



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES March 4, 2021

The scheduled meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Mayor Riley Hill at 6:00 p.m. on Thursday, March 4, 2021, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present or attended via telephone were Riley Hill, Michael Braden, Ken Hart, John Kirby, Freddy Rodriguez, and Eddie Melendrez. Sam Baker arrived at 6:31 p.m.

Members of staff present in person or via telephone were Adam Brown, Tori Barnett, Peter Hall, Terry Leighton, Steven Romero, Kari Ott, Dan Cummings, Larry Sullivan, Al Cablay, and Rick Reyna.

The meeting was recorded, and copies are available at City Hall.

Riley Hill led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted on March 2, 2021. Copies of the Agenda are available from the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website www.ontariooregon.org.

KIRBY moved, BRADEN seconded, **TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS PRESENTED**. Roll call vote: Rodriguez-yes; Baker-out; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

CONSENT AGENDA

HART moved, BRADEN seconded, **TO ADOPT THE CONSENT AGENDA, WHICH INCLUDED HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM: BK CONSTRUCTION, INC. (24-2021); HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM: BK CONSTRUCTION, INC. (25-2021); AND HOUSING INCENTIVE PROGRAM: BK CONSTRUCTION, INC. (26-2021)**. Roll call vote: Rodriguez-yes; Baker-out; Kirby-yes; Braden-yes; Hart-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Charlotte Kreftmeyer, Ontario, stated: *First of all, domestic abuse is against the law in any form, whether it is verbal, physical, or mental, so why is it allowed to take place in our own backyard. Shouldn't our local leaders be held to a higher standard since they are the representatives of our city and our community? When we let those in charge live by a different set of rules, it undermines everyone. I say this because, in fact, we have a city leader who has been proven in a court of law to be a danger to at least two citizens of our community. The City Council has not once spoken up to show its community that they do not approve of domestic violence in any form. Unfortunately, with them staying quite and not showing that the city supports their community and its need to feel safe, shows that they do not take domestic violence seriously. This individual has continued to bring up his victims on a regular basis on social media, blaming those individuals for his woes. He brings up past doings saying odious and damaging things. He has no respect for the fact that he has harmed others, will not take responsibility for his actions, and, in fact, turns it on the victims themselves as if it is their fault that the violence has happened to them. What does this continue? Nothing but the abuse that has already been perpetrated upon them. The fact that the City Council continues to allow this to go on without any thought to the victims or the community is appalling in every sense of the word. The Councilman recently brought up the fact that there was the domestic violence shooting that took place, and yet his business is what others were paying attention to. Well of course that's what people were paying attention to. As he continues to unceasingly ensure that the main focus of every other's attention is on him by posting his continuous rants on his*



Councilman page both on Facebook and Twitter. The city leader is aware that the citizens of the city look to his page for local government goings on, as well as concerning topics for the City of Ontario. How does his personal life have anything to do with that? However, this leads to the creation of a biased opinion towards the victims by those in our community, by which, I would like to point out, have not been making public their turmoil. How does he expect these individuals to heal and move on when he won't allow it? Thank you. I appreciate your time.

Christopher Plummer, Ontario, stated: *If I'm going to turn in the full version of this, and it's not very nice, so I don't want to read it out loud, but I just want to make a brief comment.*

Councilor Rodriguez asked him to please read the whole document.

Mr. Plummer replied: *You're not my boss. Anyway, basically I just want to say that I think it's really inappropriate for someone to use the city, their webpage, to slander people, to abuse people, and do all kinds of things that are just below contempt. Actually, if you want to hear it, let's go. I often said to Freddy, if one person thinks you're a creep, except I used a different word, then you're probably not a creep, it's probably them. But if 20 people say you're a creep, you're probably a creep. Well, I hate to say it Freddy, but way more than 20 people think you're a creep, including several of us who used to be close to you, or we thought we could be close to something like you. We didn't recognize the malignant narcissist that you are. The woman from the first restraining order is my dear friend and she is guilty of different things. From what I can see she was guilty of supporting the wrong guy, she was guilty of spending too much money on clothes for said guy, she spent way too much time trying to help this guy with his pursuits, she spent too much time saving said guy from having mud on his face during several events that would have fallen through had she not stepped in to save the day; she was guilty about caring about you. There is nothing that says a relationship has to last forever. There is no contract that says that is lasts forever, except maybe a marriage contract, which you didn't have. She should be able to leave you without you trying to ruin her life, shame her, and destroy everybody else's lives in the process. Because of your selfishness...*

Councilor Rodriguez stated he broke up with her; did he remember that?

