

**MONDAY, MARCH 20, 2017**  
**CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEWS ~ 6:00 PM**

Present: Mayor Burge, Council President Reed, Councilor Riffle, Councilor Kessi, Councilor Greisen, Councilor Sanders, City Manager Sykes, Legal Counsel Rihala, Police Chief Miller, City Recorder Reeves, and Courtney Vaughn with the Spotlight.

Applicants: Sandra Wiggs, Ty Bailey, and Joel Haugen.

Council interviewed Sandra, Ty and Joel for the vacant Council position.

Mayor Burge adjourned the interviews at 6:37 p.m.

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING**  
**Regular meeting 7:00 p.m.**  
**Scappoose Council Chambers**  
**33568 East Columbia Avenue**

**Call to Order**

Mayor Burge called the City Council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance**

**Roll Call**

**City Council Members Present:**

Scott Burge	Mayor
Mark Reed	Council President
Rich Riffle	Councilor
Patrick Kessi	Councilor
Megan Greisen	Councilor
Natalie Sanders	Councilor

**Staff Present:**

Michael Sykes	City Manager
Norm Miller	Police Chief
Susan M. Reeves	City Recorder
Ben Tolles AmeriCorp	RARE Participant

Legal Counsel Shelby Rihala

Press: Courtney Vaughn, Spotlight

**Also present:** Sandra Wiggs, Ty Bailey, and Joel Haugen

**Approval of the Agenda**

Mayor Burge removed 11.0 Executive Session ~ ORS 192.660(2)(e) Real Property Transactions.

Council President Reed moved, and Councilor Riffle seconded the motion to approve the agenda as amended. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Reed, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye; Councilor Kessi, aye; Councilor Greisen, aye, and Councilor Sanders, aye.

### **Public Comments**

Megan Kunkel-Hallstone, Scappoose, explained she is running for the Port of St. Helens Commissioner, position number 5. She explained she graduated from Scappoose High School and she received her Bachelor's Degree from the University of Idaho. She explained her and her husband currently live in Scappoose and they love it. She works with her parents on their family farm on Sauvie Island where they grow grass seed, wheat, clover, berries, pumpkins, and corn. She explained she is running for Port Commissioner because she believes the Port of St. Helens can improve its transparency and foster economic growth for our community members by utilizing the land they currently own. She would like to see the Port create an environment of loyalty, hard work, and being a good neighbor. She believes she is the right candidate for this job for a lot of reasons, but it really comes down to these three ~ she is a really hard worker, she is willing to ask the difficult questions, and she is really committed to this community. She thanked Council for their time.

Council wished her good luck.

Grant Watts Students handed out chocolate bars and an invite for the Grant Watts Auction.

Lacey Otis, Scappoose, and Tina Olson, Warren, explained they are parents from the Grant Watts Parents Organization and they are here tonight to personally invite everyone to the 21<sup>st</sup> Annual Grant Watts Auction. The theme this year is "Pure Imagination".

Lacey Otis explained the proceeds raised at this event help them to continue to offer support to Grant Watts for enrichment of their children's education with programs, events, and experiences. She explained last year they raised \$33,000 and that has all gone directly back to the students and staff. She stated this year we want to meet or beat that number, and many volunteers have been working very hard to achieve this goal. She gave an overview of some of the items that will be available to bid on at the event. The Grant Watts Auction this year will be held on April 29, and the doors open at 4:00 p.m. She stated we would love to see you there to help make this year a success. She stated it is a great community event where you could mingle with parents and community members. Please mark your calendars for April 29, and plan to join us.

Council thanked Lacey, Tina, and the students.

Melinda Bernert, Warren, explained she is running for Port Commissioner, position 4. She explained she has lived and volunteered in this community for twenty-five years. Her husband Mark and her own and operate a small tug boat business here in Scappoose. As you know Columbia County, especially Scappoose, is rapidly growing. It is crucial that we work together to ensure economic vitality, while preserving our quality of life. She explained she has financial experience, a deep understanding of how local governments work, and lessons learned observing

other communities struggle with growth and economic challenges. She explained she is running for the Port because she has the experience and the vision to lead the Port during this critical time. She stated specifically she would like the Port to focus its energies and monies on creating jobs for Columbia County residents. She proposes we suspend the Port tax and that we see more transparency in how the Port conducts its business. She thanked Council.

Council thanked her and wished her good luck.

