

WORK SESSION MEETING
CITY OF AMITY, OR

Minutes

A Work Session Meeting was held at 5:30 p.m. on Wednesday April 19, 2023, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon.

Councilors Present

Councilor Sandy McArthur, Councilor Melissa Bojorquez, Councilor April Dyche, Councilor Alice Thompson, Councilor Caleb Shield and Mayor Rachel King.

Councilors Present via Zoom

None

Councilors Absent

Councilor Denis Saucier

Staff Present

City Treasurer/Recorder Natasha Johnson and Interim Administrator Rob Daykin

1. CITIZEN COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

There were none.

2. CITY ADMINISTRATOR COMMENTS:

There were none.

3. TOPICS OF DISCUSSION:

- a. Update Administrator Recruitment: Councilor Dyche updated Council regarding Administrator recruitment process. There were seven applications that were submitted. They narrowed it down to five applicants and will start with zoom interview. From the zoom interviews, they will narrow it down to three applicants. Councilor Bojorquez asked if city staff will be involved in the interview process. Mayor King let the Council know will have City Recorder Johnson involved. Mayor King went over the schedule for interviews. Councilor Shields said it would be good idea to have a set of questions to ask each candidate to help score them. Mayor King explained there will be a set of questions asked. The council all agreed to start zoom interviews next week and to reach out to COG Director Scott Dadson to get the interviews set up.

Mayor King asked Council if they want to involve one more Councilor or ok with just having her and Council President Dyche be involved. They were all ok with starting with the two of them for Council representation. Councilor Bojorquez asked if they offer the

job to an applicant and they do not accept, do we have to start all over. Interim Administrator Daykin explained it is open until filled. Mayor King explained further. Interim Daykin asked if the Mayor and Council want him to start the contract process with the City Attorney. The council would like the process to get started and to have it ready by June Council meeting.

- b. Local Marijuana Tax: Interim Rob Daykin went over background regarding the Local Marijuana Tax. He explained he had reached out to the Department of Revenue regarding the local tax. He spoke with the owner of the Marijuana shop, and he is ok paying local tax but prefers to pay through Oregon Department of Revenue. He explained imposing the tax would have to go out to public vote at the 2024 general election. He went over the steps that would be involved. He explained different options you can dedicate the revenue to. Mayor King explained further, and that the owner was surprised there wasn't a local tax. She explained the Council and Planning Commission will be looking at the Psilocybin and the Marijuana at a joint work session and how to implement it and will be important to keep on radar for the next election.

OPEN FORUM & DISCUSSION FROM THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCILORS:

- a. Mayor Comments – Mayor King let the Council know she received a resignation letter from Councilor Saucier and will be presented at the next Council meeting and to hopefully swear in a new Councilor at July Council meeting. Interim Daykin explained council can swear in at the same meeting they appoint. She explained thinks will be ok waiting.

She updated Council that she will be attending the upcoming LOC conference and she received a scholarship. She reminded Council that they can go on the website and can sign up for meetings. She updated the Council regarding an upcoming LOC meeting in Dallas.

She brought up the bullet point info for the Newsletters and the Amity info corner. She went over some of the topics she will be putting in her portion and she asked if any Council would be interested in taking it on. Councilor Bojorquez has a list to submit. Would be really beneficial to have two a year.

She went over updates regarding Shred Day and Clean Up Day. She thanked everyone who was there to help. She thinks it would be good to have more detailed info on what is not accepted. City Recorder suggested making sure the ID is checked.

- b. Finance – Councilor Dyche asked if the budget calendar can be sent out to Council and Budget members. Recorder Johnson will send out.

- c. Infrastructure – Councilors McArthur & Shields – Councilor McArthur thinks would be good to be more transparent regarding street maintenance. There were no further comments.
- d. Community Engagement – Councilors Bojorquez & Thompson – Councilor Bojorquez went over update regarding volunteer website and will present at the next work session. There were no further comments.
- e. Public Safety – Councilors Saucier & Dyché – Councilor Dyché hasn't heard anything about the new contract person. She asked City Recorder Johnson to give out the budget calendar to Council. There were no further comments.
- f. Parks – Councilors Thompson & Saucier – Councilor Thompson asked regarding if the park grant has been submitted. Interim Daykin explained the process of the grant. Councilor Thompson asked if some temporary pads to use this year. He explained will do some research and see what the cost would be. There were no further comments.
- g. City Services – Councilors Shields & McArthur – Councilor Shields asked regarding the ordinances regarding homelessness and seemed hard to understand. Mayor King explained the hope is to get the ordinance regarding homelessness to the City Attorney in May to draft. Councilor Shields explained it is really vague. Councilor Bojorquez explained what she understands from the meetings that she has gone to regarding this. Mayor King explained further.

Mayor King went over that our City Attorney is retiring, and COG will not be extending attorney services but will cover certain things and they will help us. She asked Interim Daykin to look into starting the process of looking into contracting with an attorney. Councilor Bojorquez asked if this would be a rate hike in budget. Mayor King explained most likely. There were no further comments.

Mayor King reminded the Council of the upcoming Council meeting and explained the other upcoming meetings. She reminded the Council if they can't make the meeting to reach out to her or city staff. Mayor King adjourned the meeting at 6:35 p.m.

Approved by City Council May 3, 2023

Rachel King, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Johnson, City Recorder