

## **BOARDMAN CITY COUNCIL- REGULAR MEETING – SEPTEMBER 6, 2022**

Mayor Keefer called the meeting to order at 7:04pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance. Roll call was taken:

Councilors present: Isaac Williams, Brenda Profitt, Leslie Pierson, Paul Keefer, Roy Drago, Jr.

Staff: Karen Pettigrew-City Manager, Marta Barajas-Finance Director, Rick Stokoe-Chief of Police/Assistant City Manager, Carla McLane-Planning Director

Audience: Torrie Griggs-Chamber of Commerce/BCDA, Kathy Street, Richard Rockwell, Lisa Pratt, Dustin Harper, Natasha Rockwell, Cristina Cuevas, Ethan A. Salata, Frances Glenn, Jonathan Tallman, Heather Baumgartner, Mark Keith-Boardman Fire, Tonieshia Rich-Williams, Joel Edwards, Jackie McCauley, Toni Connell, Lisa Mittelsdorf, Melissa Keefer Kyle Percy, Loren Dieter, and Tom Baumgartner(in person) and JJ Peters-SGR(via Zoom)

### **CHANGE OF AGENDA**

Mayor Keefer announced the agenda would be changed for tonight's meeting. After Other Business, would be the City Managers Report, then Police Report, then to Committee Reports.

Mayor Keefer recessed the meeting at 7:06pm and opened the public hearing.

### **FORMAL PROCEEDINGS**

#### Public Hearing Declaring Surplus Property – NE Front Street Property

Mayor Keefer gave the description of the property to be declared surplus and the rules of conduct for the hearing.

Disclosure: Mayor Keefer asked councilors to disclose any ex parte contact, bias or conflicts of interest. Councilor Pierson declared a conflict of interest due to potential financial gain from the sale of the property in her capacity as a realtor and asked to recuse herself from the hearing. She was recused. Councilor Williams declared a potential conflict of interest as his new job has him searching for property to locate a new business. It was determined his employer could gain financially, but not himself directly and could participate in the hearing. Mayor Keefer asked if anyone from the audience wanted to challenge the council's impartiality. There was none.

Correspondence: There was no additional correspondence.

Public Testimony:

In favor of the application – none.

Opposed to the application – none.

Neutral testimony – none.

Mayor Keefer closed the hearing at 7:21pm and resumed the regular meeting.

#### Council Deliberation

Mayor Keefer asked if any councilors had questions for the staff. Councilor Profitt questioned why the Splash Pad, the Soccer Field, parking lot, and the Dog Park are being considered surplus. City Manager Pettigrew said declaring those properties surplus does not mean it is for sale. If there was an opportunity to sell those properties, to perhaps a business needing that space, those parks could be relocated. She said it would be easier to list all of the property in this surplus rather than having to do it again. Councilor Profitt wanted to verify that the council would have a say on any sale on those properties, and the mayor assured her they would.

## **FINANCIAL REPORT**

Month Ending July 31, 2022

Finance Director Barajas said this report is the first month of the fiscal year. There is nothing big to report. Property taxes are trickling in from the last tax season. Some of the interest rates have hit one percent. The interest rates have been creeping up slowly to 1.25 to 1.5 each month. The trend is to continue increasing. There were no questions from the council regarding the financial report.

## **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Kathy Street- 655 SW Mt. Hood. Her comments are regarding the hiring of the new city manager. She and a friend had attended the Meet and Greet for the two candidates from a nation-wide search. There were expenses of doing a search, bringing them to Boardman and the interview process. Then it went silent until much later when the city announced they had hired the police chief and that he had filled in when the current city manager was out. That did not have any transparency, did not follow proper best models for business and she was very disappointed in that decision.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Ordinance No 1-2022 – Non-Exclusive Franchise to Pendleton Overground, LLC dba PDTfast.net – 2<sup>nd</sup> Reading

Councilor Williams made a motion to read Ordinance 1-2022 by Title Only. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with 2 vacancies. City Manager Pettigrew read Ordinance 1-2022 by Title Only, to the second reading.

Councilor Williams made a motion to adopt Ordinance 1-2022, an ordinance granting a nonexclusive franchise to Pendleton Overground, LLC dba PDTfast.net, hereinafter referred to as "grantee," its successors and assigns, the right of privilege to provide noncable telecommunications services within the city and to utilize the public rights of way. Councilor Profitt seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pierson-yes; Councilor Drago-yes; Councilor Profitt-yes; Councilor Williams-yes; Mayor Keefer-yes. Motion passed 5-0 with 2 vacancies.

Ordinance 2-2022 – Update to Section 7 of the Port of Morrow Interchange Area Management Plan (IAMP)– 1<sup>st</sup> Reading

Councilor Profitt made a motion to read Ordinance 2-2022 fully and distinctly into the record. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. The motion passed 5-0 with 2 vacancies. Planning Director McLane read Ordinance 2-2022 in its entirety into the record.

Resolution 18-2022 – Declaring Surplus Property

Councilor Williams made a motion to adopt Resolution 18-2022, a resolution declaring City of Boardman real property listed on Exhibit A, and shown on Exhibit B as surplus. Councilor Drago seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pierson-abstain; Councilor Drago-yes; Councilor Profitt-yes; Councilor Williams-yes; Mayor Keefer-yes. Motion passed 4-0 with 1 abstention and 2 vacancies.

