

A regular meeting of the Astoria Common Council was held at the above place at the hour of 7:00 pm.

Councilors Present: Nemlowill, Jones, Price, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear.

Councilors Excused: None

Staff Present: City Manager Estes, Parks and Recreation Director Cosby, Finance Director Brooks, Fire Chief Ames, Deputy Fire Chief Halverson, Police Chief Spalding, Public Works Director Harrington, Library Director Pearson, and City Attorney Henningsgaard. The meeting is recorded and will be transcribed by ABC Transcription Services, Inc.

REPORTS OF COUNCILORS

Item 3(a): Councilor Jones No report.

Item 3(b): Councilor Price asked for an update on the open position for a Community Development Director, the upcoming work session scheduled for January 10th, and the upcoming goal setting session.

City Manager Estes said the posting for the Community Development Director position has closed and the applications have been reviewed. Less than ten applicants have been shortlisted and he would like to interview three or four. The candidates will participate in a public meet and greet, and then be interviewed by department heads, a citizen review panel, and himself. He planned to schedule interviews over the next month. The work session agenda contains two items for discussion. The first item will be a discussion about on-street parking in the downtown core. Parking and safety issues were brought up by a citizen at a Traffic Safety Committee meeting. Public Works Director Harrington will give a presentation on the State statute that applies to the situation. Members of the Astoria Downtown Historic District Association (ADHDA) plan to attend because the ADHDA is concerned about the impact of reducing the number of parking spaces at intersections in the downtown area. The second item on the work session agenda will be a report on the Homelessness Taskforce. Police Chief Spalding will update Council on the Taskforce's meetings and discuss issues with public urination and defecation. Lastly, Staff is looking for a facilitator for this year's goal setting session. In the past, Albany's City Manager Wes Hare facilitated the meetings for free. The City only covered the cost of his hotel room. He hoped to find a facilitator that could guide the goal setting with strategic planning in mind. He believed the goal setting sessions would be scheduled for February.

Item 3(c): Councilor Brownson No report.

Item 3(d): Councilor Nemlowill No report.

Item 3(e): Mayor LaMear announced the following appointments and reappointments to Astoria's Board and Commissions:

- Budget Committee – Chris Breitmeyer, Andy Davis, Andrea Mazzarella, and Loran Mathews
- Design Review Board – Sarah Jane Bardy
- Hospital Authority Board – Chris Nemlowill and Cindy Johnson
- Parks and Recreation Advisory Board – Norma Hernandez
- Planning Commission – Kent Easom and Sean Fitzpatrick

Mayor LaMear noted that the new Budget Committee members replaced Shel Cantor, David McElroy, and Janet Miltenberger.

CHANGES TO AGENDA

There were no changes to the agenda.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The following items were presented on the Consent Calendar:

- 5(a) City Council Minutes of December 4, 2017
- 5(b) City Council Work Session Minutes of December 13, 2017
- 5(c) Historic Landmarks Commission Meeting Minutes of September 19, 2017; October 17, 2017; and November 21, 2017
- 5(d) Salary Resolution (Finance)
- 5(e) Finance and Administrative Services Status Reports**
- 5(f) Parks and Recreation Department Status Update**
- 5(g) Public Works Project Activity Status Report**
- 5(h) Library Department Status Report**
- 5(i) Police Department Status Report**

Councilor Price requested Items 5(e) through 5(i) be removed for further discussion.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Jones, to approve Items 5(a), (b), (c), and (d) the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Items 5(e)–(i): Department Status Reports

Councilor Price thanked Staff for the work they do throughout the year. She appreciated the reports because they are so helpful during goal setting, and added it is remarkable what the understaffed departments have done.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Brownson, to approve Items 5(e), (f), (g), (h), and (i) the Consent Calendar. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Mayor LaMear said she loved the quarterly reports and noted they are available to the public on the City's website.

REGULAR AGENDA ITEMS

Item 6(a): Ordinance Readopting Certain State Statutes to Reflect Changes Made by the 2017 Oregon Legislature (1st Reading) (City Attorney/City Manager)

The 2017 legislation passed by the Oregon Legislature, for the most part, became effective on January 1, 2018. Many of our City ordinances refer to or incorporate state statutes. Every year, the City routinely re-adopts all referenced ORS sections to pick up any changes made by the legislature. This is done by a "global re-adoption," which is the technique recommended by the League of Oregon Cities. The City is legally unable to prospectively adopt Oregon legislative changes, that is, we cannot adopt a state statute "as it now exists and is from time to time amended." The proposed ordinance has been reviewed and approved by the City Attorney. It is recommended that Council conduct the first reading of the proposed ordinance.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Brownson, seconded by Councilor Price, to conduct the first reading of the ordinance readopting certain State statutes to reflect changes made by the 2017 Oregon Legislature. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Director Brooks conducted the first reading of the ordinance.

Item 6(b): Memorandum of Agreement with Jessica Schleif for the Maintenance and Beautification of Tide Rock Park (Parks)

Jessica Schleif, Professional Gardener/Landscape Designer, visual-artist, and member of the Parks and Recreation Advisory Board, has secured grant funding through the Andy Warhol Visual Arts Foundation and

the Regional Arts and Culture Council's Precipice Fund in the amount of \$3,500 and has procured matching funds of \$1,500 for total of \$5,000. Ms. Schleif wishes to utilize the grant award to adopt, beautify, and add temporary visual art displays to Tide Rock Park for one year. The agreement stipulates that Ms. Schleif share any designs for art installations and obtain approval from the Parks Director prior to implementation of any planned visual displays. All art pieces will adhere to the mission, goals, priorities, and policies of the Parks and Recreation Department and City of Astoria and will be of a temporary character that will be removed at the expiration of the agreement, or by request of the City.

