



CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES August 23, 2022

The scheduled meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Mayor Riley Hill at 6:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 23, 2022, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present were Riley Hill, Michael Braden, Ken Hart, Eddie Melendrez, and Susann Mills. Sam Baker arrived at 6:21pm; John Kirby signed on at 6:45pm.

Members of staff present were Dan Cummings, Tori Barnett, Terry Leighton, Justin Zysk, Kari Ott, Casey Mordhorst, Mike Iwai, and Paul Woods.

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

Mayor Hill led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

This Agenda was posted on August 19, 2022. Copies of the Agenda are available from the City Hall Customer Service Counter and on the city's website www.ontariooregon.org.

Mayor Hill added two items to the Agenda: Item 8)D – Accept applications for City Manager position; and Item 8)E – Clean Water Authority.

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **TO ADOPT THE AGENDA AS AMENDED**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-out; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 5/0/2.

LOCAL CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD

Sole Source Purchase Request: Water Treatment Equipment

Paul Woods, City Engineer, presented.

Growth demands require the City to increase the ability to deliver safe drinking water to the community by expanding the water treatment system. The 2020 Water Master Plan calls for the addition of a 2 million gallon-per-day water filtration system to provide the necessary increase in capacity. Murraysmith was retained by the city to complete engineering associated with this project. The attached memorandum lays out the argument to proceed with the city's direct purchasing of the unit from WesTech and doing so as a sole source purchase. Selecting the WesTech unit to compliment the two existing WesTech units will save the city and its customers operational costs and will ensure performance consistency.

The funds for the purchase of the equipment were authorized by the City Council in adopting the annual budget with the water treatment plant expansion project listed as a specific capital improvement expenditure. Due to the 40-week lead time, approval of the purchase now is needed to keep the project moving forward.

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO AUTHORIZE THE SOLE SOURCE PURCHASE OF THE WESTECH WATER FILTRATION EQUIPMENT AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE PURCHASE**. Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-out; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 5/0/2.



BEGIN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**PRESENTATIONS****Proclamation: Malheur County Prevention Coalition**

Jennifer Shafer read the proclamation into the record: *City of Ontario Recovery Month Proclamation*
Mental health, substance use, and harmful gambling behaviors affect all communities nationwide. With commitment and support, our family members, friends, colleagues, and community members with these disorders can achieve healthy lifestyles and lead rewarding lives in recovery. By seeking help, people who experience mental health, substance use and/or harmful gambling behaviors can embark on a new path toward improved health and overall wellness. The focus of our local theme for Recovery Month for September 2022 is "Recovery is For Every Person, Recovery is For Every Family, Recovery is For Every Community, Recovery is for Everyone!" To celebrate their journey, we recognize the challenges of recovery, and we support them! We realize the need to share resources and build networks that support recovery in all forms, as we are all part of the solution. Recovery Month and Hands Around the Park spreads the message that behavioral health is essential to one's overall health and wellness, and that prevention works, treatment is effective, and people do recover.

The impact of mental health and substance use disorders is apparent in our country, with 22 million people in the US suffering from an active addiction disorder, and 1 out of every 3 households being directly impacted by addiction. Oregon ranks first among all states for adults with substance use disorders and third in the nation for youth with substance use disorders. Additionally, an estimated 84,000 adult Oregonians have moderate or severe gambling disorders. These conditions in one way or another affect us all. Through Recovery Month, people become more aware and able to recognize the signs of mental health, substance use, and harmful gambling behaviors, which can help guide more people into needed treatment. Managing the effects of these conditions can help people achieve healthy lifestyles, both physically and emotionally.

The Recovery Month observance continues to work to improve lives to promote and support treatment, and recovery practices, educating communities about prevention and acknowledging the dedication of service providers and community members who assist in making recovery possible. For the above reasons, we are asking the citizens of Oregon to join us in celebrating this September as Recovery Month.

We, as the City of Ontario, do hereby proclaim the month of September 2022 as Mental Health, Substance Use, and Harmful Gambling Behaviors Recovery Month

In Ontario, OR, we call upon our community to observe this month with compelling programs and events that support this year's observance.

MELENDREZ moved, HART seconded, **TO ADOPT THE PROCLAMATION AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR AND STAFF TO SIGN THE PROCLAMATION.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-out; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 5/0/2.