Extending Meeting Time

Councilor Pierson said, based on the agenda before the council, she motioned to extend the meeting to after 9:00pm to allow ample time for everyone to hear the presentation as provided on the agenda. Councilor Williams seconded the motion. The mayor believes 9:30pm would be an appropriate time to finish the meeting. Councilor Pierson said 10:00pm would be needed. The mayor said they could wait until 9:30pm and talk more about it then. There was consensus by the council to do so.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

Appointment of Councilor Vacant Positions

Mayor Keefer announced there were six candidates for two vacancies. They were, Heather Baumgartner, Cristina Cuevas, Dustin Harper, Richard Rockwell, Ethan Salata, and Jonathan Tallman. The mayor and the councilors took turns asking the same six questions of each candidate. Each candidate had two minutes to respond. The council was then given ballots to vote for two candidates and hand to the mayor to announce.

Mayor Keefer recessed the meeting for a break at 8:26pm.  
Mayor Keefer resumed the meeting at 8:31pm.

Mayor Keefer announced the results of each ballot: Mayor Keefer – Rockwell and Baumgartner; Councilor Profit – Rockwell and Cuevas; Councilor Williams – Cuevas and Salata; Councilor Pierson-Baumgartner and Cuevas; Councilor Drago – Rockwell and Baumgartner.

City Recorder Jenn Rollins tallied the votes and there was a three-way tie between Baumgartner, Rockwell and Cuevas. The council re-cast their ballots with only those three candidates to choose from.

Mayor Keefer announced the results of each ballot: Mayor Keefer – Rockwell and Baumgartner; Councilor Williams – Baumgartner and Cuevas; Councilor Profit – Baumgartner and Cuevas; Councilor Pierson – Baumgartner and Cuevas; Councilor Drago – Rockwell and Baumgartner.

City Recorder Jenn Rollins tallied the votes with Baumgartner and Cuevas having the most votes. Mayor Keefer announced the Heather Baumgartner and Cristina Cuevas have been appointed to the vacancies on the city council.

Mayor Keefer swore-in newly appointed councilors.

#### Intergovernmental Agreement with Managing Oregon Resources Efficiently (MORE)

City Manager Pettigrew said Morrow County would like for the city to go through this organization for exchange of services and/or equipment. There is a list of other counties and cities in Oregon who participate in which the city could exchange services and equipment. An example would be if the city has an emergency and is in need of a water truck, they could get the use of a water truck from Hood River if they participate in the MORE IGA. Morrow County has already paved a part of Wilson Road for the city. The MORE IGA needs signed so the county can bill the city. This is a broader-reaching IGA that includes Morrow County.

Councilor Williams motioned to table a vote on the IGA until the new councilors have had adequate time to understand the reading material. He thinks this would be inconsiderate for the new councilors not to be able to see the information before-hand. Councilor Profit seconded the motion. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pierson-yes; Councilor Cuevas-yes; Councilor Drago-yes; Councilor Profit-yes; Councilor Baumgartner-yes; Councilor Williams-yes; Mayor Keefer-yes. The motion passed 7-0. This agenda item will be moved to the next City Council Meeting.

### **REPORTS, CORRESPONDENCE AND DISCUSSION:**

#### City Manager Report

City Manager Pettigrew gave her report to the council. She wanted to let the council know she has put her name in for a city council position on the ballot in November.

#### Police Report

The mayor announced the police report was in the packet. There were no questions.

#### Committee Report

Update from the City Manager Hiring Committee. Mayor Keefer asked the council to listen to the report and then they would decide the direction the council will go for hiring.

Councilor Williams reported the committee is made up of himself, Councilor Profit and Councilor Pierson. He said the city manager will be retiring at the end of the year and she will be able to serve as a councilor if she wins the election without any problems.

The have met and drafted a job description and proposed a salary range of \$135,000 - \$165,000 a year. They received proposals from several recruiting firms. The committee recommends hiring SGR to find the new city manager. Councilor Williams recommends getting community involvement by having a

special meeting to receive input regarding the hiring of the new city manager as well as answering any questions the council may have. Councilor Pierson submitted all of the information for the council to review on a flash drive to city hall. That information can be obtained by contacting City Recorder Jenn Rollins.

Police Chief/Assistant City Manager Stokoe suggested the job description be reviewed as it currently has language which reads like the recruiting ad, rather than a job description.

Finance Director Barajas recommended the committee use the CIS job description template the city currently uses for all of its job descriptions.

Councilor Pierson would like to hear the presentation from SGR regarding their services as they are on the Zoom meeting and prepared to give the presentation tonight. Mayor Keefer wants to hear presentations from the top two recruiting firms at the next meeting, and then decide which firm to hire. He did not think it was a good idea to hear only from one of the recruiting firms at this meeting.

Councilor Pierson made a motion to utilize a recruiting agency to hire the next city manager and to remove the previous motion to hire a city manager without one. The motion was seconded by Councilor Williams. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pierson-yes; Councilor Cuevas-yes; Councilor Drago-yes; Councilor Profitt-yes; Councilor Baumgartner-yes; Councilor Williams-yes; Mayor Keefer-yes. The motion passed 7-0.

Mayor Keefer made a motion to direct the committee to pick the top two recruiting firms and to hear presentations from each for the council to decide which company they would like to choose. Councilor Williams seconded the motion. Councilor Pierson reiterated that all of the firms' proposals are available at city hall. They can be requested from the city recorder. A roll call vote was taken: Councilor Pierson-yes; Councilor Cuevas-yes; Councilor Drago-yes; Councilor Profitt-yes; Councilor Baumgartner-yes; Councilor Williams-yes; Mayor Keefer-yes. The motion passed 7-0.

There was consensus to hold a special council meeting on Wednesday, September 14, 2022 at 6pm. The agenda is to include two – 15 to 20-minute presentations from the two recommended recruitment firms for the council to choose which firm to hire. The agenda is also to include the job description, the salary, and the timeline and contingency.

**The meeting was adjourned at 9:45pm.**

  
Paul Keefer – Mayor  
Jackie McCauley – Acting Recorder