

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
CITY OF AMITY, OR

Minutes

Regular Meeting of the City of Amity City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, January 4, 2023, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon.

Swearing in of New Councilors: City Recorder Johnson swore into office Councilor Denis Saucier and Councilor Caleb Shields.

Councilors Present:

Councilor Melissa Bojorquez, Councilor Sandy McArthur, Councilor Denis Saucier, Councilor Caleb Shields and Mayor Rachel King

Councilors Present via Zoom

Councilor April Dyche

Councilors Absent

None

Staff Present

City Administrator Mike Thomas and City Recorder Natasha Johnson

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Councilor Bojorquez moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor McArthur seconded and with no discussion motion passed 5-0.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS:**

- A. Yamhill County Sheriff's Report: Deputy Lavish from YCSO updated Council regarding the calls YCSO had for the previous couple of months. He updated Council on Deputy Summers ordinance cases. He also stated the City's new night deputy will be starting on or about January 13<sup>th</sup>. Councilor McArthur asked if there was a reason calls for service dropped between 2021 and 2022. Sgt Lavish replied, explained that often when calls drop off it could be due to the presence of more deputies on duty. There were no further comments or questions for Sheriff's Office.
- B. DIG Report: DIG's Erin Rainey went over who all volunteered filling the goodie bags for the Christmas Parade. She also went over the upcoming daffodil festival and the upcoming meeting. There were no comments or questions for DIG.
- C. Citizen Comments: There were no citizen comments.

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Elect Council President: Mayor King gave background regarding nominating Council President for 2023. Councilor Bojorquez nominated Councilor Dyche to be the Council President for 2023. Councilor McArthur seconded, and Councilor Dyche accepted nomination as president and with no further discussion motion passed 5-0.
- B. Discussion on Goal Setting: City Administrator Thomas detailed the upcoming goal setting and recommended a date of January 28, 2023. Councilors are all agreed to having the goal setting on January 28<sup>th</sup>. Mayor King requested the goal setting session be held at the Fire Department. City Recorder Johnson will seek to reserve a room at the Fire Department. Mayor King also would like the Planning Commissioners invited to the goal setting session. City Recorder Johnson will invite the Planning Commissioner to the goal setting session.
- C. Vacation Rollover: City Administrator Thomas described the background regarding why employees may have vacation rollover into 2023. He then stated to Council that as of now no employees have any leave to rollover. Mayor King discussed that our City Policy is for Council to approve rollovers. Council noting that there are none to approve, took no action taken on this agenda item.
- D. Appoint Budget Officer & Approve Budget Calendar: Mayor King discussed the appointment Budget Officer and went over the upcoming Budget Calendar. Councilor Bojorquez moved to appoint Administrator Michael Thomas as the budget officer for fiscal year 2023-24 and approve the proposed budget calendar. Councilor McArthur seconded and with no discussion motion passed 5-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

City Administrator Report: City Administrator Thomas submitted his report and updated Council regarding sewer system discharge that occurred over New Year's Eve weekend, which will result in an DEQ violation and possible fine. Councilor Saucier asked when the last one happened and if there was a fine associated. Administrator Thomas explained this happened previously in March 2022 and no fine was assessed. Mayor King then added that the City has had this issue for some time. Councilor Saucier asked if there is a plan in place so this doesn't happen again. Mayor King explained there is a sewer study happening that will go over what improvements are needed to fix the problem(s). Administrator Thomas explained the company doing the study will attend the February 1<sup>st</sup> Council Meeting to present the study's results and the associated costs. Councilor Saucier asked regarding having volunteers to help. Mayor King explained that due to the regulations upon publicly funded projects, which the sewer system will be, volunteers would not be acceptable. Administrator Thomas added that volunteering to keep storm drains and culverts cleaned, would be a best use of volunteers. Councilor Bojorquez suggested that the City post that to social media for educational / informational purposes.

City Administrator Thomas updated Council regarding Citizen Engel's desire to begin a local ballot initiative for the 2024 election, so as to ban psilocybin in Amity. Mayor King explained that since the City does not have a ballot initiative process, the City will defer to the State and

the County for how to accomplish this. Yet, Mayor King also recommended that Ms. Engel describe whether her intent was to show support for a possible ballot measure or to actually commit the City to a ballot measure. Citizen Engel explained to Council her intent regarding this, which was to get a ballot measure. Administrator Thomas let Council know that he recommended some options to Ms. Engel with which to approach the County and State. There were no further comments or questions for the City Administrator.

City Recorder/Treasurer Report: Recorder Johnson submitted her report and added her thanks to Mayor King and Councilor Bojorquez for helping to stuff billing envelopes at the end of December.

Public Works Report: Public Works submitted report and was not present at the meeting. Mayor King appreciated that Public Works submitted a report despite their busyness.

Library Report: Librarian Jenkins submitted her report and was not present at the meeting. There were no comments or questions for the library.

City Engineer Billing Report: Billing report submitted. There were no comments or questions regarding billing.

City Attorney/Planner Billing Report: Billing report submitted. There were no comments or questions regarding billing.

### **BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCILORS:**

Councilor President April Dyche Comments: Councilor Dyche welcomed the new councilors. There were no comments for Councilor Dyche.

Councilor Sandy McArthur Comments: Councilor McArthur welcomed the new councilors. There were no comments for Councilor McArthur.

Councilor Saucier Comments: Councilor Saucier had nothing to report. There were no comments for Councilor Saucier.

Councilor Bojorquez Comments: Councilor Bojorquez reported on some ideas for sharing information with the community. There were no further comments for Councilor Bojorquez.

Councilor Shields Comments: Councilor Shields had nothing to report. There were no comments for Councilor Shields.

Mayor King Comments: Mayor King announced vacant positions for both the City Council and Budget Committee. She updated council about a complaint she received regarding the utility work happening around town. She asked council to brainstorm ideas to get info out to citizens regarding upcoming work companies are doing. She asked for Administrator Thomas to help get information out. She let Council know she and Councilor Bojorquez will be attending a homelessness conference tomorrow. She let Council know the February meeting might be long as the agenda will contain a sewer rate study update and an ODOT update on the Salt Creek

Bridge, in addition to the wastewater plan update. She also mentioned that January's Work Session would be a Town Hall meeting beginning at 6pm. Councilor Saucier asked regarding deputies schedule and goals for them, to which she said there were some, but if there were recommendations for changes, to bring up any suggestions when they are here and to Administrator. Administrator Thomas added, that when Mayor King took office, she continued the goals set by the previous mayors, which Administrator Thomas then detailed. There were no further comments for Mayor King.

Councilor Bojorquez made motion to adjourn meeting. Councilor McArthur seconded and with no discussion meeting adjourned. Mayor King adjourned meeting at 7:45 pm.

**Approved by the City February 1, 2023**

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Rachel King, Mayor

**Attest:**

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Natasha Johnson, City Recorder