



## **CITY COUNCIL MEETING**

**Wednesday July 07, 2021 6:30 P.M.**

**Please join our meeting online or by phone at the following link or phone number:**

**Join Zoom Meeting**

**<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83039991674?pwd=REtyOFJzUWV3d0Y2ZWJjb0t5S25yZz09>**

**Meeting ID: 830 3999 1674**

**Passcode: 971468**

**One tap mobile +12532158782,,83039991674#,,,,\*971468# US (Tacoma)**

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## **PUBLIC MEETING MINUTES**

**July 07, 2021**

**Mayor Burns calls to order 6:30**

Mayor Burns, Witt Anderson, Peny Wallace, Ron Wright, Charlie Cannon, Acasia Berry

Staff: Colleen Coleman City Manager, John Grim City Engineer, Jayme Bennett City Recorder

**Consent Agenda:**

**Additions or Corrections to the Agenda: Witt Anderson would like an audit update. Colleen Coleman explains that it is scheduled for the next meeting. Mayor Burns inquires about exit interview attendance. Colleen let's council know they can attend.**

**Addition: Gate update.**

**Addition: Evaluation process for employee review and committee formation.**

**Mayor Burns would like to offer the trees being moved the first item of the agenda - to allow for Stephanie to participate.**

**Business from the Audience:** Carol Schmidt would like to spend a couple minutes on the gate and the new imposed fee of 50.00 as a concerned citizen. Rock Creek Park's initial purpose was for families, secondary use became kiting. It is the cooling center for the heat wave for the entire community, and sometimes the only option for many. I implore you to consider the families of Mosier thoughtfully – anyone with a local address with the tax burden should be granted free access. The reduced fee for the less resourced is not appropriate, as people should not have to go begging for access to a park.

Charlie Cannon read the notes from the last meeting and is just getting caught up on the gate conversations, however, reminds council that the TLT tax will provide tourism dollars which could be used for the gate/offsetting pass expenses for locals and potentially providing a balance.

In person meetings or Zoom or hybrid?

Commissioner Scott Hege had first in person meeting, hybrid meeting. Normal meeting place, with bandwidth to provide zoom connection or otherwise. Camera on staff and commissioners, normal meeting plus audio/video option.

Many people that wouldn't come to the meetings normally, are able to join because of the virtual component. Hege will chat with IT folks and get information together for Mosier to explore. Challenge was not being able to see the virtual participants, and not feeling like they could see if someone had a question. They will work out the kinks.

We will explore options once we see what Commissioner Hege provides for information. Jayme can also look into the transitional time of both audio/video and in person, what other small cities are doing. (Condon specifically). COVID funding can assist in expenses.

**Motion to approve minutes from 06/23/2021 as written:**

**Peny Wallace**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Witt Anderson**

**All in, no opposition 6:45**

**Motion to approve minutes from 07/03/2021 as written:**

**Witt Anderson**

**2<sup>nd</sup>: Ron Wright**

**All in, no opposition 6:46**

Let's take what Scott brings and see what he most viable functional system is.

Jayme to reach out on what small cities doing with the hybrid and transition and Condon will be asked

John Grim provides an update on the activity in Tannawashee development with background information on the process.

There have been concerns with tree removal from the original approval and conditions of the plat (2008).

There are tanker trucks, with fire hoses on site always. Additionally, a staff member stays on site at the end of the day for a couple hours to observe and prevent any issues. (fire).

Summit mobilized equipment without steel to provide additional prevention measures. They are acutely aware of the potential of a spark starting a fire.

The Chief is also visiting the project quite often.

There are complaints regarding the removal of trees. The original conditions of approval are included in the staff report, and the conditions relevant to this conversation are highlighted.

Fill slopes require additional trees to be planted. Most of the work on phases 4 and 5 are cut slopes. The terrain is rocky and it is not feasible to plant. Colleen Coleman and the developer are working together on mitigation with street trees, additional plantings etc. In hindsight it was not practical to plant the cut slopes.

The vast majority of the tree removal will take place on the home sites, not the streets. The homes are on sloped lots, and everyone wants a view. Unfortunately, the developer chose to put a road through a forested area and develop the lots. That is allowed by the zoning code. Not much we can do at this point.

Acasia would like to know if there is anything we can do with the lots that have not been sold yet. There is nothing in our code to protect the trees. We can purchase the land. We can levy a tax if the community wants the trees preserved or the green space. They can do that.

