

WORK SESSION OF THE COUNCIL
CITY OF AMITY, OR

Minutes

Work Session of the City of Amity City Council was held at 5:00 p.m. on Wednesday, October 20, 2021, in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon.

Councilors Present

Councilor Sandy McArthur, Councilor April Dyche Councilor Napua Rich and Mayor Rachel King.

Councilors Absent

Councilor Robert Andrade and Councilor Cody Goings

Staff Present

City Administrator Michael Thomas

BUSINESS FROM THE STAFF:

City Administrator gave updates on any on-going City business and updated on status of projects.

OPEN FORUM & DISCUSSION FROM MAYOR & CITY COUNCILORS:

- a. **Infrastructure** – No report given by Councilor Goings.
- b. **Community Engagement** –

Topic 1: Mayor King and Mike received two separate citizen complaints; one was unsigned with no way to directly respond. 1. Complaint about an RV parking for a few days before moving to a different area then returning. Citizen concerned about this posing a safety issue for the City. Council discussed and determined this does not break any ordinances or laws. Agree to have police attentive to this. 2. Complaint regarding water rate increases to meet infrastructure need and its effect on residents with fixed income. Writer alleges that the City is not utilizing funds for infrastructure and is instead using these funds to pay staff and council members. Council discussed this letter and determined a need to post reminder communication regarding rate increases and information regarding a Volunteer Council members responsibility in these non-paid positions.

Topic 2: Council discussed upcoming Halloween related community events. Mayor King requests Council involvement and maps off areas of town, for coverage of our city-wide pumpkin contest. Council members present, agree to cover designated areas and select a winner between Oct. 25-31st.

Topic 3: Mike provides updates on City business of infrastructure work and funding. Traffic signs expected by Christmas. A.V.A signs expected by one month. Explains that a citizen has requested that the city place a sign in their front yard regarding dogs. He did not approve and referred the citizen to the city council meeting for further consideration. Council President Rich requests update on weight limit sign. Mike is working on providing this information.

Topic 4: Mayor King talks about ODOT in relation to additional parking and provides an alternative means of completing the transportation plan.

Topic 5: Council president Rich provides an update on the sale of her property and the purchase of a new property. Notifies council that she will no longer be a city of Amity resident after December 3, 2021, therefore will need to resign. Council discussed this and planned accordingly.

- c. **Parks** – No report given by Councilor Andrade.
- d. **City Services** – No report given by Councilor McArthur.
- e. **Public Safety** –

Topic 1: We talked about the City Pumpkin Giveaway as well as including the Trunk or Treat and City Trick or Treat Map. Although those two activities are not sponsored by the city, we decided to include them in our information noting they weren't city sponsored.

Topic 2: We also talked about the vehicles that have been parking around town and that our Deputies are aware and making sure they are legally parked. We discussed the graffiti around town and that our Deputies were also working on that.

- f. **Finance** – Councilor Rich signed paperwork in the finance folder.
- g. **Mayor Report:**

Topic #1 Infrastructure:

Mike gave updates on our water improvement projects. Concerning Amity's intake relocation project, it was announced that the MOA has been circulated and signed by the city and is awaiting a final agreement signature, by the Siletz tribe, and should be completed by the end of this month. After a long pause, this project will now have the ability to move forward. USDA continues to work on the details and specifics of funding the project and Amity anticipates being able to go to bid and start work during the first quarter of 2022.

Salt creek transmission line relocation project is also seeing progress. Amity and our engineers at Keller are working closely with ODOT. An add-work order has been added to ODOT's bridge replacement engineering plans and the necessary work to temporarily remove the line during bridge work and reattach after bridge replacement has been consolidated into their project plans. This project is also slated to move into bidding and

Topic #2 Citizen Concerns/Complaints:

An anonymous hard copy notes, as well as an email communication received by the mayor, was shared with Council. Both these communications outlined citizen concerns. Council discussion followed. We discussed ways in which we could share accurate information in regard to water cost for customers and how to best address cost concerns on an individual basis of complaint, versus city wide education on the subject. We also discussed the upcoming LIHWAP program that will be launched through YCAP to assist low-income households with their water bills.

Another concern addressed was citizen observation of recreational vehicles parked intermittently in some neighborhoods. We spoke of Amity's towing and parking ordinances, as well as our temporary camping permits, and how our deputies could address situations such as this while balancing the needs of neighborhood and street safety and potential needs and lack of resources for those that may be experiencing homelessness vs blatant illegal parking.

Topic #3 Pumpkin Events:

Details of Saturdays upcoming City pumpkin giveaway event were discussed. 10/23, 11-3 or until pumpkins are gone. Amity received a generous donation of 60 pumpkins for this event. Library will be involved this year as well. City staff has worked hard to make this event successful. Continued discussion on specifics of a first annual Council-initiated pumpkin decorating contest. We discussed prizes and maps for each councilor were handed out. Best ways to cover each business that may choose to participate and how information about the event will be circulated were also talked about.

Topic #4 TSP Assessment:

I shared initial outreach to Department of Land Conservation and Development in regard to their service to provide municipalities with a no cost transportation plan assessment. Council discussed potential benefits of this service. It was also brought up that if this is pursued it will indeed come with a commitment of staff time to work with the Department to give facilitate sharing information that is needed. No action was taken but I will continue communications with the contact person in order to better inform the council of what the service may be able to provide the city.

Approved by City Council November 3, 2021

Rachel King, Mayor

Attest:

Natasha Johnson, City Recorder