

The City Council for the City of Junction City, met in regular session at 6:30 p.m. on Tuesday, October 8, 2019, in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 680 Greenwood Street, Junction City, Oregon.

PRESENT: Mayor, Mark Crenshaw; Councilors Sandie Thomas, Robert Stott, Andrea Ceniga, Dale Rowe, and Bill DiMarco; Excused Absence: Councilor John Gambee; City Administrator, Jason Knope; City Attorney, Carrie Connelly; Police Chief, Bob Morris; Public Works Director, Gary Kaping; Finance Director, Mike Crocker; and City Recorder, Kitty Vodrup.

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

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

2. Changes to the Agenda

Item 6 Lifesaving Award Presentation to Officer Seifried would be moved to November 12th.

3. Approval of Minutes – September 10, 2019

MOTION: Councilor Rowe made a motion to approve the September 10, 2019 minutes. The motion was seconded by Councilor DiMarco and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

4. Review of Previous Month's Expenditures

Mayor Crenshaw asked if there were any Council comments or questions on the previous month's expenditures. There were none.

5. Public Comment on Items not Listed on the Agenda

None.

6. Municipal Judge Update to Council

Municipal Court Judge Ashlee Wiese presented the annual court report to Council:

Community Service

- A special community service opportunity was offered to eight individuals to work off large court fines by volunteering during the Scandinavian Festival; thus, bringing them into compliance and giving them an opportunity to have their licenses reinstated. One example was an individual who owed over \$8,000 in fines and walked over 4 miles each way for four days to work off her court fines.
- The majority of individuals who participated in regular community service opportunities volunteered with Habitat for Humanity and Junction City Local Aid to work off their court fines; opportunities were also available with the Scandinavian Festival.

Systems Upgrades

- The court computer software must be upgraded, as DMV (Department of Motor Vehicles) was moving towards everything being done electronically and the current software would not support that. The majority of courts were moving towards this.
- JCPD (Junction City Police Department) was issuing about 50% of their tickets using e-citations. With the court software upgrade, e-citations would go directly to DMV upon conviction and eliminate many hands touching the handwritten tickets.

In-Court Systems Paperless/Electronic

- Eventually the court would want to go to an in-court paperless electronic system.
- Currently everything was handwritten, and an electronic system would allow Judge Wiese to log in remotely, look at information, and sign documents for things like middle of the night or weekend warrants.
- All of the circuit courts and larger courts in Oregon were already doing this. This system facilitated best practices and reduced staff/court time and user error.

Changing Docket

- They were in the early stages of talking about changing the docket from four court days per month of mixed traffic and criminal cases to two days exclusively for traffic and two days exclusively for criminal cases. This could help with retention of court appointed attorneys and reduce overtime for JCPD.

Fix-It Tickets

- The court has had a Fix-It Ticket program for 18 months, to allow individuals who have status offenses such as an expired registration, vehicle lights not working, no insurance,

expired driver's license, etc., to have an opportunity to fix the deficiency and have their case dismissed.

- This program was based on wanting people in the community driving who were licensed, registered, and insured. If the tickets the court was imposing for these violations became a hinderance to getting the other things fixed, then that was not serving the community.
- The court had been looking at making this a more formal program that would charge the defendant an administrative fee for this dismissal, but they were not sure if they wanted to charge for this program. Judge Wiese welcomed Council input and opinion on the program and the admin fee.

Odds and Ends

- Judge Wiese recently presented at the OMJA (Oregon Municipal Judge's Association) conference and would be the Committee Chair in charge of the venue, agenda, and presenters for the 3-day OMJA Conference in September 2021.
- The City's Court Appointed Attorney pay was too low and had been \$50 an hour with no drive time for 20 years. Had lost four attorneys in 2019. The going rate was \$65 an hour, plus drive time.
- Judge Wiese was working on a better way for the Court Appointed Attorney to speak to their clients in custody. She was looking at donating a phone that would allow a client to "facetime" their attorney.
- Parking Tickets: The no parking signs in the residential area near the softball fields were confusing, as they read, "No parking between signs" but it was unclear whether the other sign was in front or behind them. In addition, any person with a disabled placard could no longer be cited for parking in "permit only parking."

Mayor Crenshaw stated that Judge Wiese had eluded to some things for the Council to consider and said that if she could bring those issues to the Finance and Judiciary Committee, that Committee would make considerations and recommendations to the rest of the Council.

The Council thanked Judge Wiese for her presentation and service.

7. **Energizing Junction City (EJC) Funding Request – Banner Replacement**

Administrator Knope presented the \$2,000 grant funding request from Jeff Curran of Energizing Junction City to replace the 10 year old Historic Junction City and Welcome to Junction City banners. The Finance and Judiciary Committee reviewed and recommended granting the request, with funding from the Economic Development Program Line in the Revolving Loan Fund.

The Council consensus was to have staff prepare the necessary grant paperwork and bring back to the November 12, 2019 Council meeting.

8. **Light Parade Street Closure Request**

Director Kaping presented the street closure request for the annual Light Parade from Rick Kissock, Executive Director of the Tri-County Chamber of Commerce.

MOTION: Councilor Rowe made a motion to approve the street closure request for the Light Parade in Junction City on December 6, 2019 as conditioned in Attachment B with the nonexclusive use of city streets for street closure from 6:45 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. The use of City streets will apply to the route shown in Attachment A. The motion was seconded by Councilor DiMarco and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

9. **Crump Memorial Bench Donation**

Administrator Knope presented the request from Timothy Crump to donate a bench in memory of his parents, Alton and Sylvia Crump, who were long time residents of Junction City. Resolution No. 1031 provided guidance on these types of donations, and the request met all the requirements. The Community Services Committee reviewed and recommended accepting the donation.

