

MONDAY, OCTOBER 3, 2016
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
Jeff Erickson	Council President
Mark Reed	Councilor
Jason Meshell	Councilor
Barb Hayden	Councilor
Rich Riffle	Councilor
Joel Haugen	Councilor

Staff Present:

Michael Sykes	City Manager
Norm Miller	Police Chief
Susan M. Reeves	City Recorder
Alexandra Rains	Program Analyst

Press: Courtney Vaughn, Spotlight

Excused: Legal Counsel

Approval of the Agenda

Councilor Hayden moved, and Councilor Haugen seconded the motion to approve the agenda. Motion passed (7-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Erickson, aye; Councilor Reed, aye; Councilor Meshell, aye; Councilor Hayden, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye, and Councilor Haugen, aye.

Public Comments

Mark Horner, Scappoose, explained it is his first time here at a City Council meeting. He talked about EM Watts and the painting of the crosswalks. He explained he spoke with a Councilor two months ago about this topic, and then followed up a month later. He also talked to the Director of Public Works ten days ago and asked her if there was a plan. He stated she got back to him and said they recognized they needed some work in that area. He stated to Council it is his understanding that this is a County Road in the City limits and there is some confusion on how public safety for our children is maintained. He stated this is in regards to the two crosswalks, the curb painting, and the signing.

Councilor Meshell replied it is not just a County Road. He explained the Traffic Safety Committee met and it actually involves three different Governing Bodies, and a couple of private property owners. He stated we are not sure who put the crosswalks in but they were put in without consulting the School District and put in without proper ADA access so we have to undo some of the things that were done in the past. He explained we are looking at our long term transportation system plan as well, and our sidewalk connection plan. He knows Police Chief Miller is working on this. He stated we are looking at what is the fastest way to do this to get the kids safe, and how do we long term make sure this complies with all the County, State, and Federal regulations that we are required to follow. He thanked Mr. Horner for coming here tonight.

Mr. Horner replied he respects that and he appreciates that but he stated he pays for all three of those government agencies. He asked if Council could make a decision tonight and direct them to paint, and place barricades, as short term solutions for our children?

Councilor Meshell replied we can ask the School District, who owns the property, if they could do that, and we have been working with the School District regarding this. He explained they are trying to get something done very quickly. He explained he has two children that walk in this area, and he appreciates Mr. Horner's concern. He explained we are working with two separate government agencies and several private property owners to try to get something done very quickly.

City Manager Sykes replied to be honest with you one of our biggest frustrations is the County Roads in the City limits. He stated we struggle with the same issue and share your frustration.

Mayor Burge stated the property owner is typically responsible for up to the curb and the sidewalk.

Mr. Horner talked about the Economic Enterprise Zone that we granted to Cascade Tissue, a five year property tax abatement with a 10% betterment fee to be split between the Economic Council, and nothing to the tax payers for five years. He stated he doesn't understand how we are promoting that, and authorizing that. He stated then we have Measure 97, and our Governor and our workforce says that corporations don't pay their fair share. He asked did he miss something?

City Manager Sykes replied there are two enterprise zones in Columbia County; there is the South County Enterprise Zone and then there is the North County, and they probably have been in existence longer than any of these folks have been on City Council. He explained the enterprise zones were created by the State Legislature to try to encourage and incentivize companies to come and replace a lot of the timber industry jobs that were lost in the 90's and since that time there has probably been about sixty different communities in Oregon that are enterprise zones and basically if you meet the particular criteria by the State you are able to take advantage of those incentives. He explained this incentive is the same tool that brought a couple of other larger industrial employers into this County. He explained if you don't offer those incentives they will go to the next town and take their jobs there.

Mr. Horner asked if the City of Scappoose Police Department has the correct kits to identify fentanyl?

Chief Miller replied no. He stated we haven't had any fentanyl cases in Scappoose, but we are aware of it.

