

The City Council for the City of Junction City, met for a work session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, August 25, 2015, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

PRESENT: Mayor, Michael Cahill; Councilors Karen Leach, Bill DiMarco, Jim Leach, Randy Nelson, Steven Hitchcock and Herb Christensen; City Attorney, Lauren Sommers; Administrator, Jason Knope; Public Works Director, Gary Kaping; and City Recorder, Kitty Vodrup.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Cahill called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The Council agreed to allow representatives of NAMI (National Alliance on Mental Illness) to share information on services they provide. NAMI is a grass roots, volunteer organization that recently opened a resource center at the Junction City State Hospital. They offer support groups and educational classes and hope to reach out to local businesses, schools, veterans, Latinos, and others in the community to provide education and support services for mental health issues. They would be building a Serenity Garden at the hospital for staff, clients, and community members.

2. 6th Street ADA Project

Director Kaping reviewed that the Sewer and Street Committee had been discussing the removal of a tree on 6th Street, because it did not comply with current ADA standards and had caused severe damage to the sidewalk for many years. Director Kaping had the tree inspected and was told that the tree had five years of life. The adjacent property owner expressed his desire to keep the tree and hired an arborist to perform an inspection. The inspection report noted that the tree had another 10 to 15 years of life, but there were a number of concerns and various levels of hazards identified for the sidewalk/street. If the tree were to be kept, a bulb out could be placed around the tree, but Director Kaping felt that if that was the route the Council wanted to go, he would recommend doing additional bulb outs on 6th so that it would look symmetrical.

Council members expressed public safety concerns with the tree and sidewalk. It was noted that the tree was just outside of the adjacent property owner's property line.

It was noted that discussions on development of 6th Street needed to occur, with the future residential development west of town, Safe Routes to School, possible bike lanes, etc.

The Council consensus was to abide by the current ADA requirements and for the City to remove the tree. This item would go back to the Sewer and Street Committee to do final review and then the City would proceed with the work of tree removal, putting in an ADA ramp, and fixing the damaged portion of the sidewalk.

3. 11th and Elm Well Funding Options

Director Kaping reviewed the request for \$215,000 to finish the 11th and Elm Well. Options included using System Development Charge (SDC) funds, the Water System Improvement Fund, doing an Interfund loan from the Revolving Loan Fund, or doing some combination of these. Staff recommended borrowing from the Revolving Loan Fund, in order to keep capital reserves in the SDC and System Improvement Fund for other capital projects. Future projects included removal of the old water tower, further development for additional test wells, and the addition of water treatment plant filters for increased water production.

It was noted that it would soon be time to do a utility rate study and that there would still be funds available in the RLF fund, even after borrowing the money.

After further discussion, the Council consensus was to borrow 100% from the RLF fund.

4. DEQ Mutual Agreement Order Review

Administrator Knope reviewed that Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) had proposed revisions to the Mutual Agreement Order (MAO), which included a four phased plan to determine where the City can discharge from the Sewer Treatment Plant.

- Phase 1: July to August 2015: MAO Review and Acceptance.

- Phase 2: September 2015 to October 2016: City monitors Flat Creek and DEQ monitors Long Tom over a one year period.
- Phase 3: October 2016 to October 2017: Review data and determine if Flat Creek or Long Tom can be used and what the treatment requirements and parameters for discharge would be.
- Phase 4: October 2017 to October 2018: Discharge to Flat Creek or Long Tom is chosen and City finishes engineering and submits Facilities Plan to DEQ. If Flat Creek cannot be used and the Long Tom needed additional study because of limited dissolved oxygen, DEQ would need to do a Total Maximum Daily Load study for the entire Long Tom basin, which could take three to six years. If neither stream can be used, would need to look at other alternatives.

The earliest the City could begin final construction on the sewer treatment plant would be summer of 2018, but more than likely would be summer of 2019.

It was noted that at certain times of the year, Flat Creek does not have enough water; thus, additional water or augmentation would need to occur, if that creek were to be used for discharge. Ideas for additional water included drilling a well or the City engineer’s recent idea of building an additional storage pond to help regulate the flows.

The Council consensus was to have staff move forward with accepting the MAO on behalf of the City and begin the testing phase.

5. Newsletter Article Review

Administrator Knope presented a draft newsletter that would be included in with the October utility bills.

The Council consensus was that it looked good.

6. Other Business

Administrative Projects List Update

Director Knope distributed a revised report, which included three more projects being completed. Council members expressed their appreciation. Council Nelson asked if projects that should go to a committee could be put on the Committee’s Agenda Forecaster. Administrator Knope responded that they could.

JCA Well

Administrator Knope noted that discussions had not yet occurred with JCA on the well.

Environmental Assessment/Natural Artifacts

Councilor Nelson asked what the process was for making sure there were no natural artifacts in the area where land had been donated to the City and where the 350 new homes were being proposed. Administrator Knope responded that Director Boldon was working with a state archeologist and an environmental assessment was always done on property that is donated to the City.

Fluorescent Bulbs/Batteries

Mayor Cahill noted that a citizen had asked where they could drop of fluorescent bulbs and small batteries. Director Kaping responded that fluorescent bulbs could go to B and I Hardware and small batteries could be dropped off at Public Works.

7. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the work session was adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kitty Vodrup, City Recorder

Michael J. Cahill, Mayor