395 gateway. Mr. Worth stated major factors that commuting professional consider is Location, and the benefits of homeownership in rural areas, which are:

- Cheaper property than metro areas, with less competition
- Proximity to outdoor recreation
- Small town experience for children; perception of safety
- Lower taxes
- Less regulation: planning, zoning, building codes

Mr. Worth recommended strongly marketing Hermiston to permanently relocate professionals by:

- Leveraging Hermiston's benefits and branding the community accordingly
- Targeting the right candidates
- Establishing a formal process for familiarizing candidates with Hermiston

Kim Puzey asked Dennis Burke if there would be a way to recruit physicians to the area by investing in projects such as these.

Dennis Burke stated the hospital is a 501-C3, and therefore, is limited on what it can directly invest in, and what referrals business can give.

Jackie Myers stated the State of Oregon also gives large tax credits to rural physicians.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated he has done research regarding existing facilities and lack thereof. Currently there is:

- No full-service year-round aquatic facility
- Current uses at the Conference Center doesn't leave adequate space/time to meet needs for a youth & families community center
- Performing arts: there are school theaters, but with limited availability for community uses
- No museum, cultural center, visitor attraction
- 125 acres of parks, which is 73% of national standards
- Active Downtown Urban Renewal Program in place since 2013- with the biggest financial projects being: Developing a Festival Street on 2nd Street, from Main St to Gladys St., and façade grants for qualifying businesses to name a couple.

Mr. Worth stated one of the top questions were, "can we combine a community center with programs and activities for all ages and an aquatic center, etc" the answer is yes. There are facilities that combine many of the needs and wants of Hermiston residents. The facilities below were funded by public and private contributions, and are being run by public and private entities:

- Salvation Army Ray & Joan Kroc Community Center in Salem, opened in 2009
- Southwest Community Center in Portland, opened in 1999
- Lincoln City Community Center which is closer to Hermiston's size

Mr. Worth asked that the committee discuss ideas on what assets could be attractive enough to change perceptions about relocating to Hermiston instead of commuting, and visiting the area as well.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated there are currently about 1,600 people per day, that travel from Benton and Franklin County to Umatilla County for work and about 8,800 jobs located within city limits. Based on those numbers, there is a substantial amount of individuals traveling to work in Hermiston in all types of employment fields, not just professionals.

There was some discussion regarding focusing on age groups of 18 to 24 year olds, as the community is made up of a younger population. Specific items that were discussed were higher educational facilities, with special programs in health care and IT to attract professionals to the Hospital and IT centers in the area, arts and cultural activities, and places to visit with family and friends and enjoy the surroundings, like outdoor cafés, bistros, breweries, ice cream and donut shops that would be located in downtown; more attractions, not just a facility. Other big pushes were beautifying Hermiston, and activities and functions that will attract single individuals, with more housing and shopping options like the tri-cities area.

Mr. Worth stated the top two community priorities, based on survey results were an indoor aquatic facility combined with a community center. The combined community center can offer any items, activities, and facilities that the community envisions for all age groups. The second was to revitalize the downtown area. Mr. Worth asked if these items were what the committee also envisioned as priorities.

There was a question regarding the use of the current Conference and Community Center; based on the conversations being had, is it not being considered as a usable facility for these ideas.

Assistant City Manager Mark Morgan stated the current Conference and Community Center is being used on a regular basis with activities and rentals, therefore, having a facility such as what is being discussed, would not be able to be scheduled around rentals and other uses that the facility already accommodates to.

(Jackie Myers exited the meeting)

Mayor Drotzmann stated he thinks the vision for this process is to first, help Hermiston be more livable for those already residing in Hermiston and second, to attract more people to visit and relocate to Hermiston. Focusing on the priorities that the community wants is important, but realizing Hermiston is never going to be a metropolitan area is equally as important. This is a good thing, an asset and selling point for Hermiston.

Jim Whalley suggested working with surrounding communities to bring in more tourism and visitor destinations would be an asset as well.

It was asked if the survey can be separated into respondents who do not live in Hermiston and see what their perspective is about Hermiston.

Mr. Worth stated yes, and it can be presented at the next meeting.

(Mayor Drotzmann exited the meeting)

Public Comment

Liz Marvin stated there are many students who are leaving for post-secondary education and cannot come back to work in Hermiston because Hermiston does not have the jobs that will reflect their degree. Mrs. Marvin stated Hermiston is a very livable community, and it has potential to be even more livable.

Tamara Mabbot stated the County has partnered with BMCC, and Eastern Oregon Business Solutions to do a skilled workforce survey. Businesses are being surveyed to see what their needs are to be able to expand. The survey results should be ready in February and will be shared with the City and School District. This information is also important for Hermiston's growing future.