Mr. Plummer continued: *You're interrupting me sir; this is my time. Do you realize that your selfish pursuit to destroy and shame these women has lasted longer than the worst part of Covid-19? Do you realize how selfish it is for you to drag this community through your personal affairs when we are all trying our best to hold on during Covid-19, when were grieving people lost to Covid-19, and you couldn't get over a break-up? If you had any shame, I would say shame on you, but you don't. You don't have the capacity to care about anybody in this city other than yourself. And this is not just about Sarah. If you think she is the only victim of yours in this town, you are to thinking with a wide enough brush, buddy. And if you think it's appropriate to call any gay person, that you personally disagree with, a pedophile, just because you're angry with them, without seeing the damage that does to the gay community, you're a bigger monster than I thought. I think you're a pretty sick monster. My community...*

Councilor Rodriguez stated that he told him he was a child molester.

Mr. Plummer continued: *this is my time. You wanted me to read it, so you deal with it buddy.*

Councilor Rodriguez repeated that he told him he was a child molester.

Mr. Plummer continued: *You deal with it buddy, and I did not. How dare you put my people at risk because of your grudge against another City Councilman. How dare you accuse me of not reporting a threat to gay youth when you know for a fact that I talk to detectives for the city and the Sheriff's Department. It could be because you don't like what I told those officers. That Marty was innocent and that you tried to get me into finding an underage gay kid to accuse him of something he didn't do. That truth doesn't fit your narrative, does it, your sick narrative. And how dare you say that the Mayor was in on it and implicate him when he wasn't. And it's not just that one thing, Freddy, you've also personally attacked members of the gay community and the trans community. You could care less if a parent uses your words to justify kicking their kid to the curb or causing someone to commit suicide or stay in the closet.*

You're that callous. You like to put on a show that you're the social justice man of the town. You're not! You've done more for white supremacy than anybody in this town for the past year. Your lack of support for people of color, your attacks on Black Lives Matter, are inappropriate under any circumstances. You are somehow the Liaison to the Diversity Committee – give me a break. I have heard you disparage members of the Committee. I've heard you bad mouth a woman because she wanted to make everything about her Japanese background. I personally know that woman and she's one of the kindest people I've ever met and she's also Chinese. You're a joke, in my opinion. I have watched you at Origins offer full support to the tiny homes community and then come in here and just switch it up. You know, that's really great of a public servant, to like two-face the people that he's trying to help. I do paraphrase that one for time. And honestly, how many times have you bullied me since we've been friends? Let me, haha, well, we're not friends, I thought we were friends.

Councilor Rodriguez stated he served everyone there.

Mr. Plummer continued: *Hey, my time. You wanted me to read this. It's my time, buddy. The latest is from a creepy Facebook encounter where a guy asking about the size of my junk. That's really dignified. I have no idea what you're end game was with that one, but I've included it in here. You've bullied me because I've had the audacity to do a second homeless based project that you thought stepped into your lane. But I'll be damned if I'm going to let somebody like you stop me from doing anything. I think you got the gist of it, right Mayor? If you're good with it, I'm good. I would gladly leave.*

Mayor Hill stated he was not kicking him out, but there was a time limit for comment, and he had exceeded it.

Mr. Plummer continued: *I'm done. You can read the rest of it right here. It's pretty much along the same vein.*

Councilor Rodriguez stated he had all the messages that had just been described that was a lie about Marty Justus.

