

**SPECIAL SESSION OF THE
COUNCIL CITY OF AMITY, OR**

Minutes

Work Session of the City of Amity City Council was held at 6:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 20, 2022, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon.

Councilors Present:

Councilor Melissa Bojorquez, Councilor April Dyche, Councilor Goings, Councilor McArthur, Councilor Saucier and Mayor Rachel King

Councilors Present via Zoom

None

Councilors Absent

Councilor Denis Saucier

Staff Present

City Recorder Natasha Johnson

CITIZEN COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:

- A. Citizen Comments: There were no citizens present at the meeting. Citizen B. Farquhar, via zoom, let council know she is against it and allowing it will open the doors to a lot more problems.

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Discussion on Psilocybin: Administrator Thomas Stated to Council that he talked with other cities and that other cities are still sorting out what to do, too. If county decides not to impose a prohibition, that is only for county land, outside city limits. It would still up to each city if they want to allow in the city limits. He explained the different options the city can choose to do.

Mayor King updated Council that she contacted the county, and it will cost the city between \$200 – \$2,000 to put a prohibition on the ballot. She also let council know the county was split on the measure when it went out to vote.

Councilor Dyche told council she spoke with about 20 random citizens, and they all said to just “let it be.” Mayor King explained to Council the process with administering the drug, and that it needs to be done on site, which would be a limiting factor to use. Administrator Thomas went over what things the City can and cannot restrict with a moratorium or prohibition.

Councilor Bojorquez asked what the city will see for revenue. Mayor King explained city will not see any revenue, the tax goes towards administering the program, that there is no revenue sharing. Councilor Bojorquez asked if the city can put restrictions. Administrator Thomas explained what the city can restrict. Councilor Bojorquez asked what the city did regarding Marijuana. City Recorder Johnson explained what the city did then.

In succession each Councilor was given a chance to comment. Councilor Saucier would like the city to do other things to bring in tax revenue. Councilor MacArthur is for it, as an option for citizens that need it.

Mayor King let Council know that it is not FDA approved.

Councilor Goings said he was surprised the city won't get any tax revenue. He asked how the dosing of the drug will happen. Mayor King explained the rules don't need to be put in place until December 30th, so no one truly knows. Mayor King then stated that experts estimate each session may cost around \$1,000. Councilor Goings thinks its beneficial to put rules and guidelines in place now and not what the state puts in place.

Mayor King told council she has some hesitation on not doing anything, even as it is legal, because the state doesn't have any rules or guidelines as of now. If it was her decision to make, she would want the two years to wait and figure something out. Then Administrator Thomas explained what happens after the two years. Councilor Bojorquez asked for more clarification regarding the moratorium. Administrator Thomas provided more detail.

Mayor King would like the voters to vote on it, but it aware of the cost to the city. Councilor Dyche has a fear of putting money into this with the budget being tight. Mayor King is worried about the OHA guidelines and rules becoming problematic. Councilor Dyche's concern is the unpredictability of the voters. Mayor King explained that this is giving the voters a choice to decide.

When asked, Administrator Thomas explained again the different options and provided his recommendation is put the moratorium up for a vote. However, he expressed concerns about the cost. Mayor King said we could just not do anything and direct the Planning Commission and have them set guidelines. Administrator Thomas explained the only issue could be if the State comes back and invalidates our guidelines. Mayor King's concern is that there are no rules to look at as of right now.

Councilor Bojorquez expressed her concern over manufacturing it and allowing it in the city. Administrator Thomas explained what is required if a manufacturing plant seeks to open in Amity. Councilor Goings' concern is if city doesn't do anything then it is up to OHA. If we set something in place now for rules, we may be better off. He asked if planning could do that. Administrator Thomas said yes. But, again, the state can overrule us later as they impose their rules and guidance. Mayor King pointed out to Council that the administering of the drug takes place on site with a facilitator. Councilor MacArthur said she is ok with allowing this in the City.

Councilor Saucier asked for more clarification with the different options. Administrator Thomas explained in more detail the different options. Mayor King explained the steps and deadlines regarding if we put it on the ballot. Administrator Thomas also provided more information. Councilor Goings asked for more clarification on establishing regulations. Administrator Thomas described how the Planning Commission would attempt to impose restrictions. Councilor Dyche expressed a desire to establish a limit for operating hours.

Councilor Bojorquez asked about going to the Planning Commission and have something at their January meeting, if the city choose to not start a ballot initiative, and will the citizens be able to speak for or against the changes? Administrator Thomas explained yes, they will be able to do so as a part of the Planning Commission steps. Councilor Dyche personally is not comfortable throwing something on the ballet in a rush.

Councilor Saucier asked if goes to Planning could it go against the Council. Administrator Thomas explained Council would likely have the final say on any changes. Councilor Saucier explained he is here for the citizens and wanted to know if the city trust planning commissioners to make right decision. Mayor King reiterated

that the Council has final say, so it is possible to overrule the Planning Commission. Council Saucier expressed a preference for a moratorium. Administrator Thomas let Council know he has templates to follow to come up with moratorium, which would help facilitate a ballot measure. Councilor Goings thinks best option would be to wait until here back from our planning commission.

Councilor Dyche moved to allow psilocybin in the City of Amity per Measure 109 and direct the Planning Commission to start framework for an Ordinance and Development Code Changes. Councilor Goings seconded motion and with no discussion motion passed 5-0.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS:

- A. Councilor Dunlap: Councilor Dunlap was not present at the meeting and there were no comments or questions for him.
- B. Councilor Bojorquez: She updated Council on the business outreach meeting. She said it lasted around 2 hours. She went over the different feedback from business owners. There were no questions or comments for Councilor Bojorquez.
- C. Councilor Dyche: She let Council know if want to meet potential chief candidates they are at the fire hall tonight at 7:30. There were no questions or comments for Councilor Dyche.
- D. Councilor Goings: He had nothing to report and there were no questions or comments for Councilor Goings.
- E. Councilor McArthur: She let Council know that they should consider starting process of getting signs put out about the leash law. Mayor King said Council could start look into it and also poop bag stations. There were no further questions or comments for Councilor McArthur.
- F. Councilor Saucier: He had nothing to report and there were no questions or comments for Councilor Saucier.
- G. Mayor King: She reminded council upcoming election and when the deadline is. There were no questions or comments for Mayor King.

Councilor Goings moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:22. Councilor McArthur seconded and with no discussion motion passed 5-0.

Approved by City Council August 3, 2022

Rachel King, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Johnson, City Recorder