Update: Sprint Boat Races

Ron Dillon stated: *Mayor and Council, I know you have a full agenda, so I'll be brief. I just thought it would be appropriate to update you on how things are going out there. I know some of you have attended one or both of our races, and some haven't. We haven't had any accidents; we haven't had any injuries. Our safety fence got slammed into at the last race, and it just stood there stoically like it was supposed to and no one was harmed. We have not had great attendance out there, and that's been frustrating. These young kids coming up that want to be even producers, the first thing I tell them is do not buy into if you build it, they will come. So what did I do? I bought into if they build it, they will come. Shame on me. However, we're not giving up. We know that part of the problem was no grass, so we've been out there slaving away installing sod. Huge kudos to Warrington Irrigation. Joey Warrington got tired of me slogging in there every day, saying I'm dying out there, we can't get any water, and she finally said, I'm going to loan you an entire water system, and bless their hearts, they came out and installed it. It still has a few little*



hiccups, but by and large we've got half of that berm about, we've laid down about 15,000 square feet of sod, with another 15 to go. I got a screaming deal on the sod, so it looks night and day different. I wish I had a slide to show you, but I'm going out there after the meeting tonight to keep going. World of difference. We're also going to lower our ticket prices. We came into this going, well our tickets are cheaper than the other two tracks, but we found out that doesn't matter. In this community, it better be really, really, really low priced or they're not going to come. So, we're going to have the lowest ticket prices. We'll be half of what the other tracks charge, which is risky because you get it down to where if we're charging a dollar for a ticket, we'd have to get 15,000 people to break even, and that's probably not going to happen, but we're trying A through Z to make this work. Also, I want to thank the, and I should have written her name down, I believe they're called the New Life or New Hope Recovery Center here in town. They are magnificent. They've been sending us people out to help lay the sod and help with safety crews and they're fabulous people and I wish them all well. So this photo up on the screen behind you, that's the recent race up at Port Angeles, Washington. They sold 6,100 tickets. The owner confided in me that he cleared over \$150,000 profit. I said I don't know whether to be impressed or cry. But I thought Port Angeles was a suburb of Seattle, but it's not. It's 123 miles north of Seattle, out kind of in the boondocks. Now they've been doing this for a while, so it's tough to say that we're just going to jump in and do like them, but we are going to go up and attend their next race here in a couple weeks and try and understand while they're getting thousands and thousands and thousands of people. They have 30 racers; we only had ten. (Next slide please) Okay, this is the recent race at Saint John, Washington, which is out completely out in the middle of now where, out near Lewiston, and there's about 5,000 people there. Again, they've got some grass, they've got some trees, they've got this and that, but the idea that you have to be near a big urban area to pull thousands of people, these guys are proof that that's not the case. So we're going to keep fighting, with more and more grass, more and more water, and lower ticket prices. Our last race this year is October 1st. We're going to give it a go. We do appreciate the city; they've been nothing but helpful on this, as has John Breidenbach and the Chamber of Commerce have been enormously supportive of us. I just wanted to let you know we're still here, we're still swinging, and we hope to see you October 1st.

Councilor Hart asked with regard to the other events, how much pull was there from other people who followed those races vs getting local people here from like Ontario or the Boise area? Was it about 50/50?

Mr. Dillon: Yes, there are people who follow the circuit. We had a couple that said hey we drove here from Seattle, we drove here from San Francisco, whatever. There's only, the thing that we thought was going to help us more than it has, there's only three sprint boat tracks in the entire country, we being one of them. We're not getting that turn out. We continue to hear your prices are too high and there's no grass, and that's why we attacked the grass thing. Is that going to make a huge difference? I simply don't know. We know it'll help, and we know that the airport is excited because there's dust issues over there and the more, we water and the more grass there is, the less dust there's going to be at the airport. As far as local, we thought we'd get a big following from Boise. We tried to draw some analogies with our Big Nasty Hill Climb, and it draws big crowds from Boise, Kuna, Caldwell, that should be happening here. There is some discussion that maybe our advertising isn't working. We're primarily using social media, but a lot of people follow things on Facebook now, and our last boosted ad for the last race got 150,000+ views and I think about 6,000 clicks where they went to our website, so you try to think optimistically and you go, gosh, we're going to get, the whole thing was designed to get at least 1,000 paying spectators. At the point, the numbers start to work. We have 763 paying spectators at the first one, and we had several hundred more people that got in for free, sponsor tickets, that kind of thing, so that's why he said there was 1,100 people at the first one because that was about what we had. The second was noticeably worse. It was only 411 that were sold and another 200 or so that were there. Speculation there is that the weather was pretty bad at the first one. The wind came up and of course the water truck broke down and it was a mess, but you'd still think that people would go, man, sprint boats, this is great. The racing out there has just been terrific. Yeah, we need to pull harder from this community; we need to get Boise over here. We're expecting at least 6-8,000 at our Big Nasty Hill Climb in three weeks. Now that's maybe not fair because it's been around for 18 years, but still, it's the only motorcycle hill climb in Idaho and this is the only sprint boat track in Oregon, so if Nasty can do it, Ontario Speedway should be able to do it.

