

REGULAR MEETING OF THE COUNCIL  
CITY OF AMITY, OR

Minutes

A Regular Meeting of the City of Amity City Council was held at 7:00 p.m. on Wednesday, July 10, 2019 in the Council Chambers, City Hall, 109 Maddox, Amity, Oregon.

Councilors Present

Councilor Ryan Lehman, Councilor Robert Andrade, Councilor Caralyn Miller, Council Advisor Jenna Martinez and Mayor Michael Cape

Councilors Absent

Councilor Nickolas Wilkinson

Staff Present

City Treasurer/Recorder Natasha Johnson, and Public Works Superintendent Gary Mathis

**CONSENT AGENDA:** Councilor Lehman moved to approve the Consent Agenda. Councilor Andrade seconded and with no further discussion motion passed 3-0.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS/QUESTIONS:**

- A. DIG Report: Erin Rainey presented DIG Report. Discussed new businesses in town. Thanked Public Works for helping with the hanging baskets.
- B. Tourism Committee Report: Rob Kistler presented TC Report: Went over grant to create website for TC and Barb Bond submitted the grant to Economic Development for 10k. Mayor Cape went into more detail about the grant. Rob thanked DIG for all they do. Councilor Andrade also thanked DIG.
- C. Citizen Brianna Mode discussed Amity's drinking water. Mode wants to know why the water quality is so bad and what can be done to make the water better. Mode brought up when the City had brown water at the same time her daughter came down with Ecoli and is concerned that it was from the water during that time. Mode wants to know what our Community can do to help improve the water in Amity. Mayor Cape explained the water project grant to make improvements to our water system. Mode is concerned that there was no testing done when the brown water issue happened, and that testing is done only every two weeks. Mayor Cape went over the treatment of our water system and he agrees there is a problem in the lines in some places in town. Mode's other concern is that the community wasn't informed in a timely manner. Mayor Cape explained that there is room for improvement with the communication and the City is working on that and he is glad that Mode's daughter is ok. Mayor Cape asked Mode if she would share information regarding the strand that her daughter had. Mode said as soon as she finds out she will let the City know. Councilor Miller asked Public Works Mathis about testing at houses. Mathis explained there are random houses through town that they randomly test. Councilor Miller asked if customers could be put on the list to have their house tested. Mayor Cape explained to Mode about our water lines and how some of them are really old. Councilor Lehman brought up council vacancies and Mode could get on the council.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

NONE

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. Caralyn Miller Resignation (moved to end of agenda): Councilor Lehman moved to accept Councilor Miller's resignation. Councilor Miller seconded motion and with no further discussion motion passed 3-0. Mayor Cape presented Councilor Miller with a plaque and again thanked Miller for everything she has done for the Community and Council.
- B. Elect Council President: Councilor Andrade moved to elect Councilor Ryan Lehman as Council President. Councilor Miller seconded and with no further discussion motion passed 3-0. Councilor Lehman accepts being Council President.
- C. Check Signers: Councilor Lehman moved to update the list of authorized check signers on the City of Amity's First Federal checking account to include Mayor Michael Cape, Council President Ryan Lehman, Finance Committee Members (need to assign someone), City Administrator Michael Thomas and City Recorder/Treasurer Natasha Johnson, contingent on passing the bank's credit check and remove any and all others.

In addition, update safety deposit box signers to include Mayor Michael Cape, City Recorder/Treasurer Natasha Johnson and City Administrator Michael Thomas contingent on passing a bank's credit check and remove any and all others. Councilor Andrade seconded and with no further discussion motion passed 3-0.

**DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

- A. City Administrator Report by Mike Thomas: Administrator Thomas submitted his report and explained the upcoming project and improving the water. Thanked the City for hiring him and is enjoying working here. Mayor Cape mentioned that Thomas is doing a great job and asking the right questions.
- B. City Recorder Report by Natasha Johnson: Recorder Johnson submitted report and nothing to add. Mayor Cape asked about complaint regarding the potholes. Public Works Mathis explained fixed pothole beginning of July. Administrator Thomas brought up the pothole grant for paving on Jellison and 3<sup>rd</sup> St. Still waiting to hear if City was approved for the grant.
- C. Public Works Report by Gary Mathis: Public Works Mathis submitted report and nothing to add. Councilor Andrade brought up trees growing in yard and the sidewalks coming up due to trees. Mathis went over how public works can fix the issue and that it would cost about 10k to fix the one area. Mathis is aware of the issue and it is on the list to fix the trees on Trade St.