Stephanie Bowman would like to comment: Thank you to the staff (Colleen and John Grim specifically have been responsive, Peny and Witt as well have been by to view the issue). The developer came in and cut a grove of 100 ft trees. Left them blocking my road, for several days, drying out and creating a fire hazard. There has not been a water truck there except for one day. There has not been a person on site monitoring in the evenings. The piles of dead debris are creating a hazard.

It is concerning as a property owner that I would have little way to get out, in addition to the concerns for Mosier.

The cherry trees look nice, but they provide no shade. The trees on Blanchard do provide shade and cool the earth.

I hope you do explore buying some of those lots. Having green space and protecting old growth trees is essential. It was 115 degrees a week and a half ago. I appreciate your effort to find compromise.

(Peny)

Phase 4 and 5 are old growth and any replacement will not have the value these trees provide. Phase 1, 2, 3 of Tannawashee have gone great. As they come up to 4 and 5 – for the widening of the road to code, the scrub oak and maple taken out during the heat (90-100+ degrees) it was like an inferno. As you go up Blanchard, the other trees provide a huge shade relief and difference in temperature.

Native plant specialist and approval plans must be met prior to final approval.

John Grim: specific condition language in the approval contradicts that statement with specifics to the slope, and I am not the planner, so I am not clear on what the intent was.

Acasia Berry: What is the timeline for ordinances getting in place for the City of Mosier for tree protection? What is the timeline for the lots?

Colleen Coleman (late winter/spring for lots). We need to work with the city attorney to navigate the process and we can prioritize this if our city planner can accommodate with the other many priorities we have.

Witt Anderson would like clarification on the final plat approval and vegetation/planting. We don't want to give up the authority we have, no matter how small, prior to going to final plat.

John Grim: We will have to ask them to post bond because it is in the public right of way – this is a small portion of the issue. John will ask them to do that prior to final plat. This will be a challenge, with the rocky terrain, I don't want to be a pessimist. I will talk with them.

Council acknowledges the need to remove trees to accommodate building a home. The City of Mosier dictating tree preservation and the liability issues will be deferred to legal counsel.

#### **Legislative Funding:**

Witt Anderson: 750k from the State of Oregon for Mosier Center and 2.5m for the tertiary treatment plant. The 29<sup>th</sup> of June the house and senate passed both. We don't anticipate any issues. Huge thanks to everyone. Mayor Burns, Colleen Coleman put in a huge amount of effort. The Chief, Phil Evans as well. Hundreds of hours between the 5 or 6 of us. It really paid off.

#### **Senate earmark funding and UPRR:**

500 applications, and we made it through the initial step. Submitted all that was requested, and we are now waiting. Equity and underserved community were the priorities of the funding this year.

UPRR transferred the funds to our bank. We are lucky to have the opportunity to redirect a substantial portion of the funding to the Mosier Center. Keeping in mind the importance of the restoration planting of RCP.

#### **RCP Gate:**

John Grim: Coburn is willing to work on the gate, as it has been very difficult to find anyone to do small projects in Mosier.

Mayor Burns would also like a camera figured into the project.

Peny would like all of us to think about the concerns raised by Kris and Carol. Thinking outside of the box is the approach we all could take to consider the issues.

City Council deliberates the many issues and concerns and ideas around the parking, passes and what the balance is. This is a goal and ongoing issue for the council.

**Personnel and Review:**

Acasia, Witt and Ron have volunteered to be the personnel committee (used to be the hiring committee). These 3 could be the group that reviews personnel (initially the policy review group).

Colleen will speak with the city attorney regarding the process/public requirements.

Witt and Ron have been working on templates, and how to do the process of a review. Work plan is tied to budget, performance and reviews. The next piece is reviewing the old draft documents and policies and updating those. The review of City Manager would be a component of this draft policy document.

The forthcoming year – we should tie our objectives and goals to a work plan. There are examples online. We can't do that looking back, obviously.

Colleen will receive the documents and comment and return. The employee review is a series of questions – self review and committee review. Can we speed it up? What is most efficient? Assigning a couple members then allowing them to report to council.

**Announcements:**

Speaking of equity and inclusion – the Spanish speaking population is not receiving our communications clearly because of our lack of language skills. We have identified a woman that can assist with translations as well as website updates and developments in a short amount of time.

**Rafting:** Start with Witt Andersons availability because of his volunteering commitments, he has the least flexible schedule.

**Adjourn: 8:30**