Chris Artiach, Ontario, stated: *It's pretty obvious how I feel. This is for a citizen of Ontario that has a lot to do in here. I'm writing tonight to express my concerns about Ontario City Council and how our city is well-kept by city officials such as yourselves and the police force. I understand, not to the full extent, as all of you do, how hard it is to make the difficult decisions that each of you have to make for our well-being. I would like each of you to consider the hardship that has been put on display of harassment, and not only this year, but including last year. The two women under file from one City Councilman, Freddy Rodriguez, this just doesn't affect two women that has harassed, or harassing, and it continues on. This affects their children, which are young women. We have to think seriously about what impact this is going to have on the young women. The pain extends more than we think, such as tears, their mother's cry, because of the torment of the intimidation already threatened by Freddy, that he already had followed through with and continued on with another victim. Gosh, I can't imagine how these two women and their daughters feel. One having to go through life and trying to heal and go on, now another woman and her daughter. This should have been dealt with last year, especially finding out the history check. These young ladies are, I'm sure, cautious of how our city officials and Councilmen are going to protect them in the near future. If we can't protect our own who live in our city, then how do we give a good impression on upcoming young women in our town? The event that took place a year ago that has been recorded in our own newspapers, this should have been dealt with then. Now we have another woman who is under the same scrutiny that went underway last year. No matter how hard it is to make a decision because we like somebody or we're trying to get somebody another chance, we have to make the decision on what is best for our community and for our young women who may or may not be part of our city officials someday. I am however sorry I will not be here at the meeting. I have a live JonZies Moments feed at 7pm, but I writing to express my concern. Please thank you for your hard work and please let's make sure we keep all of Ontario with integrity. Thank you – Terri L. Sharp (Jones). Me and Freddy used to be really good friends...*

Councilor Rodriguez asked Mr. Artiach if he testified on his behalf last year?

Mr. Artiach: *Ya, 'cuz you asked me to and you're lying.*



Councilor Rodriguez asked Mr. Artiach if he then lied too, in court?

Mr. Artiach: *No, did you? There you go. And you know, he's saying all these things. Both of these girls that he has harassed are friends of mine and asked me to come up here.*

Councilor Rodriguez stated Mr. Artiach testified against them. Why?

Mr. Artiach: *Freddy, she asked me to come up to go against you because you're a coward. That's two in California, two in Canyon County, and two here. Come one man, you can't even go nowhere without getting kicked out.*

Mayor Hill called for order and wanted an end the back-and-forth conversation. He'd allow testimony only.

Mr. Artiach continued: *A lot of these people I've talked to in the city, they like the city, you know what I mean. They like what I am. But with him being on here, it's making the city an embarrassment and humiliation, you know? If it wasn't for him, things would be great, you know? You'd have everybody's support. But when you have somebody like that, you know, that's speaks a lot. And that's all I got to say.*

Jerry Ward, Ontario, stated: *All I'm asking is for the City Council to have a little bit of courage, look at the facts, and not weasel away through loopholes and ideas surrounding what a restraining order is. A restraining order is stifling somebody's constitutional rights and it's one of the highest things that a judge can bring down because it does violate their rights. It eliminates them from going into certain places and certain things. And when he gets nominated to become the Council President and voted in, what kind of courage are you guys showing? All we are asking is to step up, do your jobs, have a little backbone, and a little bit of courage, and know exactly what a restraining order is, what it means, and why it's in place. Thank you.*

Charlie Gonzalez, Ontario, stated: *I'm just going to make this real simple. Freddy Rodriguez has six reported domestic violence-related charges and restraining orders underneath his belt. Two of them from Idaho, two of them from California, and two from the city that he's serving now. With that being said, obviously, it's a constant problem. Somebody in this position shouldn't be able to hold his position doing that stuff to women around here. His hate and his public racist statement against Black Lives Matter in Ontario is very concerning. The lack of leadership this man has is mind-boggling. Somebody that's in this position should be held to a higher standard. Bullying and harassing is never okay. I actually lost a close buddy of mine to bullying and harassing in school, so I take that very, very deep. I guess what I'm up here to say is somebody like Freddy should not be in that position and he should be recalled, or at least step down from President. That's all I've got to say.*

Marty Justus, Ontario, stated: *I've made my feelings for Councilman Rodriguez very clear for the last two years. I didn't show up at the beginning of the meeting because I just, everyone knows where I stand. I didn't want to use my persona to influence you all. But I was watching at home, and he made a public statement that I was a child molester. I want you to say it right now, right here, from that chair, tell me that you think I'm a molester. Tell me!*

Councilor Rodriguez stated he believed his friends and at the point when Chris Plummer told him that, he was a very trusting friend of his. Mr. Plummer told him that in person in front of Sarah, and it was in his messages. Yes, Mr. Plummer told him that, and he believed he friend.

