

**City of Gold Hill City Council
Meeting Minutes
December 16, 2019**

Mayor Newport called the meeting to order at **6:00 p.m.**; immediately followed by the **Pledge of Allegiance**.

- 1) Roll Call:** Mayor Newport, Councilors Canon, Hinkley, Lowe, Palmer, Studebaker, and Wilson responded as present. **QUORUM PRESENT.**

2) Agenda Adjustments – NONE

3) Public Input

Carol Holm gave an update on the Christmas decorations downtown. She reported that the solar lights weren't working out so well, and that she hoped by next year we could have electrical outlets on the poles. She thanked everyone for their help, and said that she had sent out 60 thank you notes to businesses and individuals that helped make it possible.

4) Public Hearing - Future development of our parks, including the Freshwater Trust project under consideration in Lampman Park.

Mayor Newport laid out a map and gathered everyone present around to give an overview of our parks and things that we could do with them. Eugene Weir, of the Freshwater Trust, again gave a briefing on what the Trust is interested in doing in Lampman Park. The plan is to clean up the underbrush and replant a 75' riparian zone with native species. This would be a 20 year lease. After hearing the options, the Council was reseated and heard from the public. All public input was positive in its support of the Freshwater Trust lease option. There were additional comments concerning the possibility of Jackson County taking over the Sports Park. Once again, the Council reassured the public that it was only an option under consideration, and that the public would be informed if any action were taken on moving forward with the County.

5) Presentations – NONE

6) Staff Reports – Audit Update and VisionMS software implementation – City Recorder

Interim City Manager/Recorder Simpson reported that the audits were moving along, and the auditors expected to be completed in January. She also informed the Council that in order to proceed with the VisionMS software implementation, hardware would need to be purchased. She provided the quotes from VisionMS for three new computers and a server. The Council requested that she obtain additional quotes, but gave her the authority to accept the best bid after receiving the other quotes.

7) Proclamations – NONE

8) Resolutions – NONE

9) Ordinances – NONE

10) Consent Agenda

10.1 Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2019

Councilor Lowe made the Motion to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes for December 2, 2019. Councilor Wilson seconded. All Councilors in favor, with the exception of Councilor Palmer, who abstained. **MOTION PASSED.**

11) Old Business

11.1 Update regarding search for new City Manager

The Council was happy with the number of applicants so far, and planned to start reviewing the resumes and scheduling interviews in January.

11.2 Motion to authorize Interim City Manager to enter into a lease contract with the Freshwater Trust for Lampman Park.

Councilor Hinkley made the Motion to authorize the Interim City Manager to enter into a lease contract with the Freshwater Trust for Lampman Park, including set-asides for boat ramps, bridges, and trail access. Councilor Canon seconded. All Councilors in favor. **MOTION PASSED.**

11.3 Update on Wastewater Master Plan

Interim City Manager Simpson informed the Council that the Wastewater Master Plan had been approved by the DEQ, and that CivilWest was requesting a meeting to summarize the plan to the Council. Council agreed to hold a work session on January 3, 2020, at 2pm to hear from CivilWest.

11.4 Motion to Approve Water Master Plan Amendment #3

Before the Motion, Councilor Studebaker wanted it noted on the record that this amendment does not represent our best options. Councilor Wilson then made the Motion to approve Water Master Plan Amendment #3. Councilor Palmer seconded. All Councilors in favor. **MOTION PASSED.**

12) New Business

12.1 Motion to add Councilor Lowe as a signer on the Umpqua Operating Account

Councilor Hinkley made the Motion to add Councilor Lowe as a signer on the Umpqua Operating Account, and to be an alternate for the Finance Committee. Councilor Canon seconded. All Councilors in favor. **MOTION PASSED.**

12.2 Water Master Plan Project Priorities

- a. new reservoir**
- b. generators for both intake and water treatment plants**
- c. new water meters**
- d. backwash lagoon dredge**
- e. distribution system**

Mayor Newport led the discussion on these top five water system priorities for the future of our City. It was pointed out that previous Council had approved replacing water line near Sweed Machinery. Councilor Lowe said that Sweed had agreed to pay the difference in order to get a larger dimension pipe installed, so that they could expand their business. He recalled seeing a bid from Central Pipeline for the work. Interim City Manager Simpson said she would look into it and see where the project stalled.

Councilor Lowe shared a newspaper article about Talent's new reservoir, and some of the cost issues they are running into while under construction.

13) Interim City Manager Report – Nothing to report other than what was discussed previously in the Council meeting.

14) Mayor Comments – 2020 Goal Setting

Mayor Newport asked that the Councilors bring a list of priorities to the next meeting, so that they could set the Top Five Core Goals for 2020. We need to get the May election squared away, we need to find out about bond issues for the November ballot. The Mayor also suggested we start working on a Charter revision, so that we can get that on the May ballot. If we could get the Charter up to date, it would solve some issues that have been plaguing the City for years.

15) Councilor Comments –

Councilor Hinkley reminded everyone that budget season is coming, and that it's time to start thinking about getting a budget committee together.

Councilor Studebaker brought up the interesting idea of cutting a fire break across the top of the hill, and getting citizens involved, possibly also selling the wood for \$50/truckload. He proposed that we look into doing this in April timeframe.

Mayor Newport adjourned the meeting at 7:38 pm.

Minutes Approved by: _____

Pete Newport, Mayor

Attested by: _____

Jessica Simpson, City Recorder