

A special meeting of the Astoria Common Council was held at the above place at the hour of 9:00 am.

Councilors Present: Brownson, Rocka, Herman, West, and Mayor Jones.

Councilors Excused: None

Staff Present: City Manager Estes, Finance Director Brooks, Public Works Director Harrington, and City Attorney Henningsgaard. The meeting is recorded and will be transcribed by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.

The City Council proceeded to Item 4: Proclamations at this time.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Immediately following Item 4: Proclamations, the City Council recessed into Executive Session.

Item 3(a): ORS192.660(3) – Labor Negotiations

The City Council will meet in executive session to discuss labor negotiations.

The meeting reconvened at 9:30 am. City Council addressed Item 5: Reports of Councilors at this time.

PROCLAMATION

Item 4(a): National Hispanic Heritage Month

This item was addressed immediately following Item 2: Roll Call.

Mayor Jones read the Proclamation declaring September 15 through October 15, 2019 as National Hispanic Heritage Month in Astoria.

Minerva Moulin thanked the Council for welcoming the LCHC in Astoria. The organization is proud of the Hispanic heritage and loves Astoria.

The City Council recessed into Executive Session at 9:04 am.

REPORTS OF COUNCILORS

This item was addressed immediately following Item 3: Executive Session.

Item 5(a): Councilor Herman No report.

Item 5(b): Councilor Brownson No report.

Item 5(c): Councilor West No report.

Item 5(d): Councilor Rocka No report.

Item 5(e): Mayor Jones No report.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

City Manager Estes requested that Work Session Item 9(b) be addressed prior to Item 9(a). The agenda was approved with changes.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

Item 7(a): Consideration of Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers Local 58 (Parks & General Employees) Collective Bargaining Agreement

City Manager Estes stated the City negotiated a one-year contract with the Parks and General Employees Collective Bargaining Unit. Staff recommends that City Council approve the contract, which includes wage adjustments for certain positions and a 2.75 percent cost of living adjustment.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Rocka, seconded by Councilor West, to approve the Parks and General Employees collective bargaining agreement with the Chauffeurs, Teamsters and Helpers Local 58. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Brownson, Herman, Rocka, West, and Mayor Jones; Nays: None.

Item 7(b): Salary Resolution Establishing Basic Compensation Plan Cost of Living Wage Adjustments

Staff positions and associated compensation are detailed in the "Resolution Establishing a Basic Compensation Plan for the Employees of the City of Astoria and Establishing Regulations for the Placement of Present Employees within the Wage and Salary Schedules Provided". Whenever there are changes in positions, whether a position is being deleted, added or redefined; or whether a change in compensation is proposed; such changes are adopted by resolution. The proposed resolution implements negotiated collective bargaining agreement adjustments effective July 1, 2019 for the General / Parks Group. Additionally, management and confidential employee positions were reviewed for necessary adjustments to ensure appropriate pay levels to meet objectives for staff promotion, retention and recruitment. It is recommended that Council adopt the Salary Resolution as presented.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Herman, to adopt the Salary Resolution establishing basic compensation plan cost of living wage adjustments. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Brownson, Herman, Rocka, West, and Mayor Jones; Nays: None.

Item 7(c): 3rd Street & Lexington Avenue Sanitary Sewer Replacement – Authorization to Award Construction Contract

Recently, the Public Works Department discovered a portion of seriously deteriorated sanitary sewer pipe between 3rd Street and 4th Street on Lexington Ave. The pipe is partially collapsed, impeding flow, and in need of immediate replacement.

Public Works Staff is currently working on procurement of a Contractor that will assist in replacing the damaged section of pipe. The construction estimate for this project is \$96,000, including a 10 percent contingency.

Due to the proximity of the water line to the proposed work, the Public Works Department will provide temporary service to six homes immediately adjacent to the project.

It is recommended that City Council authorize the City Manager to sign a construction contract up to a maximum amount of \$125,000 for the 3rd St. and Lexington Ave. Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project.