Mr. Justus continued: *And you voiced it on your Facebook page, yes or no? Yes or no?*

Councilor Rodriguez asked Mr. Justus if he read it on there? Did he go on his page and say anything?

Mr. Justus continued: *Did you say it, yes or no?*

Mayor Hill called for order. There was not going to be the back-and-forth again. He'd accept just the testimony.



Councilor Rodriguez stated Mr. Justus had commented on it, so he knew. He answered it.

Mr. Justus continued: *So, Council, there is no evidence of me being anything more than a citizen of this town, that's a caring and compassionate person, and for you to allow him to sit there and for him to publicly try to disgrace me and intimidate me and do nothing about it, shame on you all. Shame on you all. You all know my character and you know his. That's what I have to say.*

Councilor Rodriguez stated no one wanted to address what Mr. Plummer told him. He had a statement he'd like to read in response: *Thanks for allowing this time, thank you all who spoke, even the last-minute speaker. With the attention posed by the group of citizens showing up today to constitutionally voice their opinions on me, it is the perfect time to address the community in which I so humbly serve. Yes, I have been accused yet again of similar allegations as to the ones last year which resulted in a restraining order, as the speakers tonight have outlined, and the Sheriff's Department telling the Argus Observer there was nothing to go on for any arrest or action. First off, I want to affirm that I am 100% in favor and encourage for victims of abuse to come forward and be heard. There are true victims of abuse out there that deserve help. Victims of domestic violence should have every opportunity to be heard including having their friends, family, and employees report abuse when they see it. If you all take anything away from this let it be that honesty pays big time and lying is always revealed. Thank you all for coming and expressing your views of my personal life and know next week is my hearing and I'm going to assume you all will be there too, I hope so. Thanks.*

PRESENTATION

PERS (Attached)

Adam Brown, City Manager, gave a PowerPoint presentation regarding PERS.

OLD BUSINESS

Appointment to City Charter Ad-Hoc Committee

Mayor Hill stated ten applications had been received and he had reviewed them all. While not easy to select, his choices were Michael Miller, Susann Mills, Jaime Taylor, and Robert Wheatley.

RODRIGUEZ moved, BAKER seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL CONFIRM THE APPOINTMENTS FOR THE CHARTER REVIEW COMMITTEE AS PRESENTED BY MAYOR HILL.** Roll call vote: Rodriguez-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 7/0/0.

Mayor Hill thanked everyone for taking the time to apply for the Committee, and also for giving their time to the city.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Proposed Ordinance Amendment; Proposed Fee Resolution for Non-Commercial Kennels; Dog Kennels

Steven Romero, Police Chief, stated Ontario Municipal Code (OMC) Section 6-2-3 delineates city mandates for dog license requirements, exceptions, and issuance of tags and collars. The Ontario Police Department has received two applications for a non-commercial kennel license, but was unable to complete the application approval process, as a resolution establishing a kennel application fee was supposed to accompany the application, but the resolution was never completed.

Effective animal control and regulation of dog ownership was essential for ensuring the community's accountability for responsible dog ownership and other categories of dog control such as vaccinations against rabies, procedures for declaring dogs "dangerous," controlling excessive dog barking, and odors. The City of Ontario previously enacted an ordinance to establish Municipal Code 6-2-3(B), which granted a 3-dog maximum per any one premise, unless the



owner made an application to the city for a non-commercial permit for more than three dogs. Research of other cities within this region illustrated a more comprehensive ordinance approach to noncommercial dog kennel applications. Fees, processes, and granted administrative authority for the application process varied.

Current Code 6-2-3(B) stated: *"A fee to be determined by City Council Resolution shall accompany application."* However, the city does not currently have any written resolution for non-commercial kennel applications, specifying the amount of the fees that were to be levied for the application. A second identified gap within the current ordinance was there were no application denial criteria specified or any delineated process for applications that were denied. This led to additional questions about who should serve as the appeals authority and if the appeals process should have an administrative fee attached to the appeals process, keeping it in line with other city administrative processes. Future amendment of OMC 6-2-3(B) was needed to complete the two pending non-commercial kennel applications and for the adoption of an updated 6-2-3. The proposed new ordinance amendment was reviewed and approved by the City Attorney and deemed legally and statutorily acceptable. This action was not related to anything for locations such as Ani-Care; it was for private homeowners asking to have more than three dogs at their residence.

