

## **GLADSTONE CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES of May 14, 2019**

Meeting was called to order at 6:30 PM.

### **ROLL CALL:**

Mayor Tammy Stempel, Councilor Ripley, Councilor Neace, Councilor Tracy, Councilor Reisner, Councilor Todd, Councilor Mersereau

### **ABSENT:**

None

### **STAFF:**

Tami Bannick, City Recorder; Jim Whynot, Public Works Director; Chad Jacobs, City Attorney

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### **PRESENTATION – SWEARING IN OF POLICE CHIEF JOHN SCHMERBER AND FIRE CHIEF RICHARD “RICK” HUFFMAN:**

Judge Ron Gray performed the swearing in ceremony.

### **AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS:**

None.

### **CONSENT AGENDA:**

1. Approval of April 9, 2019 Regular Meeting and April 30, 2019 Special Meeting Minutes
2. Approval of March Bank Balances
3. Budget Report for Period ending 3-31-19
4. Approval of March Check Register
5. Legal Costs on Projects
6. Department Head Monthly Reports for April 2019
7. Intergovernmental Agreement (IGA) for the Lending of Fire Agency Personnel within Clackamas County when Personnel are Unable to Get to Their Normal Reporting Location

*Councilor Tracy made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion was seconded by Councilor Neace. Motion passed unanimously.*

### **CORRESPONDENCE:**

None.

Mayor Stempel said that the Parks Board asked that a letter be read: “To the Gladstone Mayor Tammy Stempel and Gladstone City Council from the Gladstone Parks Board. Lack of park funding in the next budget. The Parks Board would like the City Council members and the Mayor to reconsider the lack of funding for the Gladstone City Parks in the next proposed budget cycle. Leaving our parks with nothing would be a terrible mistake. Not only does it leave the parks lacking for future needed projects, it leaves them with no emergency fund except to come back to the Council to transfer funds from another account later. A lack of preparedness is a precursor to failure. Our parks are our tax payers’ and our neighbors deserve more than that. In listening to citizens’ needs and desires for our parks they want more; not less. The community spoke and they are strongly in support of our parks. By not funding our parks capital improvement you would be going against the wishes of our citizens. Gladstone has 97 acres of parks and to leave them with no funding is incomprehensible to this Parks Board. We are willing to put in the work to make our parks a better place, but we can’t even file for grants with no funds to match or even help out. Most grant funding, as you all well know, is determined by how much time and money we are willing to match and/or give. Without funds we would potentially lose out on so many opportunities. Public Works

has a current list of needed repairs to some of the facilities located at the parks and with no funds how can we even do that? This Parks Board believes that if needed our City will need to make do with the current number of employees and not plan to hire more until true funding for them can be met. To hire more people and leave our park system with nothing is not smart budgeting. We need to pay for what we have first, then add more. Smart budgeting is necessary for a town our size. We need more than ever to live within our means. Taking what's important away from our citizens feels like a ploy to gain additional funding and that's not what Gladstone is all about. This is not a political game to us. We care about each other, our kids, our schools, and the health and welfare of our senior citizens. It is this Council's responsibility to fund the basics first and that must include our parks. Our Parks Board would like this Council and Mayor to consider funding the Parks Capital Improvement Fund with \$100,000 per year. This was voted to submit at the Gladstone Parks Board May 13<sup>th</sup>, 2019.”

## **REGULAR AGENDA**

### **8. ORDINANCE 1497 – ADDING NEW CHAPTER 5.55 TO THE GLADSTONE MUNICIPAL CODE (GMC), TITLED BUSINESS FOOD WASTE REQUIREMENTS:**

Reba Crocker, ROW Manager, introduced Eben Polk with Clackamas County, Pam Peck with Metro, and the owners of B&B Disposal. Ms. Crocker said in the staff report she listed the reasons that she believes Gladstone is mandated and must adopt this ordinance. She also went over the outreach that Metro has done to the businesses in Gladstone that they believe will be effected by this. It is unclear if there will be any additional cost or cost savings, but she believes the effected businesses could reduce the amount of trash if they can divert the food scraps from their normal trash, which could offset any additional costs. Metro's tipping fee is \$31 less for food scraps than it is for the normal waste. Because this is being phased in most of the businesses in Gladstone will not be effected until the second phase, which doesn't start until March of 2021. Gladstone has an agreement with Clackamas County to provide the outreach services and they will continue to do that.

Mayor Stempel said she is concerned about the language in the ordinance – the third “whereas” clause. Chad Jacobs said that after the last meeting he and Ms. Betz had a discussion regarding this issue. It is the opinion of their office that Metro does not have the legal authority to require a separate legal local government to legislatively enact an ordinance. Metro does have the authority to withhold funding if Gladstone refuses to do that. He and Ms. Betz decided to add the third “whereas” clause to recognize that even if Metro doesn't have the legal authority to do this, the City, under its own home rule authority, can say we're going to adopt this policy and we're going to enact this ordinance and still comply with Metro's requirements in that form. There was discussion regarding how many businesses would be effected by this. There has been a voluntary program for approximately 15 years in the region and there is still a tremendous amount of food waste that's going into landfills. Making a mandatory program allows it to be more efficient, allows costs to be lower over time, and meets a need from the business community that things are consistent within the metro region in regard to rules. There are already 1,400 businesses in the region that are participating in the program.

There was discussion regarding hauling/disposing of the waste.

There was discussion regarding the outreach efforts that were conducted over the last three years. There will be more outreach in the future.

*Councilor Todd made a motion to push this item to next month.*

Chad Jacobs pointed out that Metro requires the City to have a program in place by July 31<sup>st</sup> of this year.

*Motion was seconded by Councilors Reisner and Neace.*

Discussion: Councilor Reisner asked what kind of outreach is being done. They haven't talked in depth with Gladstone businesses about this service because Gladstone doesn't offer that service right now – they have only received notifications and had casual conversations.

*Motion passed unanimously.*

**BUSINESS CARRIED FORWARD:**

Tri-City Good Neighbor Agreement Joint Work Session Briefing by Public Works Director Jim Whynot:

Mr. Whynot said that Clackamas County Water Environment Service is putting together a Good Neighbor Program similar to what Kellogg Sewer Treatment Plant did in Milwaukie – they put money into a fund for certain projects. They outlined a corridor up and down the Clackamas River and Oregon City and Gladstone have the potential to receive some money from that (approximately \$50,000/year). They are holding a work session next Tuesday at 6:00 – he encouraged everyone to attend.

**BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE:**

Bill Osburn said he understands that some of the utility rate and other increases are necessary. He said the Right-Of-Way fees are a tax that was imposed on the residents of Gladstone just because they can – it wasn't something that was needed because sewer rates went up, water treatment, etc. He said we currently have one of the highest tax brackets around. He said he is here to ask the Council to repeal the Right-Of-Way fee. He said with increases in utilities and storm water, etc., it weighs heavy on people. He doesn't feel this fee is good for Gladstone. He said it would help to build trust with the people so that when they do increase fees they know that there is a reason.

Robert Patterson, Executive Director of Emerald Alley, a small Portland-based think tank whose mission is simply to love poor people. He believes that municipal broadband should be one of Gladstone's goals for the future. Broadband networks are in demand by users who run modern video and audio applications, which are increasing bandwidth requirements by 40%/year. He said there is an alternative to private businesses such as Comcast – one in which broadband services are owned by the City. It is cheaper, creates competition, and boosts economic development. He said that Michael Hanna has been working to bring municipally-owned broadband to Multnomah County. He is interested in coming to the Council meeting on June 11<sup>th</sup> to speak on this topic.

Mr. Patterson also wanted to talk about the need in the Oak Grove/Gladstone area for an emergency homeless shelter. He suggested repurposing the old Gladstone Library into Gladstone's first emergency homeless shelter. He believes that funds are available through HUD's emergency shelter grants program to convert the building into a state of the art shelter that could also act as a portal to vital services of employment, health care, and housing.

Les Poole said he is really pleased with what is happening with the Civic Center – it's moving along. He is pleased that there was a budget and careful lessons of the past applied to that project. He feels we are getting a good value. He wanted people to know that the new Library will be going in where the current City Hall is located.

He said that parking is an issue because Gladstone is growing. He asked what the value of a parking place is. He wants everyone to keep parking and traffic issues/needs in mind.

**BUSINESS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

**Councilor Neace:**

She wanted everyone to know about the Kiwanis spaghetti dinner on Saturday evening at the Gladstone Senior Center. It supports their scholarship program and the Gladstone High School Key Club.

**Councilor Reisner:**

He said in the March check register the Police Department is using the Oregon Accreditation Alliance – he has concerns with that organization. He has shared his concerns with the Police Chief.

He said the Right-Of-Way fees that the City pays are not reflected on our bill. He didn't realize how much the citizens were going to be paying. He feels we should revisit this and put it on a future agenda.

**Mayor Stempel:**

She said the Images of America Gladstone issue is out and for sale. Linda Cosgrove has some available for sale – let her know if you are interested.

Councilor Neace wanted everyone to wish Councilor Mersereau a happy birthday.

**ADJOURN:**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:16 P.M.

Approved by the Mayor this 11<sup>TH</sup> day of JUNE, 2019.

ATTEST:

  
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Tamara Stempel, Mayor

  
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Tami Bannick