Craig Marquardo, Scappoose, explained he is happy with the Code Enforcement and hopes the City can find funding to have that position full time. He talked about the City purchasing property next door to his property on Seely Lane to build a park. He explained the only concern they have, after discussing it a lot internally, is City Manager Sykes mentioned that they were not going to finish Seely Lane, and the only access to the park is to come down SW 4th Street which is currently a dead-end, and that street splits his property down the middle and there is already a noted amount of foot traffic going there for the kids to go swimming in the summer. He talked about the idea that there would be additional foot traffic, car traffic, bike traffic, skateboard traffic, whatever else, going right down through his property to get to this park. He stated he was told when they had interest in purchasing some of the other lots they couldn't because of the floodplain, but if someone did buy them they would be responsible for finishing Seely Lane. He stated in a perfect world he could have the City consider the fact that they finish Seely Lane and perhaps in the future pass on those costs to whatever future development happens on those other properties and that way we have more than one access to this park. He stated there is an eroded part of the creek bank that is just beyond the bridge on JP West where the water just flows right through and floods out the City property, along with his playground. He stated if that erosion could be repaired it would keep that water from washing out everything a lot easier. He didn't see that on the Scappoose Bay Watershed Councils plan.

Craig Marquardo stated in regards to signs, as everyone knows he is helping Mark with his campaign, and the Mayor was gracious enough to take his signs down since he put them out a little early, but he is concerned about why there is still a giant billboard sign of Wayne Mayo's on the side of the road. He just feels everything should be on an even playing field and it just seems inappropriate and if we have to abide by it why doesn't he have to. He has been told by several people it is a violation and yet he hasn't seen anything done about it.

City Manager Sykes explained he received an email last week regarding this, but he was out of the office. He stated staff emailed Wayne Mayo today and asked him to remove the signs. He is not too inclined to fine anybody unless this Council wants him to. He gets a little nervous about being over restrictive with political signs.

Craig Marquardo stated he just thinks politics are not freedom of speech, everyone should be in the same playing field and the rules should be the same for everybody. He stated he knows there is an opening on the Economic Development Committee and he would like to be considered.

Pat Russell, Scappoose, explained he is new to the area and is trying to attend committee meetings. He explained one of his favorite issues is the watershed council because he was a previous member of the North Clackamas Urban Watershed Council. He is hoping we can have a little bit stronger development standards on these flooding areas, and hopefully we can see a wonderful fish habitat open space in the 500 year floodplain.

Consent Agenda ~ September 19, 2016 City Council Work Session minutes and September 19, 2016 City Council meeting minutes

Councilor Reed moved, and Councilor Riffle seconded the motion to approve the Consent Agenda ~ September 19, 2016 City Council Work Session minutes, and September 19, 2016 City Council meeting minutes. Motion passed (7-0). Mayor Burge, aye; Council President Erickson, aye; Councilor Reed, aye; Councilor Meshell, aye; Councilor Hayden, aye; Councilor Riffle, aye, and Councilor Haugen, aye.

Website Presentation

Program Analyst Alexandra Rains explained the City of Scappoose has undertaken the project of designing a new city website focused on promoting our community, economic development and local businesses. In order to make this project a success, City staff dedicated significant time towards the website in a multitude of ways including the Photo Contest held in July, reviewing the transfer of content from the old website for completeness, participating in training, reorganizing existing information and adding new content. The website officially launched Saturday, October 1, 2016.

WEBSITE REVIEW:

This evening, the website review will provide the City Council with a brief tour of the new website and touch on several notable features:

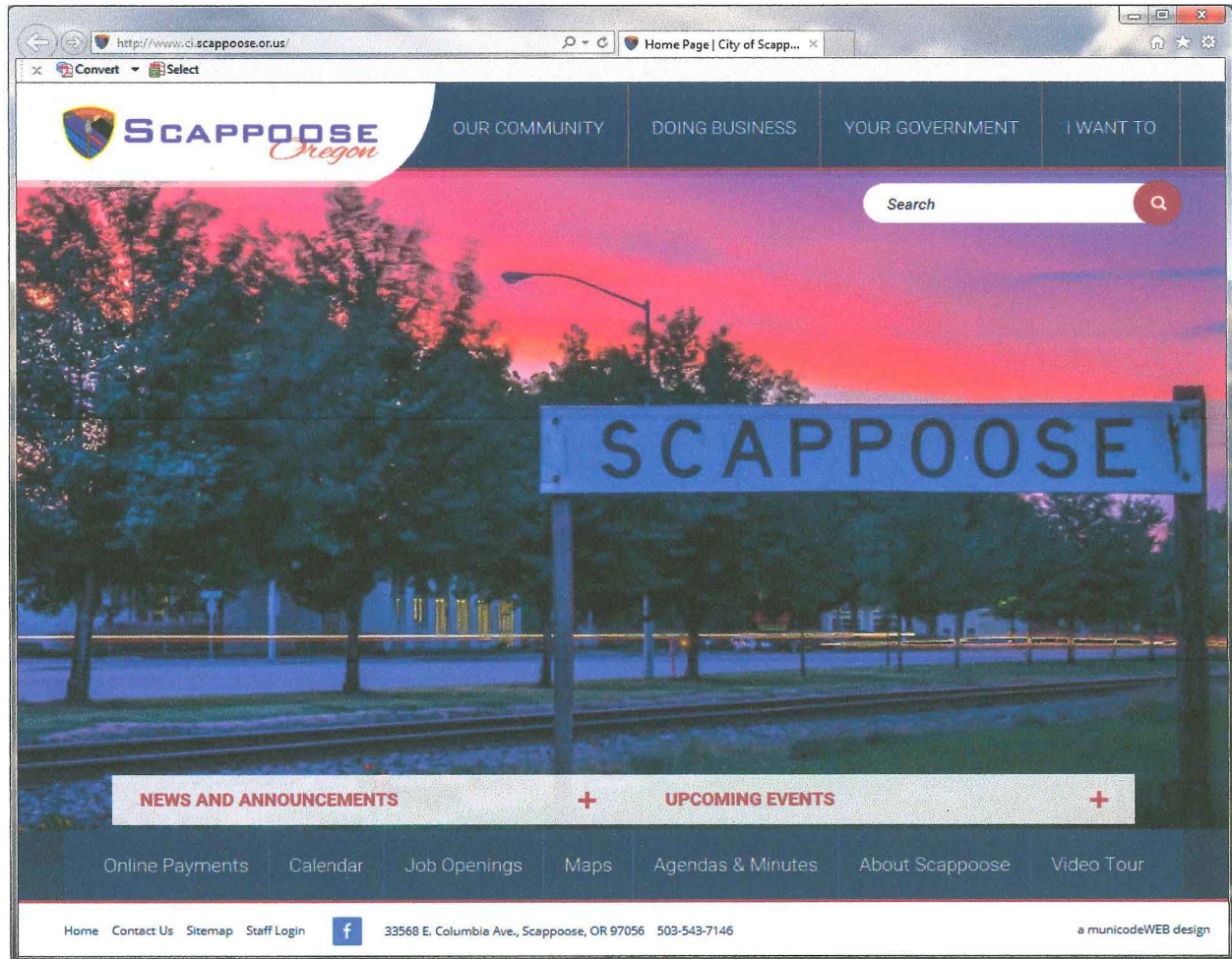
- Alternating homepage photos (6 total)
- News and Announcements and Upcoming Events "pop-up" tabs
- Organization of information and photos in the Mega Menu - 4 main tabs including Our Community, Doing Business, Your Government and I Want To
- Scappoose Business Directory
- Useful information for starting a business in Scappoose
- An inventory of available industrial, public use airport and urban growth boundary zoned properties
- Information on Parks and Recreation - individual pages for Scappoose's Parks and a Park Reservation Feature
- Individual Pages for Committees

Program Analyst Alexandra Rains went over the new website and showed Council and staff the new features and options.

There was discussion in regards to the local business search to have the capability of searching for a business category, not just the business name. There was also discussion on having information regarding the Watts House.

Program Analyst Alexandra Rains replied she will check, and see if there can be a category search feature added for local businesses. She stated she will add information on the Watts House.