Taking no action would result in the inability to complete the non-commercial dog kennel application currently filed with the city and would leave the city absent of a resolution for fee collection for this process. Staff would like to enter discussions on the issue with Council to receive direction on steps the Council would like to take.

Mayor Hill asked if there was any thought given to how much space would be needed to have up to seven dogs, whether inside or outside space? That should be a consideration.

Chief Romero stated those were some things he encouraged the Council to consider. Of the two applications on file, one was for four animals; the other was for seven dogs. To do a "square footage per dog" ratio, then what was reasonable and feasible? There would be barking and odor issues. Should they be allowed next to a playground, a school, or a senior living center? There were many things that needed to be considered.

Mayor Hill asked if the neighbors complained, how many times would a complaint have to be made or how would a complaint be verified? How would a license be revoked?

Chief Romero stated the current stated it was only after a 3-year duration would the police see if any complaints were filed. There was no standard for doing a consistent review of those locations.

Mayor Hill stated then no matter how many complaints in a 3-year period, the license would still be in effect and only reviewed after the 3-year period, was that what he was asking for?

Chief Romero stated no, that was how the current ordinance read. The PD would respond to complaints but take no enforcement action against the license until after three years.

Mayor Hill stated for verification, in a 3-year license to have how ever many animals, and during the first year there were six complaints, then that's too bad? They had to wait three years before any action was taken?

Chief Romero stated that was his interpretation of the current ordinance.

Larry Sullivan, City Attorney, stated the City of Vale had a similar provision except that it required that 75% of all the persons in possession of premises within 100 feet had to consent before the application would be granted. It required the applicant to lobby the neighborhood to get approved. To date, no one in Vale had been approved because most of the neighbors didn't want that many animals around them.

Chief Romero stated Ontario's ordinance was 75 feet.



Bid Award: Wayfinding System

Adam Brown, City Manager, stated the Wayfinding System was completed last summer. A bid packet for fabrication and installation had been developed and sent out. There was money budgeted in the current fiscal year and the city was also waiting on notification about a grant to leverage the amount the city had, basically doubling it to \$120K. The low bidder was ACSM for \$220,301. As the low bidder was from Charlotte, North Carolina, he contacted them to confirm that there would be no additional costs due to their location. He had to declare other bidders as non-responsive because they didn't meet the requirements outlined in the bid documents. He was recommending the bid award to ACSM. They would only be built out to what was budgeted, so even though the bid award amount was \$220,301, they would only do as much production as funded this year, and whatever was set for next year. The initial implementation would be over a three-year period. He would be bringing the actual action for the award to the meeting on March 16th.

Mayor Hill stated he wanted to be clear on the financial piece of this action. There was \$60K put away in the current budget, correct? For the 21-22 budget, staff was recommending another \$60K or would it be \$120K?

Mr. Brown stated \$60K this year, yes, and approximately \$60K in next year's budget, for \$120K total.

Mayor Hill stated of the \$120K, what if the city didn't receive the grant?

Mr. Brown stated if the city didn't receive the grant, the company would just build out the \$60K and the \$60K.

Mayor Hill asked if that would increase the cost of the full project, or would all the signs be purchased at one time and only installed a certain amount?

Mr. Brown stated he was clear in the bid documents that this would be a phased buildout, which included a base price and an annual inflation amount.

Councilor Kirby asked if the company was aware of the licensing requirements in Oregon to perform this type of work.

Mr. Brown stated he would check on that question.

Diversity Advisory Committee Role Around Homeless

Ken Hart, City Councilor, stated he met with some of the members of the DAC as it related to the Charter Committee, and in that discussion he asked about the role of the Diversity Committee. He thought it would be helpful to know what the role was. He deferred to Councilor Rodriguez or Mr. Brown to explain that role to the Council. During the discussion, their comment was that as things arose before the Council that the DAC could weigh in on, or give help on, that would be appropriate. They also had a discussion regarding the tiny homes and the homeless shelter, the public hearing that the Chief held with members of the community, and that caused DAC to start thinking about behavioral health issues and homelessness that is part of this community and could that be a group that might help the Council to explore some other options available in the community like working with Lifeways. He had asked this to be on the Agenda to have an open discussion about it.

