

CITY OF COTTAGE GROVE
CITY COUNCIL
AGENDA SESSION MINUTES
February 11, 2022

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Gowing at 8:30 am.

Those in attendance virtually and in person: Mayor Gowing and Councilors Savage, Fleck, Roberts, and Ervin.

Staff present virtually and in person: City Manager Richard Meyers, Assistant to the City Manager Jake Boone, City Recorder Mindy Roberts, Public Works & Development Director Faye Stewart, Finance Director Roberta Likens, City Planner Eric Mongan, and and Civil Engineer Ryan Sisson

Public Hearing

There is no public hearing.

Consent Agenda

- (a) Approval of January 21, 2022 Agenda Session Minutes
- (b) Approval of January 24, 2022 Council Meeting Minutes

There were no comments or discussion.

Resolutions and Ordinances

- (a) Ordinance Amending the Title 14 Land Use District Map for 78300, 78310, & 78314 Hwy 99

City Planner Eric Mongan said this item is an Ordinance to ratify a decision made by the Planning Commission involving an annexation recently adopted by Council. He said the two remaining tax lots will be assuming the designation of Community Commercial and asked Council if they had any questions.

Mayor Gowing indicated that there were no questions.

Business from City Council

- (a) TMDL Implementation Plan Background & Progress Update

City Planner Eric Mongan said he will presenting a brief background on the TMDL implementation plan. He said the plan is good through the end of the year 2022 and in 2023 we will be adopting TMDL's in relation to mercury and asked if there were any questions.

Councilor Mike Fleck said he appreciates the report and has learned from it.

(b) Recommendations for Crosswalk Striping on East Main Street & Gateway Boulevard

Civil Engineer Ryan Sisson said that Council authorized staff to have the consultant reassess pedestrian traffic at the 12th and East Main Street intersection. He said the consultant used a national methodology for assessing crosswalks and added that this crosswalk with even more traffic during the summer months still did not reach 20 pedestrian crossings per hour. He said that Council has the discretionary power to approve painted crosswalks at this intersection and asked Council if they had any questions.

Councilor Fleck said he does not understand why this is coming back to Council. He said we are still getting a recommendation from the consultant against doing a crosswalk and he is not in support of doing so without an intersection.

Richard Meyers said there was no action taken previously and the item is back before Council to say yes or no.

Mayor Gowing said that he does support the recommendation and there are other intersections downtown that are painted crosswalks even though there are no stop signs or controls.

Councilor Fleck said the problem is that downtown is a 20 mph speed limit and this section of town is 30 mph and there is a huge difference in danger to pedestrians.

Mayor Gowing said it is still a legal crosswalk and the problem is people cross the street and just walk across the street and this would give them direction to have the cross in the right place.

Richard Meyers said that it is important to note that the consultant said there should not be crosswalks on Gateway Blvd between the connector and Harvey because there is no place to put one with all of the driveways and turn lanes.

Councilor Savage asked the cost of putting in the crosswalk.

Civil Engineer Ryan Sisson replied it is estimated at \$1700 and added that any stripping the Council approves will increase visibility for the people who are already using the crosswalk. He said there is increased traffic for the dog park from the residential neighborhood and even more in the summer. He added that we know people are crossing there and the stripping will help.

Mayor Gowing asked if there was any further discussion.

(c) Concerns from Council

Mayor Gowing announced for the record, Happy Birthday to Cottage Grove turning 135 years old today.

Councilor Fleck reported that the vaccine clinic Friday and Saturday did not have any issues. He acknowledged Chief Shepherd who had a good calming presence at the event and thanked all protesters and counter protesters for good behavior.

Business from City Manager

(a) Report from City Manager

City Manager Richard Meyers welcomed Council to come in for popcorn and treats to celebrate the City's birthday.

Richard said the 4A and 5A District Swim Meet is being held today and tomorrow bringing approximately 600 athletes to town and that it is exciting to have those events here to utilize the top swim pool in the District.

Councilor Roberts asked if this is the first time we have had a 4A and 5A event.

Richard replied yes, because the pool opened right before things shut down due to COVID and this has been one of the first opportunities.

Richard said the vaccine clinic went well and he was able to express appreciation to some of the people that were there. He added that the County is moving away from holding mass clinics and doing more private or small public events and if anyone needs a clinic they should contact Teresa at the Community Center.

Mayor Jeff Gowing adjourned the meeting at 8:40 am.

Mindy Roberts, City Recorder

Jeffrey D. Gowing, Mayor