It was noted that the proposed location of the bench was in the right of way adjacent to festival property at 5th and Greenwood. Ms. Sue Huntley, from the Scandinavian Festival Association (SFA), said that SFA was aware of the request and she would pass along whatever the Council decided to the SFA board.

MOTION: Councilor Rowe made a motion to approve the donation request from Timothy Crump, as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor DiMarco and passed by unanimous vote of the Council.

10. Ordinance to Make City Prosecutor, City Attorney, City Engineer, and City Public Defender Appointees of the Council

Administrator Knope stated that at the last meeting, the Council had requested that staff prepare an ordinance to make specified positions direct appointees of the Council, and legal counsel had drafted an ordinance for Council consideration.

A. Ordinance No. 1 – An Ordinance Establishing Additional City Officers.

Attorney Connelly read Ordinance No.1 in full.

Mayor Crenshaw asked if the public had any testimony on this ordinance. There was none.

MOTION: Councilor Stott made a motion to read Ordinance No. 1 by title only. The motion was seconded by Councilor DiMarco and passed by a vote of 4 to 1, with Councilors Stott, Ceniga, Rowe, and DiMarco voting in favor and Councilor Thomas voting against.

Mayor Crenshaw stated that since the motion was not passed unanimously, the ordinance would be read by title and considered at the November 12, 2019 Council meeting.

11. Council Agenda Forecaster

Administrator Knope presented the forecaster. Add Lifesaving Award and second reading of Ordinance No. 1 to November 12, 2019 meeting. Also add City Improvements Discussion to the October 22, 2019 Council Work Session agenda.

12. Staff Reports

Chief Morris reported: Judge Wiese had been very valuable to the community and to the City. Chief Morris stated that he and Judge Wiese shared a lot of the same values on enforcing laws and gaining compliance versus punishing behavior. Burgers with Bob went very well, with between 1400 and 1500 in attendance which was an increase of 150 to 200 over last year. Around 160 free bicycle helmets were given out by a Portland organization. Was a good event and had received a lot of positive comments and support. Next year's date was already set and hoped to see it grow in the future. The Police Department activity had greatly increased since April. Been busy with a lot of people with mental disabilities, and some days officers were making 3 to 4 trips per day to University District Hospital with people who were mentally disturbed. Citations and arrests had also gone up, so the department was very busy.

Director Kaping reported: Most of the Public Works staff, along with Administrator Knope, had been in training all week and that would continue through Thursday. The filters to upgrade the Water Treatment Plant came in on Monday. Council would be seeing a request to finish buying the rest of the parts that were needed to put the filters in. The downtown street work was moving along smoothly. Staff was continuing to install the water quality equipment and blow offs for the water quality project.

Director Crocker reported: There were three Budget Committee vacancies. He would review the monthly financial report at the upcoming Budget Committee meeting on Thursday.

Attorney Connelly reported: One of her goals in the near future would be to look at any needed follow up coming out of the recent legislative session. New public contracting rules would be coming out, but the Oregon Attorney General's (AG) office was very busy and not sure when they would have those ready. Attorney Connelly was not sure if she would wait until the AG rules came out or forge ahead and craft rules for the City; she would keep the Council apprised. HB2001 was something she would be watching, as it currently required cities with a population greater than 10,000 to allow duplexes, multi-plexes, and four-plexes in lands zoned for single family dwellings.

Councilor DiMarco noted that the Finance and Judiciary Committee had talked about forming a subcommittee to work on affordable housing issues, so the Council would probably be hearing more about that from Administrator Knope as that developed.

13. Councilor Comments/Questions

Councilor Thomas said that she went to Burgers with Bob and the food was good. She added that she had heard several people suggest changing the name from Burgers with Bob to Burgers with the JCPD.

Mayor Crenshaw responded that he supported what Chief Morris was doing and felt that attending Burgers with Bob was indeed attending Burgers with the JCPD, as the Chief Officer represented the entire department and what he heard the department also heard.

Councilor Ceniga commended Judge Wiese on doing a fantastic job and expressed her support for what Judge Wiese was doing.

Councilor DiMarco stated that the Finance and Judiciary Committee was entirely satisfied with the judge’s performance and had heard nothing but 100% comments about performance, energy, dedication, diligence, and caring for the community. He noted that performance and policy were two different things, and as the Judge pointed out a couple of times, if the Council felt differently about a broader policy approach to something, there would be an opportunity to interface with the Judge on those issues. He added that if constituents felt there were things out there that needed to be addressed, they could come to the Public Safety Committee, Finance and Judiciary Committee or Council to express those concerns.

14. Mayor’s Comments

Mayor Crenshaw echoed the comments that Judge Wiese was doing a good job. He noted that volunteerism was the heart of the community and he appreciated everyone in the audience, as he had seen them be very active in the community. He noted that the court community services opportunities were a great way to gain compliance and behavior modification and at the same time get a lesson in the values of service in the community. He noted that he had observed people who served court mandated service for the Scandinavian Festival continue on with those volunteer efforts year after year even after their mandated service was completed. He wanted to make sure the public loudly heard that all of the public was invited to these meetings, and it was his intent to give everyone the opportunity to make testimony on any and every subject, per the proper protocol and parliamentary procedures. He encouraged everyone to make comments and participate in Council discussions.

15. Executive Session per ORS 192.660(2)(h) to Consult with Legal Counsel Concerning Legal Rights and Duties Concerning Current Litigation or Litigation Likely to be Filed.

Mayor Crenshaw called Executive Session at 7:46 p.m. Regular session convened at 8:25 p.m.

16. Adjournment

As there was no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVED:

Kitty Vodrup, City Recorder

Mark Crenshaw, Mayor