(Website home page shown)



Program Analyst Alexandra Rains explained the City would like to thank the Port of St. Helens for the opportunity to participate in the Intergovernmental Partnership Program which provided the funding for the new website. She also wanted to thank Susan Reeves, Liz Happala, Hailey Holm, and City Manager Sykes for their participation in the process.

Mayor Burge stated the website looks fantastic.

City Manager Sykes stated this website should be a real community user friendly improvement, and Alex put a tremendous amount of work into this.

Announcements ~ information only

Calendar

Mayor Burge went over the calendar.

Mayor

Mayor Burge announced that the Oregon Institute of Technologies Board of Directors today unanimously approved moving forward on purchasing the Jersey building next to Parkers Gravel Pit, to house the Oregon Manufacturing Innovation Center. He stated when you think about this we are going to be doing cutting edge research in Scappoose that is going to change the manufacturing processes for major corporations throughout this region. He stated it is a big deal to have this research here in Scappoose, and we should be very proud. He stated as everyone knows if people work here, they will shop here and spend here. He just wanted to let everyone know the press release came out today about this and they are hoping to be open and operating in 2017.

City Manager

City Manager Sykes stated Council has a copy of his written department report. He highlighted a couple of items that staff is working on. He stated, as mentioned earlier the City closed on the Bernet properties on Friday. He explained the house that was on the Seely Lane site was removed. He stated as far the future of that site goes he thinks what we want to do is talk to the Park & Rec Committee about that. If Council has ideas of what they would like to see at that park please let him know. He explained they have been working with representatives from the State discussing and determining how to put together an immediate opportunity fund grant, which is an ODOT grant the City is qualified for and basically it would give us a million dollars that we could apply towards the West Lane improvements from Wagner Court all the way down to the Walker property. He stated the improvements will make that whole road safer. He explained Program Analyst Alex Raines submitted a HEAL Grant for four picnic tables and five benches for Heritage Park. He explained at a couple of meetings back we had had some citizens that were concerned with the construction dust and noise, and Council asked staff to look at that and address it, which staff has and things are better. He stated one of the concerns is they are allowed to do construction until 8pm Monday through Friday. He explained there are some citizens that are concerned with the construction time and asked if Council would reduce the construction hours during the week from 8pm to 7pm.

Mayor Burge thinks taking a look at the construction hours is a good idea.

Police Chief

Chief Miller explained at the Police Department they like to take on new challenges, try new things, and keep moving forward with the community. He explained with that in mind last weekend they held their first annual Cast with a Cop. He explained they took eleven children that were chosen by DHS to go fishing at Salmon Berry for four hours, and had a great time. He explained the School Resource Officer Police Department car that was previously not decaled was decaled, and in speaking with Councilor Meshell and Councilor Riffle they came up with the idea of having someone from the school design a logo for that car. He stated we would like to

move forward with this and when there is a finalist they will bring them before Council, and then Council will decide which one will go on the car.

Councilors

Councilor Haugen stated the LOC conference was very valuable to him, and he thinks it is a good investment. He explained he had a good conversation with the Tillamook Mayor who is pushing bigtime to getting a Salmon Berry Corridor Trail going on that end. Scappoose and Tillamook are the bookends to that trail. He stated we actually have an affiliation with Tillamook to get this done. He stated if everyone is in agreement we should formalize that.

Mayor Burge thanked Councilor Haugen for working with Tillamook.

Councilor Meshell stated good job Chief Miller for appointing the School Resource Officer again this year. He has already heard good comments, and last year the School Resource Officer was fantastic. He stated the traffic changes that the Traffic Safety Committee and Council approved by the schools has been very effective and the flow has been enhanced and the kids are a lot safer. He thanked staff for moving that around and making that happen.

Councilor Reed stated he also went to the LOC conference, and he concentrated on transportation. He explained that traffic is not just an issue here but all over the state, and it is probably going to get worse before it gets better. He also was able to go on a tour of the Independence waterfront.

Adjournment

Mayor Burge adjourned the meeting at 7:55 p.m.



Scott Burge, Mayor

Attest:



Susan M. Reeves, MMC, City Recorder