Councilor Rodriguez stated he joined because the definition of the Diversity Committee was to be advocates for diversity, but he didn't believe the Committee had gotten off the ground. In the previous meeting, the Committee began discussions about structuring what mission was. They spoke of advocacy and the need for that for the homeless community. He believed they were also wanting meet more than once a month.

Peter Hall, Assistant City Manager, stated he didn't recall the discussion about increasing the meetings, but he'd review the minutes. Currently, the Committee was without a Chair. The Committee had been waiting on

appointments to make the Committee whole before electing that position. He anticipated that occurring at the next meeting.

Mr. Brown stated the purpose of the Committee, as established by ordinance, was to advise the Council on matters pertaining to diversity and for the Council to seek their response on issues as they arose.

Mr. Hall stated in speaking to Councilor Rodriguez's statement, it seemed like every time the Committee was about to get off the ground, something happened, such as Covid, or Committee turnover, so it was exciting to hear the excitement around finding their purpose and seeing a vision on how they could step in and fill the advocacy part of their Committee.

Councilor Hart stated Chief Romero made it clear that homelessness was not a police issue, it was a community issue. He supported having the Diversity Committee look into that.

Mayor Hill stated he found out just that day that Ontario had 111 homeless children, not including preschoolers and drop-outs, and about 65% of the district was non-Caucasian. Having the Diversity Committee involved in that would be a positive thing.

Civil Penalties Matrix Update *(Documents attached)*

Steven Romero, Police Chief, stated currently, the Ontario Municipal Code 7-1-2 enumerated the public and private property nuisances that might be abated under the current code. The criteria for imposition of civil penalties were delineated in OMC 1-15-15. Effective property abatement was essential for ensuring the community's general health, aesthetic acceptance, and to minimize the amount of blight that existed in the community. Research showed that abandoned property blight could lead to and attract criminal activity and other social issues. The Code Enforcement Division used the nuisance abatement powers strategically to support the city's strategic plan, specifically in the areas of beautification, lifestyle, and desirability. OMC 1-15-15 stated *"...the notice of a civil penalty shall set forth the amount of the penalty, which unless otherwise specifically provided in the code, shall not exceed \$2,000 per day..."* Over the last year, CE had researched other cities abatement ordinances and models, and internally generated incremental adjustments to assure optimal efficiency and effectiveness within the city's abatement process. He had worked with the CE officers to evaluate based on a case-by-case basis. The department adopted a matrix from the City of Salem, but not the money side of things. They considered this community's needs were and demographics. The attachments were 1) a civil penalties matrix; 2) a revised civil penalties matrix 12-20; and 3) excessive abatement civil penalties matrix. He was looking to the Council for direction and guidance as to what they thought the CE Division should move forward and what, if any, adjustments could be. He was asking the Council to discuss OMC 6-2-3 amendments and provide staff direction. For example, the ordinance allowed the imposition of a penalty up to \$2,000 per day, but did not state when to start it, or stop it. The matrix attached outlined the current process for calculating a penalty.

Mr. Brown stated Chief Romero was before them based on comments made by Council during the Strategic Planning Session. Council indicated they didn't want it as punitive as the prior system.

Mayor Hill stated Chief Romero indicated the Code provided flexibility; was there no Council action, just unilateral action by the Police Department?

Chief Romero stated yes, but it was more focused on working within the parameters in the current ordinance. Fines could increase or decrease but could not exceed \$2,000 per day.

Mr. Sullivan stated he had informed Chief Romero no ordinance amendment was necessary because the matrix was lower than the maximum fine; however, he believed the Council should play a role in reviewing the structure, and then adopt by resolution. It could also be done through an Administrative Rule through the City Manager, but that would be back before Council. Regardless, some formal action by the Council should occur.

Councilor Kirby asked, regarding rentals, were both tenant and owner notified.

Chief Romero stated the ordinance required contact be made, which also included notice posted on the door. Notification was also mailed, either certified mail or certificate of letter, which provided receipt.

Councilor Kirby wanted to know if the notice was given to the owner of record, as well as the tenant.

Rick Reyna, Code Enforcement Officer, stated he was striving for communication. They attempted to notify both owner and tenant.