OLD BUSINESS**Upgrade Request: Dump Truck**

Casey Mordhorst, Public Works Director, presented.

MELENDREZ moved, HART seconded, **THAT THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE A REQUEST TO UPGRADE THE HYDRAULICS AND SANDER ON THE 1999 VOLVO 10-YARD OUNT NOT TO EXCEED \$78,000.00 TO METROQUIP.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Resolution #2022-135: Reallocating Funds from Dump Truck Funding to Softball Fields and Contingency

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2022-135: A RESOLUTION TO REALLOCATE FUNDS FROM THE DUMP TRUCK TO SOFTBALL BACKSTOPS AND CONTINGENCY.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

NEW BUSINESS**Amendment #2 to Wastewater Services Agreement: City of Ontario and SRCI**

Paul Woods, City Engineer, presented.

MELENDREZ moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE AMENDMENT #2 OF THE WASTEWATER SERVICES AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND SRCI AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO SIGN ALL DOCUMENTS RELATED TO THE ACTION.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Resolution #2022-136: Support a Vision Zero Policy

Justin Zysk, HR Manager/Assistant to City Manager, presented.

MILLS moved, MELENDREZ seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO ADOPT RESOLUTION #2022-136: A RESOLUTION TO ADOPT A GOAL TO REDUCE TRAFFIC RELATED-FATALITIES D SUPPORTING A VISION ZERO POLICY IN THE CITY OF ONTARIO.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Resolution #2022-137: Police Radio Repairs

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

MILLS moved, HART seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2022-137: A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE CARRYOVER 2021-2022 RADIO EQUIPMENT FUNDING.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Accept Applications for the City Manager Position

Mayor Riley Hill this was needed due to a mistake that was made in advertising for applicants for a new City Manager. It was his understanding that the city received three applications, but then when the deadline was published, eight more applications were received. It was a Council decision to accept all eight applications, or to only move forward with the three applications that met the deadline.

HART moved, MELENDREZ seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL ACCEPT ALL EIGHT APPLICATIONS SINCE THAT WAS WHAT WAS PUBLISHED FOR FOLKS EVEN THOUGH THAT DID NOT COINCIDE WITH WHAT THE COUNCIL HAD VOTED ON.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

Authorization to Submit a Letter of Interest for Oregon Safe Drinking Water State Revolving Loan Fund for the Water Treatment Plant Expansion

Paul Woods, City Engineer, presented.

Councilor Hart asked if Merchant McIntyre was helping with this?

Mr. Woods stated they were not.

HART moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZE THE SUBMITTAL OF A LETTER OF INTENT TO THE OREGON STATE SAFE DRINKING WATER STATE REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR WATER TREATMENT PLANT EXPANSION AND AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR OR CITY MANAGER TO SIGN.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-out; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 6/0/1.

PUBLIC HEARING**CDBG Sewer Line Replacement Project Close Out**

It being the date advertised for public hearing on the matter stated above, the Hearing was declared open. There were no objections to the city's jurisdiction to hear the action, one abstention, no ex-parte contact, and one declaration of conflict of interest.

Paul Woods, City Engineer, presented.

The Hearing was opened for public testimony. Opponents: None. Proponents: None. There being no Proponent and no Opponent testimony, the Hearing was closed.

MILLS moved, BAKER seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE CLOSING THE CDBG SEWER LINE REPLACEMENT PROJECT AND DIRECT STAFF TO SUBMIT ALL NECESSARY CLOSE OUT DOCUMENTATION AS REQUIRED BY THE GRANT.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 7/0/0.

Ordinance #2813-2022: Proclaiming the Rezoning of Certain Property within the City of Ontario from Heavy Industrial (I-2) to General Commercial (C-2)

It being the date advertised for public hearing on the matter stated above, the Hearing was declared open. There were no objections to the city's jurisdiction to hear the action, no abstentions, no ex-parte contact, and no declarations of conflict of interest.

Mayor Hill recused himself due to a conflict of interest and stepped down from the dais. Council President Hart presided over the public hearing on this action.

Dan Cummings, Community Development Director, presented.

The Hearing was opened for public testimony. Opponents: None. Proponents: None. There being no Proponent and no Opponent testimony, the Hearing was closed.

BRADEN moved, MILLS seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE PLANNING COMMISSION AND APPROVE THE FINDINGS OF FACTS OF FACTS FOR THE REZONE OF THE SUBJECT PROPERTY FROM HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (I-2) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) AS SET FORTH IN PLANNING ACTION 2022 2022-06-26RZ BASED ON THE INFORMATION, FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS SET FORTH IN THIS REPORT.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-recused. Motion carried 6/0/0/1.