Mr. Worth asked the committee if their two top priorities were in-line with what the community stated their two top priorities are; an indoor aquatic facility combined with a community center, and to revitalize the downtown area.

There was a consensus from the committee that these were the two items to focus on, but more conversation needs to be had on how to accomplish these items, specifically funding and long-term upkeep of a facility of this nature.

Mr. Worth stated there will be a Community Event the week of January 11th, with an estimated City Council presentation on January 25th, and asked if there are committee members who are willing to volunteer their time to present the results of the Community Livability surveys and do outreach to local community groups.

Jacob Zumwalt, Don Daggett, Chuck Barnes, Debbie Pedro, Jim Whalley, and Margaret Saylor all volunteered.

There were no other comments and the meeting was adjourned at 1:30 pm. The next meeting will be Monday, February 8th from 12:00 pm to 1:30 pm at Umatilla Electric Cooperative.

Staff Report

For the Meeting of January 25, 2016

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

Agenda Item #

NO. 2016 – 1

**SUBJECT: Filing of Urban
Renewal Annual Report**

Subject

The annual report of activity for the urban renewal district during the 2014-15 fiscal year has been prepared and is ready for filing.

Summary and Background

ORS 457.460 requires all urban renewal districts to prepare an annual report of the financial activities. The attached report details the revenue brought in and expended by the urban renewal agency from July 2014 through June 2015 and details the impact the district's tax collection had on all other taxing districts. Taxes collected by the district had a negligible impact on all districts with the City of Hermiston forgoing the most revenue with 0.1% of total revenues foregone.

Under the rules in ORS 457, the annual report must be filed with the governing body of the city containing the urban renewal district each year.

Fiscal Information

There is no fiscal impact from accepting the report.

Alternatives and Recommendation

The city council may choose to:

- Accept the report for filing
- Reject the report

Requested Action/Motion

Staff recommends that the city council accept the report for filing.

Reviewed by:


Department Head – Clinton Spencer, City Planner


City Manager Approval

CITY OF HERMISTON

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 2015

2014/2015

Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency

This report fulfills the requirement, prescribed in ORS 457.460, for the filing of an annual report detailing the financial activity of an urban renewal area established in Oregon.

ANNUAL REPORT FOR FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30TH, 2015

HERMISTON URBAN RENEWAL AGENCY

Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency History

The Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency was formed by the City of Hermiston in 2013. The agency board is made up of the Mayor and City Council.

The urban renewal plan adopted on August 26, 2013 establishes the purpose of the urban renewal district as follows:

- Revitalize the City Center by alleviating conditions of blight and underinvestment
- Create public improvements including open space, community meeting space, and street improvements
- Encourage new public and private investment
- Increase the taxable value of property in the city
- Improve the utilization of land within specific areas of the community

The maximum indebtedness established for the Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency is \$4,000,000. This amount is the total amount of funds which can be spent on projects, programs, and administration in the urban renewal district over the life of the urban renewal plan. As of June 30th, 2015, \$9,435.15 had been spent on projects and \$898.02 had been spent on administration.

A full copy of the Hermiston Urban Renewal Plan and Report may be found on the City of Hermiston website located at: <http://hermiston.or.us/ura>

Projects

Two façade grants were funded in the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

- Grant for siding improvements at 125 SW 3rd Street
 - Project cost: \$11,361.92 Grant award: \$4,544.77
- Grant for roof improvements at 662 E Main Street
 - Project cost: \$2,957.38 Grant award: \$591.48

Preliminary engineering and design work for the festival street and gateway arch projects began in the 2014/2015 fiscal year. This engineering work was paid out of the façade grant fund for the year and totaled \$4,298.90.

Administrative costs included attorney assistance in preparing by-laws and agreements between the city and agency for staff services and financial services. Many of these administrative costs are one-time expenditures which are not repeated on an annual basis.

- Total cost of administrative expenditures was \$898.02.

Financial Reporting

Pursuant to ORS 457.460, a detailed accounting of the financial activity related to urban renewal areas is required to be reported on an annual basis. The following financial information conforms to the requirements of this statute.

Money Received

In FY 2014/2015 the Umatilla County Assessor calculated that the Hermiston Urban Renewal Agency would receive \$17,900 from the division of taxes. The actual tax revenue received was \$16,761.26, a smaller amount due to underpayments and delinquencies.

The City of Hermiston prepared an interagency loan of \$50,000 to help stimulate façade grants within the urban renewal area. This money was also received by the agency during the 2014/2015 fiscal year.