Councilor Lehman commented on the brown water and where did the sediment come from. Mathis explained why the sediment issue. Public Works flushed one of the main hydrants where the issue was, and it cleared up after a couple of hours. Sediment comes from the old pipes, but hard to really say exactly where it comes from. Councilor Lehman wanted to state on record that the water is treated. Mathis went over that the City allowed construction company to pull water from hydrant.

Administrator Thomas went over that the City profited around \$500 for selling water to construction company and next time companies ask to buy water City will think about it. Councilor Miller asked if there is a fixture that can go on the hydrant to prevent it from happening again. Advisor Martinez asked Mathis how much it is to test for Ecoli. Mathis said the test cost around \$35 to test for Ecoli. Councilor Lehman went over the cost that would be involved if the City test all the customers that complain about dirty water. Mayor Cape need to keep moving forward with improving the water. The City is following the State expectations.

Councilor Lehman asked Mathis about the dive report and what they found. Mathis went over the report.

- D. Law Enforcement Report by Sheriff's Office: Sergeant Whitlow submitted report. Whitlow went over ordinance issues. Sherriff's Office sent out around sixty letters to homeowners addressing the ordinances they were violating. Out of the sixty houses, there were about six that still needed to work on them. Sheriff's Office posted door hangers on the six houses.

Mayor Cape read a citizen's email into the record thanking the Sheriff's Office. Whitlow went over the speed survey that will be going out and the results from the speed radar. Whitlow will present the speed radar report next month. Whitlow went over the National Night Out and the Pancake Breakfast.

Mayor Cape asked Whitlow about donating bike helmets to kids in town that need helmets. Cape asked Administrator Thomas to look into a grant to supply helmets. Whitlow explained what they do when a kid doesn't have a helmet.

- E. Library Report by Marcia Robbins: Robbins sent over report and was not at the meeting. Mayor Cape asked Public Works Mathis about the bid for the electrical work at the Library. Mathis said the bid was around \$1500 but doesn't have it on him. Mayor Cape went over what was approved and if bid comes in what was approved in the budget to go ahead and move forward with it.
- F. City Engineer Billing Report: No engineer bill attached this month.
- G. City Attorney Report: See attached billing and nothing to add.
- H. City Planner Report: See attached billing and nothing to add.

#### **BUSINESS FROM THE MAYOR & CITY COUNCILORS:**

- A. Mayor Report by Mayor Michael Cape: Mayor Cape submitted his report and added a couple of items. Mayor Cape went over the union contract. Union was good with extending contract to next year with a 2% wage increase. Union's only concern was that CPI is going away and they are moving to a new CPI contract. The 2% doesn't match what is on the CPI. Union Rep talked with the City Union employees and they are happy with the 2% increase. City has until next year to negotiate new contract. Councilor Andrade asked Mayor Cape who is involved in the negotiations and the process of negotiations. Cape explained the process and who is involved and typically who is at the meeting.

Mayor Cape went over the CDBG meeting and was able to get better numbers on the project cost Explained the total project cost will be around 5.6 million that the City will be awarded. Went over

the delays with the project and the next steps to move forward with the project. Mayor Cape will be in a conference call with USDA tomorrow to go over the project.

Mayor Cape went over the bridge work that will be taking place in the next couple of years and that the City's water line is on the bridge. ODOT explained to the Mayor during a meeting that it would be up to the City to move it at the City's expense. There are a couple of options the City can do but will be costly. Mayor Cape is going to have City reach out to the Governor's office regarding this.

- B. Councilor Caralyn Miller & Community Engagement Committee: Councilor Miller went over what she has been doing the last month. Miller attended the Tourism Committee meeting and when the next meeting will be. Miller is hoping Council and Administrator will be able to attend the meeting. Miller discussed the movies and they will be at the Community Center. Recorder Johnson went over who the City sent donation request too. Councilor Andrade and Councilor Lehman thanked Councilor Miller for all the work she has done.
- C. Councilor Robert Andrade Report & Water & Sewer Committee: Councilor Andrade let Public Works know to keep up the good work.
- D. Councilor Ryan Lehman report: Councilor Lehman asked the Mayor to reach out to absent Councilors and that Councilors need to make sure to come to meetings so there is a quorum. Mayor Cape agrees and City can send out reminders on the day of the meetings. City will have one more councilor starting next month.

Mayor Cape added that he will be at the Mayor's conference next month and will miss the pancake breakfast. Also, wanted to recognize that Administrator Thomas will be residing in Amity and is committed to the Community.

. Councilor Lehman moved to adjourn. Councilor Andrade seconded the motion. Motion passed 3-0.

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**Approved by City Council August 7, 2019**

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Michael Cape, Mayor

**Attest:**

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Natasha Johnson, City Recorder