**Consent Agenda ~ March 6, 2017 City Council Goal Setting Session minutes and March 6, 2017 City Council meeting minutes**

Councilor Greisen moved, and Council President Reed seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda ~ March 6, 2017 City Council Work Session minutes and March 6, 2017 City Council meeting minutes. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Reed, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye; Councilor Kessi, aye; Councilor Greisen, aye, and Councilor Sanders, aye.

**Appointment of New Councilor**

Mayor Burge explained Council did interviews for the three candidates for the vacant Council position, Sandra Wiggs, Ty Bailey, and Joel Haugen. He stated it is now time for the Council members to vote. He explained each Councilor has a ballot, once they are completed he will read each Councilors name and how they voted.

The votes were:

Council President Reed voted for Ty Bailey

Councilor Sanders voted for Joel Haugen

Councilor Kessi voted for Joel Haugen

Councilor Riffle voted for Joel Haugen

Councilor Greisen voted for Joel Haugen

Mayor Burge voted for Joel Haugen

Mayor Burge stated congratulations Joel. He thanked Sandra and Ty. He gave Ty an application for the Budget Committee. He stated he would really like Ty on the Budget Committee so he hopes he will apply.

Council thanked Sandra and Ty.

**Oath of Office for New Councilor administered by County Clerk Betty Huser**

County Clerk Betty Huser administrated the Oath of Office to Joel Haugen.

Congratulations Councilor Joel Haugen.

Councilor Haugen joined the rest of the City Council.

## **New Business**

### **City Motto**

AmeriCorp RARE Participant Ben Tolles explained one of the Council Goals last year was to select a City Motto. He explained staff took submissions from the community starting at the end of 2016 and ran until March 10, 2017. He explained there were 41 submissions, then the community members voted. He has given Council a list of the top 9 which were the result of the community votes.

1. Small Town, Big community: 58
2. Where the Forest Meets the River: 40
3. Gateway to Columbia County: 36
4. Big Dreams - Small Town Values: 27
5. Quality in Community: 19
6. Gateway to the Pacific: 18
7. Scappoose - A Special Place to Call Home: 17
8. Scappoose - We Love Where We Live: 14
9. City of Sunrises: 14

Ben Tolles explained staff is asking Council to choose the new City Motto.

Councilor Greisen asked City Manager Sykes how would we be promoting the City Motto?

City Manager Sykes replied we would probably put it on our letter head. He explained he doesn't think we have thought about all the different opportunities, but it would be kind of our brand in a sense.

Mayor Burge likes the idea that most people chose Small Town, Big Community.

The general consensus of Council is Small Town, Big Community.

Councilor Riffle moved, and Councilor Kessi seconded the motion that Council adopt Resolution No. 17-10 Adopting an Official Motto for the City of Scappoose ~ Small Town, Big Community as the City's Goal and approve Resolution Res No. 17-10. Motion passed (6-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Reed, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye; Councilor Kessi, aye; Councilor Greisen, aye, and Councilor Sanders, aye.

### **Review 2016 Council Goals**

City Manager Sykes explained in your packet is a list of all the goals that Council had this past year. He explained at the last meeting Mayor Burge asked for an overview of our accomplishments. He stated if Council has any questions regarding this, please call him anytime. He stated if you look at this report we really did accomplish a fairly significant number of items and it was a good year for the City.

Councilor Greisen talked about the goal of synchronizing the traffic lights. She asked so the lights were synchronized?

City Manager Sykes replied ODOT did synchronize the lights when they came in and made some improvements to them.

Chief Miller explained ODOT made some changes to the side street lights so basically it allows traffic on Highway 30 to move a lot more. He explained by doing this the lights allow every vehicle on the side streets to go. He explained we are looking at the continuous left turn flasher on off times.

Councilor Kessi explained at the City Day at the Capitol he met with Representative Witt and Senator Johnson about this, and also talked to ODOT, and they said there is a draft in engineering right now at ODOT for implementation in 2020 to update the lights here.

City Manager Sykes explained the feedback he has received from the community is that some of the improvements that they have made already have improved the traffic to some degree.

Councilor Greisen stated she thinks this is a high priority.

Mayor Burge stated at the League of Cities conference usually department heads from all of the agencies are there. He always goes to ODOT to bring up these issues. He recommends that we go as a group to the conference and sit down and really push. He stated someone pushing ODOT will move the dates up especially if we really tell them how important it is to us.

Councilor Kessi replied ODOT said it was a six city update, from Scappoose to Astoria, so it is part of that program and it is federally funded.