Money Expended

Revenues received through tax collection and interagency loan were expended as shown in the table below.

Item	Urban Renewal General Fund
Beginning Fund Balance	\$0.00
Façade Grant Outlay	\$9,435.15
Administrative Outlay	\$898.02
Ending Fund Balance	\$60,726.99

Estimated Revenues

The estimated revenues for the 2015/2016 fiscal year are \$15,000 from current tax revenues.

Proposed Budget for 2015/2016 Fiscal Year

A budget listed the revenues to be received due to urban renewal tax increment collection, money to be spent, and what projects/expenses the money will fund is shown in the table below.

Item	2015/2016 Urban Renewal General Fund
Resources	
General Taxes	\$15,000
Delinquent Taxes	\$0.00

Cash Forward	\$60,000
<i>Total Resources</i>	\$75,000
Expenditures	
Façade Grants	\$57,000
Festival Street	\$15,000
Audit and Other	\$3,000
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	\$75,000

Impact on Taxing Districts

The revenues forgone by local taxing districts due to urban renewal are shown in the table below. This information is from the Umatilla County Department of Assessment and Taxation. The numbers are after truncation and compression losses.

Urban renewal agencies do not create an additional tax. Instead during the agency's lifespan, overlapping taxing districts forgo a portion of their permanent rate. Once the urban renewal agency is terminated, the taxing jurisdictions receive the full permanent rate of taxes.

Taxing District	Revenue Forgone 2014/2015	Total Taxes Received 2014/2015	% of Total Taxes to UR
Umatilla County	\$2,917.76	\$14,002,713.51	0.02%
City of Hermiston	\$6,241.16	\$5,028,671.45	0.1%
School District #8 Hermiston	\$5,011.93	\$9,072,749.73	0.05%
Intermountain ESD	\$629.08	\$2,804,959.09	0.02%
BMCC	\$674.60	\$3,012,272.73	0.02%
Port of Umatilla	\$157.27	\$756,501.01	0.02%
Fire District 4 Hermiston	\$1,229.18	\$2,266,525.72	0.05%
County Radio District	\$173.82	\$769,871.18	0.02%
Cemetery District 8 Hermiston	\$91.05	\$169,148.80	0.05%
W Umatilla Mosquito Control	\$206.93	\$510,928.27	0.04%
Total	\$17,332.78		

COUNCIL REPORT

For Meeting of January 25, 2016

MAYOR AND MEMBERS OF THE CITY COUNCIL

NO. 2016-

SUBJECT:
Contract
Amendment with
C&E for RWS

Subject

Contract amendment with C&E Trenching for the project to upgrade the Regional Water System (RWS) pumping capacity and construct a flushing system.

Summary and Background

On April 27, 2015 the City Council awarded a contract to C&E Trenching LLC for construction of the water line and pump upgrades to service RWS water to the OSU Extension property. This project also included a switch from potable water to non-potable water going to Simplot. The contract price for this work was \$1.1 million.

As we have been working with the Northeast Oregon Water Association (NOWA) and local growers to help facilitate drawing more water from the Columbia River to increase crop production in our area another project has come forward. This project is the following:

- The installation of an additional pump in the RWS River intake station.
- The construction of a basin with the requisite piping to create a flush system for the RWS.

This project is part of the work being done to certify the Port of Umatilla's water right that supplies the RWS. This effort along with the overall effort to bring more water supply to the Umatilla basin is very time sensitive.

Because of the timing of all of all of these things, amending the existing contract with C&E Trenching is the most expeditious. C&E is under contract to do similar work and are interested in doing the additional work. They have done a good job and we are comfortable contracting with them for the additional work.

Prior to bringing this proposal to the Council, the idea was reviewed by City Attorney Gary Luisi. He reviewed the contracts and the applicable Oregon laws. He felt like this process was legal.

Fiscal Information

The grant funding available to the project is \$664,000. Since this additional work is approximately 60% of the original contract, we have brought this amendment back to you for approval.

Alternatives and Recommendation

Alternatives

1. Approve Contract Amendment No. 1 to C&E Trenching.
 - a. This alternative allows the City to increase capacity in the RWS for water right certification and then future use in the shortest time frame.

City of Hermiston

2. Do not approve Contract Amendment No. 1 to C&E Trenching.
 - a. This alternative would drastically slow down efforts to certify the Port's water right and assist in the bringing of more Columbia River water to the Umatilla basin.

Recommendation

Staff recommends the selection of Alternative #1 to authorize the City Manager's signature on Contract Amendment No. 1.

Requested Action/Motion

Motion to authorize as proposed.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Bryan Davis".

City Manager Approval