

The City Council for the City of Junction City, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, April 26, 2022 in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon and in a virtual meeting format via internet and phone.

PRESENT: Mayor, Beverly Ficek; Council President, Ken Wells; Councilors Sandie Thomas, Sidney Washburne, John Gambee, and Karen Leach; Excused Absence: Councilor Andrea Ceniga; City Administrator, Jason Knope; Public Works Director, Gary Kaping; and City Recorder, Kitty Vodrup.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Ficek opened the meeting at 6:30 p.m., led the Pledge of Allegiance, and took roll call.

2. Recognition “If I Were Mayor” Contest Winners/Participants

Mayor Ficek welcomed the “If I Were Mayor” contest participants, parents/guardians, and teachers. This contest was sponsored by the Oregon Mayors Association, and the City of Junction City hosted a local contest. Six entries were received for the Grades 4 – 5 Poster Contest and one entry (9 participants) was received for the Grades 9 – 12 Digital Media Presentation.

Mayor Ficek expressed appreciation to Territorial teachers Erin Dietrich and Elyse Grimsley and Junction City High School teacher Mike Schultz for facilitating this contest with their students. She also thanked Bi-Mart, McDonalds, and Dairy Queen for donating prizes for the winners and participants and Recorder Vodrup for her work in organizing the contest. Winning entries had been sent to the Oregon Mayors Association, for entry into the statewide competition. Mayor Ficek expressed appreciation to all participants and noted that she was proud of them and their ideas and encouraged them as future leaders.

Mayor Ficek recognized the following for the Grades 4 – 5 Poster Contest:

Participants

- Archer Williams
- Blake Lemmon
- Sydney Shear
- Sylvia Tedrick

Runner up/Second Place Entry

- Reagan Larsen

Winner

- Barrett Rohl

Mayor Ficek recognized the winners of the Grades 9 – 12 Digital Video Presentation:

- Alondra Garcia-Rodriguez
- Amillio Romine
- Andy Garcia-Martinez
- Dominick Yearout
- Ethan Lenker
- Garrett Sisler
- Micah Rogers
- Rafael Ruiz Martinez
- Samantha Heideman

3. LCOG Board of Directors Report

Councilor Gambee noted that the next LCOG Board meeting would be held on April 28, 2022, which would be the same night as the Budget Committee meeting.

4. Lane ACT Report

Councilor Leach reported that Lane ACT had discussed doing a \$60,000 study in Creswell for road work on Oregon Avenue, which was great that a smaller city’s project was being considered for a project. Lane ACT continued to work on revising their bylaws.

5. Scandinavian Festival Street Closure Request

Director Kaping presented the street closure request for the annual Scandinavian Festival from August 11 – 14, 2022. The Community Development Committee reviewed on March 2, 2022 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Leach made a motion to approve the street closure request for the Scandinavian Festival Association as conditioned in Attachment B with the nonexclusive use of city streets. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wells and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

6. Moser Street Closure Request

Director Kaping presented the street closure request from Maliah Moser to close Front Street from 5th to 6th on June 18th for a Cross Fit competition. The Community Development Committee reviewed on March 2, 2022 and recommended approval.

MOTION: Councilor Wells made a motion to approve the Moser street closure request as conditioned in Attachment B with the nonexclusive use of city streets. The motion was seconded by Councilor Thomas and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

7. Council Packet Timeline Discussion

Administrator Knope noted that at the last Council, Sue Huntley had commented on the length of time it took to get a street closure request processed, and the Mayor had asked that this be discussed at the following meeting.

Administrator Knope reviewed that the week before a Council meeting, Council packet items were due to the City Recorder's office by noon on Thursday and then packets were delivered/posted on Friday. He continued that the Finance and Judiciary Committee met on Thursday night, so it was difficult for them to get something onto the following week's Council agenda. One consideration would be to move the standing date for the Finance and Judiciary Committee, and he noted that the Public Safety Committee had moved their date partly for this reason. He added that per Council rules, staff tried to keep meetings to two hours and if needed, any regular business items would be moved to the meeting on the 4th Tuesday.

Director Kaping stated that Ms. Huntley had submitted the festival request in February, and it had been reviewed by Committee in March. The Council agenda for the 1st meeting in April had been very full and since he knew the Council would approve the request, the festival request was moved to the 2nd meeting in April. He added that he was unaware that the festival had insurance and other time constraint issues, and he would note that for next year.

Mayor Ficek asked if there was a way to approve annual requests at the first of the year.

Administrator Knope responded that in the past, the City had looked at a special event approval process that included a shortened timeframe to process requests. Established annual requests, such as the Scandinavian Festival, Function 4 Junction, High School Noise Parade, or Light Parade that had no changes, could go to Committee and then staff could finalize approval. If there were changes or there was a new special event request, it would go to Council. He added that to do this, some code changes would need to be made, and he could have the City Attorney bring back some information, as they had prepared that when the discussion was held in the past.

The Council consensus was in favor of having Administrator Knope contact the City Attorney and bring back information on a revising the Special Event approval process.

Councilor Wells stated that he was in favor of having the Finance and Judiciary Committee discuss changing their standing meeting date. He liked the idea of keeping the 2nd Tuesday meeting to 2 hours and moving any needed regular business items to the 4th Tuesday. He added that if someone's agenda item got moved to another meeting, they should be contacted so it would not come as a surprise. Administrator Knope responded that he would ask Director Crocker to put discussion of moving the standing meeting date on the Finance and Judiciary Committee agenda.

Mayor Ficek asked if anyone had any other business they would like to discuss.

Councilor Washburne stated that he had posted information on social media on the City advertising for positions. He asked how many lifeguard applications had been received. Administrator Knope responded 6 and they needed 14. Director Kaping added that he also had 2 seasonal positions at Public Works.

Mayor Ficek asked each Councilor if they had anything else to bring to the Council. Each responded no.

Mayor Ficek stated that she wanted to know why the Community Center project was apparently not important. She continued that they had the \$500,000 in the current budget that Senator Manning had secured for the City and nothing had been said about it. She asked if there were any plans to do anything.

Administrator Knope responded that there were, and the Community Services Committee had been discussing this item. Staff was working on putting together a Request for Proposal (RFP) for engineering/design services that would go back to Committee for review and then come to the Council to have it released.

Mayor Ficek asked if they had looked at getting bids on asbestos, as they knew that needed to be done.

Administrator Knope responded that they were waiting to put the plan together and then do the asbestos at the same time. Administrator Knope and Director Kaping noted that they could go out to bid now for asbestos, but bids were only good for 12 days. Also noted was work could not begin before September or October, due to summer programming at the Community Center. Administrator Knope added that they also needed to be careful from a legal standpoint, as this was one project and prevailing wages could be a consideration with bidding.

Mayor Ficek noted that they would not want to do anything until after the City's 150th birthday celebration, because they wanted that building to be open.

Mayor Ficek asked if staff or Councilors had anything else they would like to share. There was nothing.

8. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:17 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kitty Vodrup, City Recorder

Beverly A. Ficek, Mayor