### **Council Goals & Objectives ~ 2017-2018**

City Manager Sykes explained after Councils Goal Setting Session we met as staff and looked at the goals and we put them in the format that you see before you. He stated he took the lead from Councilor Kessi who said all the goals are here you just need to put them in place and that is kind of what we did here. He explained we ended up with six primary Council Goals, and underneath each of those you will see a number of objectives that staff is going to try and accomplish. He likes this format.

Councilor Kessi thinks it looks great. He stated thank you for listening. He explained it was Councilor Greisen's idea to boil them down from forty to five or six, and he thinks City Manager Sykes did a nice job of doing that.

City Manager Sykes explained staff was really excited about Councilor Greisen's suggestion also. He explained the other thing staff tried to do was look at what Council listed as critical. He thinks this makes for a good road map for next year.

Councilor Riffle stated under the ongoing projects we talked about the welcome signs on the south side and there is also a comment regarding the one on the north side, are those going to be transferred over to the new list?

Chief Miller replied it may not be on the list, but it is a project that is still moving forward.

City Manager Sykes stated we can add that if you like.

Councilor Riffle stated as long as it doesn't go away.

Councilor Riffle moved, and Councilor Sanders seconded the motion that Council accept the 2017-2018 Council Goals, as presented. Motion passed (7-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Reed, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye; Councilor Kessi, aye; Councilor Greisen, aye; Councilor Sanders, aye, and Councilor Haugen, aye.

### **Introduction of New Police Officer Kolten Edwards**

Chief Miller explained Chris Cowen was with the City for a couple of years and has recently left and joined the Oregon State Police. He explained after that we opened the hiring process and ended up with twenty-four applicants. Then eleven moved on and six that went to the oral board. He explained one candidate stood out, and he is very dedicated to who he works for. They offered Kolten Edwards the job and he accepted it. He introduced Kolten.

Council stated congratulations and welcome to Kolten.

### **Announcements ~ information only**

#### **Calendar**

Mayor Burge went over the calendar.

#### **City Manager**

City Manager Sykes explained Council has his written report in front of them. He stated to Councilor Haugen welcome back. He stated he thinks we had some great choices as Council candidates.

#### **Police Chief**

Police Chief Miller explained they did Tip a Cop on March 11, 2017, and all the money raised goes to Columbia County Special Olympics. He explained they raised \$2,600 last year, the year

before they raised \$1,800, and this year they raised \$3,800. He stated it was a lot of fun and they had a good time. He stated welcome back Councilor Haugen. He stated he thinks it is awesome that three people applied for the vacant Council position, it shows that our community is coming together and moving forward.

### **Councilors & Mayor**

Councilor Kessi stated to Councilor Haugen welcome aboard, and thank you for applying again.

Councilor Riffle would like Council to consider increasing the authorization limit for the City Manager to \$50,000 or something like that. He asked if we already approved it in the budget why do they have to approve it again?

Mayor Burge stated he agrees with Councilor Riffle.

Councilor Riffle stated he would like us to consider employee appreciation, he would like us to consider 5, 10, 15, and 20 year lapel pins, and also a Council sponsored BBQ for staff and their families. He wanted to include their families because families have experienced some level of sacrifice.

Councilor Greisen stated she was excited to attend the facilities long term planning meeting for the School District. They are looking at which school buildings are in good shape, which ones need improvements, which maybe need demolition and rebuilding, and some positive discussions on the growth and where we are going. The first priority is to make sure they are in safe facilities. She explained those sessions are going to go through the spring, summer, and then hopefully in the fall there will be a priority of what the School District needs. She feels positive that we are looking to the future.

Councilor Sanders thanked everyone for being here.

Councilor Reed stated welcome back to Councilor Haugen. He thanked Sandra and Ty for their interest and applying. He welcomed Kolten. He explained they attended the Tip a Cop and it was fun, and it was crowded.

Councilor Haugen stated he is very happy to be back, and thank you for your vote of confidence, particularly in light of the quality of the other two candidates. He is very fortunate to be back and he is looking forward to seeing both Sandra and Ty in the community.

Mayor Burge read into the record a letter from The Samuel Johnson Foundation donating \$1,000 in memory Bruce Hugo's public service dedication. The Samuel Johnson Foundation would be pleased if consideration could be given in some form of tangible recognition within the new park and fountain area (Heritage Park).

Mayor Burge stated we could purchase a bench and a plaque.

Mayor Burge stated on Thursday, March 23, 2017 is the South County Chambers celebration, it starts at 5:30 pm. He stated you are all invited.

## Adjournment

Mayor Burge adjourned the meeting at 7:41 p.m.

  
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Scott Burge, Mayor

Attest:

  
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Susan M. Reeves, MMC, City Recorder