Safe Routes to School (SRTS) Award and Plans *(Documents attached)*

Al Cablay, Public Works Director, stated the grant application was submitted August 31, 2020; approved by ODOT December 2020. Total project was \$450K. The city match was approximately \$90K, and the ODOT grant was the remainder. The schools involved were Alameda Elementary, Mae Roberts Elementary, and the Ontario Middle School. There were two categories: construction and non-construction. Construction would be building ADA ramps and sidewalks, along with acquiring right-of-way. The contractors and consultants would enter IGAs, which Jacobs would handle regarding surveying, design, and construction. The first contract that would be before the Council in April dealt with pass through funds.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Mr. Brown stated Chief Leighton had to leave soon for his Rural Fire Board meeting, so could he jimp in and do his Quarterly Report now?

Mayor Hill moved Chief Leighton to the next item on the Agenda.

Fire & Rescue: Quarterly Report *(Document attached)*

Terry Leighton, Fire Chief, presented.

Mayor Hill stated he had received his vaccination at the Airport, and the process was well-organized and well-executed.

RETURN TO DISCUSSION ITEMS

Tapadera Lift Station *(Document attached)*

Al Cablay, Public Works Director, stated the Tapadera Lift Station improvement was necessary now due the presence and opportunity for a 70-unit multi-family project located in the NE quadrant. Currently, the lift station cycled on and off two frequently, which meant it was being overworked. It was currently undersized as it had not been designed for the capacity that it was being asked to service. The Nascosto project was going to significantly impact the subbasin. Currently, funding for the improvements was scheduled for FY 2022-2023 for design and construction; however, because of the Nascosto development opportunity, staff was asking for the funding to be moved forward to address the design needs. That would keep pace with development and show that the city was being responsive to the infrastructure needs. The engineering firm, Keller & Associates, proposed a task order for \$52,885 for the design for upsizing the Tapadera Lift Station.

Bid Award: 2021 Chip Seal Oil, Fog Seal Oil, Distribution, and Freight

Al Cablay, Public Works Director, stated this was an item that went out for bid on an annual basis for roadway maintenance. Jacobs supplied the labor, so this was material costs. Three bids were received, and the apparent low bidder was Ergon Asphalt and Emulsion, Inc., for \$77K. The current budget was for \$150K. They would compete approximately 11 lane miles. It would be Verde from the Yturri Beltline to SW 4th, Idaho from Verde to 2nd, and NW 9th from Idaho to NW 8th.



Mayor Hill stated the city was currently on a 10-year cycle, and previously years had been skipped due to budget constraints. Was the 10-year cycle enough and was the city now behind the curve? Next time the Council was setting goals, maybe they should review the timeframe. They all knew chip sealing could save a street for quite a while.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Finance: Monthly Report (Attached)

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

Mayor Hill asked if the city was on track, not including marijuana funds, to have about a \$900K carry-over, and not including the three months of operating reserve.

Ms. Ott believed that was correct.

Community Development: Quarterly Report (Attached)

Dan Cummings, Community Development Director, presented.

HAND-OUTS

Monthly Department Stats (Attached)

Fire & Rescue, Police, Public Works, Code Enforcement

Packet: (Attached)

V&C Board Meeting

Minutes: (Attached)

County Court: Feb 9, 2021; Feb 10, 2021; Feb 17, 2021

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

- Mayor Hill stated he had received three letters. He did not believe the two anonymous letters should become part of the record; the third was signed by Bennett Thede, Ontario, that should become part of the record. Letters were received and incorporated into the minutes through reference.

EXECUTIVE SESSIONS

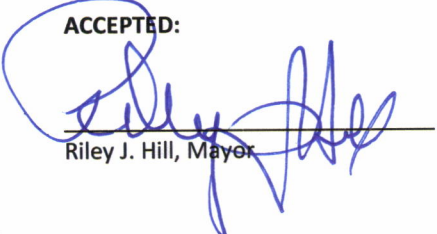
EXECUTIVE SESSION: ORS 192.660(2)(e)

An executive session was called at 8:15 p.m. under provisions of ORS 192.660(2)(e) to discuss real property. The Council reconvened back into regular session at 9:08 p.m.

ADJOURN

RODRIGUEZ moved, BRADEN seconded, **THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED**. Roll call vote: Rodriguez-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 7/0/0.

ACCEPTED:


Riley J. Hill, Mayor

ATTEST


Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder

