

COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL
MEETING MINUTES
NOVEMBER 8, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jeff Gowing called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

ROLL CALL/PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

City Recorder Trudy Borrevik called the roll. The following were

PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: Mayor Gowing, Councilors Mike Fleck, Kenneth Michael Roberts, Chalice Savage and Jon Stinnett

PRESENT VIA GOTOMEETING: Councilor Greg Ervin

COUNCIL ABSENT: Councilor Candace Solesbee

STAFF PRESENT IN THE COUNCIL CHAMBERS: Police Chief Scott Shepherd, City Recorder Trudy Borrevik

STAFF PRESENT VIA GOTOMEETING: Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone, Public Works & Development Director Faye Stewart, Finance Director Roberta Likens and City Planner Eric Mongan

CITY ATTORNEY: None

MEDIA PRESENT VIA GOTOMEETING:

ITEMS ADDED TO THE AGENDA

None.

APPEARANCE OF INTERESTED CITIZENS FOR ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Duane Taddei, 77561 Hwy 99, Cottage Grove, thanked the City Manager's office for putting the Council meeting videos on YouTube. He clarified that he was asking the City Council to revisit and overturn their decision to order homeowners on E. Taylor Avenue to replace, repair or install their sidewalks. He said unless the City was going to go after every property owner regarding their sidewalks, the City should leave the property owners on E. Taylor Avenue alone.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

- (a) Public Hearing for Ordinance Amending the Cottage Grove Municipal Code Section 14.37.200 Flood Damage Prevention

City Planner Eric Mongan said the purpose of the Public Hearing was to receive comments on the proposed amendment of the Cottage Grove Municipal Code Section 14.37.200 Flood Damage Prevention. He explained the proposed changes in the Code.

Mayor Gowing opened the public hearing.

No one requested to speak.

Mayor Gowing closed the public hearing.

CONSENT AGENDA

- (a) Approval of October 25, 2021 Council Meeting Minutes

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Solesbee	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Gowing
AYES	X	X	X	X		X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- (a) First Vote of an Ordinance Amending the Cottage Grove Municipal Code Section 14.37.200 Flood Damage Prevention

City Planner Eric Mongan said the Council held the public hearing on the proposed amendments to amend the definition of “de-minimus development” and to change construction requirements for electrical, heating, ventilating, air-conditioning, plumbing, duct systems and other equipment. He said the ordinance had been available for more than a week and could be adopted in one meeting and the Planning Commission and staff were recommending adoption.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS THAT COUNCIL ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3148.

NOTE: Ordinance No. 3148 was given to the EID/BID Ordinance which goes before Council for the 2nd vote on December 13, 2021. The correct number for Ordinance Amending the Cottage Grove Municipal Code Section 14.37.200 Flood Damage Prevention is Ordinance No. 3149.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Solesbee	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Gowing
AYES	X	X	X	X		X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL

(a) Audit Committee Appointment

Finance Director Roberta Likens said Council appointed a sub-committee to interview applicants for the Audit Committee. She said two applications were received, however one applicant withdrew their application prior to the interviews. She said the sub-committee consisted of Councilor Ervin as Chair and Councilors Fleck and Roberts. She said interviews were held virtually on Monday, October 25th. She said it was the recommendation of the sub-committee that Council appoint Jennifer Morrocco to the Audit Committee for a three-year term to expire July 31, 2024. She said since the process had begun, another member of the Audit Committee had resigned and applications were being accepted to fill the unexpired term of that position.

Councilor Ervin said as Chair of the sub-committee, he thanked Ms. Morrocco for applying and encouraged more people to apply in the future.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR ERVIN AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK THAT COUNCIL APPOINT JENNIFER MORROCCO TO THE AUDIT COMMITTEE WITH A TERM TO EXPIRE JULY 31, 2024.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Solesbee	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Gowing
AYES	X	X	X	X		X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(b) Authorization of State Operation and Enforcement of Statewide Tobacco Retail Licensing Program

City Recorder, Trudy Borrevik, advised Council that during the 2021 Legislative Session, the Oregon Legislature passed SB 587 which created a Statewide Tobacco Retail Licensure Program. She said the Legislature allowed communities to continue to administer local tobacco licensing programs, if they also agreed to enforce the provisions of the State Law. She said if the City elected to retain the local program, the City would be required to enter into an IGA with the Department of Revenue. She said the City could choose to allow the State to assume the enforcement and enter into the State operated Tobacco License Program. She said Lane County Local Public Health Authority had notified the State of their desire to have the State license program apply in the unincorporated portion of Lane County and was working with them on an IGA. She said it would result in the loss of coordination between the City and Lane County. She said it was staff's recommendation that the City opt to have the State assume enforcement of the State Tobacco Retail Licensure Program. She said if Council was in agreement, staff would bring back an ordinance in December for Council consideration repealing the current ordinance.

IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR ROBERTS THAT THE CITY COUNCIL OPT INTO THE STATEWIDE TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSURE PROGRAM AND ALLOW THE STATE OF OREGON TO OPERATE AND ENFORCE THE PROVISIONS OF THE STATE TOBACCO RETAIL LICENSURE PROGRAM WITHIN THE CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE.

Councilor Ervin asked if there was any idea how the State program would affect the retailers in Cottage Grove.

Trudy explained the current process the City followed. She said the City hadn't received any reports from Lane County for two to three years regarding enforcement. She said if the City elected not to opt into the State program, we would still have to follow the State regulations.

Councilor Ervin said it freed up City resources but was the process changing significantly itself.

Trudy said she wasn't sure how significant it would change for the retailers. She said there could be more requirements with the State program, however they shouldn't be significant. She said since the enforcement was changing and Lane County had opted for the State program, the City would have to do all the enforcement.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Stinnett	Councilor Savage	Councilor Fleck	Councilor Solesbee	Councilor Ervin	Mayor Gowing
AYES	X	X	X	X		X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(c) Concerns from Council

Councilor Stinnett said he attended a public meeting on Saturday regarding the master plan for the Cottage Grove Lake and Dorena Lake Reservoirs which was well attended. He said there were concerns about the viability in the future due to low water levels, funding and management capabilities by the Corp of Engineers in the future and habitat loss.

Councilor Stinnett said he would have liked to hear what Mr. Dickinson had to say. He understood there were rules but he didn't like to restrict citizens from commenting.

Councilor Fleck said the Community Sharing Warming Shelter would be operating soon. He said they had received a lot of feedback about the temperature and they were going to try and operate at 32° which would increase the number of activations. He said they were doing a volunteer training tomorrow night at 7:00 pm and were trying to schedule other trainings as well.

Councilor Fleck said he agreed with Councilor Stinnett about public comments and understood the meeting rules however he didn't want to be too restrictive.

Councilor Ervin said he attended a neighborhood meeting that the City Engineer had last week with the residents on E. Taylor Avenue regarding the sidewalks. He said he was able to meet with the residents after the meeting. He said there was no discussion from the residents about withdrawing the order and they were aware that the sidewalks needed to be repaired. He said the conclusion from the meeting was that they would get a better deal having the City contract to repair the sidewalks and then put a lien on the properties. He said there seemed to be miscommunication about what sidewalks were included in the Safe Routes to School project which caused frustration with the property owners.

Councilor Ervin said last week he was leaving his house and noticed someone with a notepad going door to door. He inquired what the person was doing and was informed they were doing a tree survey for the City.

Councilor Ervin said he attended the Lane Economic Committee today and provided an update. He said they heard from Business Oregon who was linked up with RAIN who assisted with small business innovation research and grants. He said their website was www.sbir.gov

Councilor Ervin said his understanding for citizens to sign up to comment at a Council meeting was that the rule was in place but Council was going to be flexible.

Councilor Savage commented about the Halloween Hootinanny and said it was amazing to see so many people enjoying the event. She said she heard there were 3500 participants. She thanked the Chamber of Commerce and the volunteers and everyone who made it possible.

Councilor Roberts agreed with Councilor Savage and said the Halloween Hootinanny was a fun event.

Councilor Roberts said he had a few inquiries from citizens about the bricks at the old Moose Lodge on Hwy 99. He asked if it were getting to the point of being a nuisance.

Councilor Roberts said four of the bulbs on the Historic Downtown Arch were burnt out and asked if they could be replaced.

Councilor Roberts said he had been asked if/when the streateries were going to be removed. Councilor Roberts thanked City Staff for taking care of the homeless around the Community Center and setting up canopies at the back of the property. He said he helped clean up the area and the restroom. He said it looked nicer not to have it in front of the Community Center.

Councilor Roberts said he was confused with the sidewalk issue and didn't know if Council needed to discuss it again. He said he was lost with the whole process even though he voted for it.

Mayor Gowing commented about the citizen comment sign-up procedure. He said he was for consistency and made the call at his discretion. He said he wasn't going to break protocol for someone and then not allow it another meeting. He said the Council Rules Committee would discuss the procedure.

BUSINESS FROM THE CITY MANAGER

- (a) Report from the City Manager

City Recorder Trudy Borrevik reminded everyone about the Veterans Day Ceremony on Thursday, November 11th at the Armory at 11:00 am.

BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY

- (a) Report from City Attorney

None.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Mayor Gowing adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 7:29 pm.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be held December 13, 2021, at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Trudy Borrevik, City Recorder

Jeffrey D. Gowing, Mayor