BRADEN moved, MILLS seconded, **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8.2(2) OF THE CITY CHARTER, THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #2813-2022 AN ORDINANCE PROCLAIMING THE REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO FROM HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (I-2) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) AS SET FORTH IN ACTION 2022-06-26RZ, AT A SINGLE MEETING BY TITLE ONLY.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-recused. Motion carried 6/0/0/1.

BRADEN moved, MILLS seconded, **IN ACCORDANCE WITH SECTION 8.2(2) OF THE CITY CHARTER, THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE ORDINANCE #2813-2022 AN ORDINANCE PROCLAIMING THE REZONING OF CERTAIN PROPERTY WITHIN THE CITY OF ONTARIO FROM HEAVY INDUSTRIAL (I-2) TO GENERAL COMMERCIAL (C-2) AS SET FORTH IN ACTION 2022-06-26RZ, AT A SINGLE MEETING BY TITLE ONLY.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-recused. Motion carried 6/0/0/1.

Mayor Hill returned to the dais.

Resolution #2022-138: Supplemental Budget – Ontario Promise and Aquatic Fund

It being the date advertised for public hearing on the matter stated above, the Hearing was declared open. There were no objections to the city's jurisdiction to hear the action, no abstentions, ex-parte contact, and no declarations of conflict of interest.

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

The Hearing was opened for public testimony. Opponents: None. Proponents: None. There being no Proponent and no Opponent testimony, the Hearing was closed.

HILL moved, BAKER seconded, **THE CITY COUNCIL APPROVE RESOLUTION #2022-138: A SUPPLEMENTAL BUDGET TO APPROPRIATE REMAINING AQUATIC FUND BALANCE AND MOVE ONTARIO PROMISE FUNDING TO A SEPARATE FUND.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 7/0/0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD UPDATES

Finance: Monthly Report (Attached)

Kari Ott, Finance Director, presented.

HAND OUTS

Minutes: County Court (Attached)

08-03-2022; 08-10-2022

Check Register (Attached)

July 2022

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

- Councilor Hart gave a shout out to Chief Iwai. He listened to his presentation to a delegation of Senators and House members about some issues he and his staff were facing in Ontario with homelessness, crime, and drugs. It was well-received. The Chief is extremely respected, and people wondered how Ontario got him. They were told he was ours and they could not have him! He did Ontario proud in that presentation, so thank you to Chief Iwai.



- Councilor Mills stated she believed they'd be receiving a presentation from Chief Iwai at the next meeting, and she'd like him to include an update on the officers who were not currently on duty.

Executive Session: ORS 192.660(2)(a)

An executive session was called at 7:10 p.m. under provisions of ORS 192.660(1)(a) to consider employment of an officer, employee, staff member, or agent. The Council reconvened into regular session at 8:27 p.m.

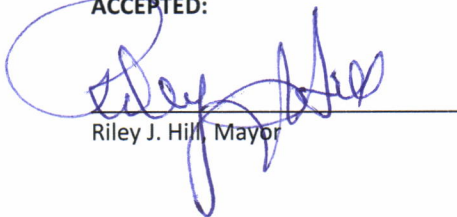
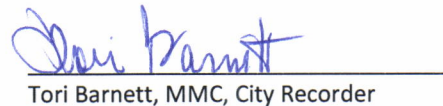
ACTION FOLLOWING EXECUTIVE SESSION**City Manager Recruitment Process: Next Steps**

Mayor Hill stated the Council would be asking 14 questions of the candidates. The Council has narrowed it to four (4) candidates. The four unselected will receive regret letters. Councilor Hart and Councilor Braden would be reviewing the questions for finality, and they would then be submitted to the city's legal counsel for review and approval.

HART moved, BAKER seconded, **TO APPROVE THE STEPS OF ASKING THE CANDIDATES 14 QUESTIONS FOR THE FOUR CANDIDATES SELECTED BY THE COUNCIL; THE FOUR CANDIDATES NOT SELECTED WILL RECEIVE LETTERS OF REGRET; AND COUNCILOR HART AND COUNCILOR BRADEN WILL REVIEW THE 14 QUESTIONS AND SUBMIT THEM TO THE CITY ATTORNEY FOR APPROVAL.** Roll call vote: Mills-yes; Baker-yes; Kirby-yes; Hart-yes; Braden-yes; Melendrez-yes; Hill-yes. Motion carried 7/0/0.

ADJOURN

HART moved, BAKER seconded, **THAT THE MEETING BE ADJOURNED.** Roll call vote: Mills-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