During the December 18, 2017 regular meeting, City Council held a discussion about the proposed adoption of Tide Rock Park and the addition of temporary visual art displays. Items of discussion included the intent and purpose of artwork to be installed, the Precipice Grant from Andy Warhol Visual Arts Foundation, and if an artwork vetting process was needed. From which, Council determined that the temporary art displays must comply with the terms and conditions outlined in the grant and that a vetting process was not needed.

An attached Memorandum of Agreement outlines the obligations of the Parks and Recreation Department and Ms. Schleif for care and renovation of the park, and installation of temporary visual art pieces in the park. This agreement has been reviewed by Ms. Schleif and is acceptable to her.

The agreement's duration will be for one year and the City will have the prerogative to remove any portion of any installed items, if any of the conditions of the agreement are not met.

The Parks and Recreation Advisory Board has reviewed and discussed the proposal and recommends the City Council approve the agreement and City Attorney Henningsgaard has reviewed and approved the agreement as to form.

It is recommended that City Council approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Ms. Schleif for the Maintenance and Beautification of Tide Rock Park.

Councilor Brownson confirmed the art would be removed by December 31, 2018.

Councilor Nemlowill declared a potential conflict of interest because of the park's proximity to her husband's business property. However, she did not believe the MOA would financially affect her or her husband.

Councilor Price thanked Ms. Schleif for applying for the grant and agreeing to the MOA.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Jones, to approve the Memorandum of Agreement with Jessica Schleif for the Maintenance and Beautification of Tide Rock Park. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(c): Liquor License Application from New Jack Kitty Inc., Todd and Teresa Robinett, dba Labor Temple Diner and Bar, located at 934 Duane Street, for a Change of Ownership for a Full On-Premises Commercial License (Finance)

A liquor license application has been filed by Todd and Teresa Robinett for New Jack Kitty Inc. doing business as Labor Temple Diner and Bar. This application is a Change of Ownership for a Full On-Premises Commercial License. The appropriate Departments have reviewed the application and it is recommended that Council consider approval of the application.

Councilor Nemlowill recused herself because the Applicant is a client of her husband's business, Fort George Brewery.

Mayor LaMear confirmed there were no public comments.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Jones, seconded by Councilor Brownson to approve the liquor license application from New Jack Kitty Inc., Todd and Teresa Robinett. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Item 6(d): Arts and Culture Program Grant Recipient Request (Finance)

North Coast Chorale (NCC) is an Arts and Cultural Grant recipient for FY17-18 who has submitted a letter for consideration to alter the scope contained in their initial application. Council consideration is required to alter the terms of the approved grant scope.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Brownson to alter the scope of the Arts and Culture Grant to North Coast Chorale and approve Option #1 to change the grant for an event in 2017 to an event in 2018. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

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

Item 7(a): City Council President Election

The City Council will elect a President to serve for the 2018 calendar year.

City Council Action: Motion made by Councilor Price, seconded by Councilor Nemlowill, to elect Councilor Brownson as City Council President for the 2018 calendar year. Motion carried unanimously. Ayes: Councilors Price, Jones, Nemlowill, Brownson, and Mayor LaMear; Nays: None.

Mayor LaMear called for public comments.

John Sapp, no address given, said he moved to Oregon from Detroit in 1980. He and his wife have owned Erickson Floral Company since 1985. His shop, the brewery, the coffee shop, and other small businesses are Astoria's anchors. He had spoken to Councilor Price about public urination and defecation in the 13th Street alley between Commercial and Duane, which at times was occurring daily. December is one of the busiest months for flower shops so he did not have time to help deal with the issues. The alley is a public walkway and the issue creates a public health hazard. He recently washed out the alley way and found urine and feces the very next day. He volunteered to keep the alley clean himself because the situation is unacceptable. However, he wanted to work with the City to get reimbursed for cleaning supplies and would adopt the alley if necessary. He asked if he could present receipts in March, which he believed would total less than \$100.

Mayor LaMear stated the Council received Mr. Sapp's letter, which was forwarded to Chief Spalding. The Homelessness Taskforce will meet on January 9th to discuss this issue.

Mr. Sapp thanked Mayor LaMear and Councilor Price for calling him to discuss his concerns. He understood that the City would develop a long-term strategy, but he wanted to come back in March with a report and receipts for cleaning supplies. Perhaps, the City might have supplies he could use.

City Manager Estes confirmed that he would ask Chief Spalding to stop by the flower shop and speak with Mr. Sapp during the week. He advised Mr. Sapp to speak with Director Cosby and Director Harrington after the meeting. The City has some cleaning supplies on hand.

Mr. Sapp said he appreciated Astoria's law enforcement and thanked the Council for listening to his concerns.

Sean Fitzpatrick, 1046 Grand Ave., Astoria, stated the feces in front of the homeless shelter has gotten pretty bad, especially in the last couple of days. The rain cleans some of it up, but not well. He suggested the homeless shelter be supplied with the some of the same cleaning supplies that Mr. Sapp requested. Walking to the meeting tonight, he had to cross the street and come in to City Hall from the other side of 11th Street because the mess was so bad. He asked that the homeless shelter take care of the problem.

City Manager Estes confirmed that Staff would follow up with the homeless shelter tomorrow.

Mayor LaMear stated the next work session was scheduled for at 9:00 am on Wednesday, January 10th.

City Council recessed into Executive Session at 7:31 pm.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Item 8(a): ORS192.660(2)(h) – Legal Counsel

The City Council will meet in executive session to discuss legal proceedings.

ADJOURNMENT

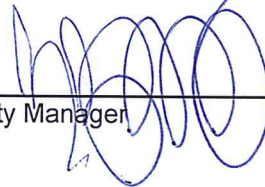
There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

ATTEST:



Finance Director

APPROVED:



City Manager