Director Harrington confirmed for Councilor Herman that discovering deteriorated pipe was common in Astoria. However, the replacement was not usually so high. This project would spend half of the department's sewer repair budget for the year.

Councilor Herman asked how the water service would be provided to the six homes.

City Engineer Crater explained that a water main was located on top of the sewer line, so the temporary water service would have to come from a fire hydrant one block away. Two-inch flexible pipe would extend through brush and across the front of the homes to tie into the existing water services. This will allow the City to turn off

the water main on top of the sewer so the contractor can remove the main and replace the sewer line. The City would replace the main once the contractor completed their work.

Councilor Rocka asked if the pipes were made of terra cotta.

City Engineer Crater said the collapsed pipe was made of concrete.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Herman, seconded by Councilor West to authorize the City Manager to sign a construction contract up to a maximum amount of \$125,000 for the 3rd St. and Lexington Ave. Sanitary Sewer Replacement Project. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Brownson, Herman, Rocka, West, and Mayor Jones; Nays: None.

NEW BUSINESS & MISCELLANEOUS, PUBLIC COMMENTS (NON-AGENDA)

Mayor Jones said he would be out of the country from September 12th through September 23rd.

Mayor Jones asked for an update on the proposed lease with American Cruise Lines (ACL).

City Attorney Henningsgaard said American Queen Steamboat Company must submit their presentation 10 days in advance of the next meeting so that Staff can share it with ACL and give them time to prepare a response.

Councilors and Staff briefly discussed other companies that offer boat tours with stops in Astoria and the benefits of accommodating these companies.

City Council proceeded to Item 9(b): Sister City Celebration at this time.

WORK SESSION

Item 9(a): Small Wireless Communications Facilities

This item was addressed immediately following Item 9(b).

A representative from Verizon Wireless has contacted City Staff regarding the creation of a franchise agreement to allow small wireless communications facilities in rights-of-way. Before City Staff begin working on such agreement it was felt a dialogue with Council would be in order. Attached are materials provided by Verizon Wireless on this issue. A Verizon representative will also be present.

The Council and Staff asked the Verizon representative questions about the need for and the installation of their facilities, pricing, and competitors. Residents want the capabilities these facilities provide but have concerns about health effects and costs. If the City grants the request, it would be beneficial to educate the public to alleviate some of the concerns. They discussed the aesthetics of the facilities, particularly when placed in historic areas, and the possibility that competition among providers would result in several facilities located in one place. The City Council agreed to direct Staff to begin working a franchise agreement with Verizon.

Item 9(b): Discussion Regarding Walldorf Germany (Sister City) Celebration

This item was addressed immediately following Item 8: New Business and Public Comments.

The Mayor received a letter from Christiane Staab, Burgermeisterin of our Sister City, Walldorf Germany. The original letter and a rough translation are attached. The Mayor has requested a discussion about what if any delegation will be sent to this celebration, and how the trip could be funded. They would like a response by 15 October.

Mayor Jones shared details about the Bicentennial Sister City Celebration in 2011. On May 9 and 10, 2020, Walldorf will be celebrating it's 1,250th anniversary as a founded city in Germany and Astoria has been invited to send a delegation to the celebration.

Staff provided background information on Astoria's history as a Sister City, previous interactions between Astoria and Walldorf, the cost to send Astorians to Germany, and funding sources for the trip.

Mayor Jones believed costs for the upcoming trip would be lower than the last trip in 2013 because airfare had gone down in price.

Councilors and Staff discussed the frequency of the trips, coordinating with the Sister City Committee, the public's perception of spending City funds on these trips, and communicating better with the public on the source of funding. The consensus among Councilors was that Astoria should send representatives to Germany for the celebration. The Council directed Staff to add the trip to the October 7th City Council meeting agenda, where the Council would review a cost estimate prepared by Staff and request input from the Sister City Committee.

The City Council proceeded to Item 9(a) at this time.

ADJOURNMENT


There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 10:19 am.

ATTEST:



Finance Director

APPROVED:



City Manager