

Minutes of the Molalla City Council Regular Meeting
Wednesday, November 14, 2007 at 7:00PM

ATTENDANCE: Councilor Boreth, Present; Present; Councilor Jacober, Present; Councilor Leighton, Present; Council President Mackie, Present; Councilor Needham, Present; Councilor Clark, Present. In the Mayor's absence, Council President Mackie Presided.

STAFF ATTENDANCE: City Manager John Atkins, Present; Deputy City Recorder Sadie Cramer, Present; Sergeant Gordon White, Present.

MINUTES:

Councilor Leighton motioned to approve the minutes of the October 7, 2007 regular meeting with recommended changes. Councilor Needham seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

COMMUNICATIONS

WRITTEN

None.

VERBAL

Speaker One:

Mike Riffe of Molalla stated he is against the burning ban. He burns yard debris on his property and has occasional fires for recreational purposes. He stated that there was no clear or significant data to prohibit this action.

Speaker Two:

Ed Somers of Molalla stated he burns and composts his yard debris yearly. He would like the City to consider revising the ordinance to exclude larger lots. He would like to see more data collected before Council makes a decision.

Speaker Three:

Betty Martin of Molalla stated she burns two times a year, which helps her to maintain not only her yard but also keeps the ditches owned by the City clear and clean as well. She has been a resident in Molalla over 37 years and this is how she disposes of it. No change is needed.

Speaker Four:

Michael Everhart of Molalla stated he is a long time resident of Molalla. There is no hard evidence to prove that it affects respiratory health or ailments. There have been no major fires, particulate matter in the air is minimal and it's already regulated by the fire station.

Speaker Five:

John Sutherland of Molalla stated that he was also opposed of the ban. He has a quarter acre lot with lots of trees.

Speaker Six:

Bruce Adler of Molalla stated he is for backyard burning. Stated that curbside waste disposal will not accommodate large yard debris, everyone does not have garbage

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service, and whom do we call in case of an emergency? How will this affect expansion of the UGB? Council should consider all these things.

Speaker Seven:

Chris Paul of Molalla stated that DEQ regulates the burn conditions everyday, and it's based on weather conditions for that day. He would like to see more discussion with the City and Fire Department before a decision is made. People burning garbage should be cited by the fire station. Gary Anderson for the City of Colton has the power and ability to do that, why can't we?

Speaker Eight:

Denise Everhart of Molalla provided several handouts that containing statistics from both Molalla Fire Station and DEQ. It showed how many fires there were and what the cause of those fires were. It showed how air quality is more affected by diesel burning engines then fireplaces or open burns. She wants to know if the City has considered how Code Enforcement is going to handle the complaints. Don't take backyard burning away from those who are responsible landowners.

Speaker Nine:

David Sniegowski of Molalla stated he would like to see item number four, the ban on backyard burning be taken out. He has gather 20 signatures and will gather more in opposition of this ordinance.

Speaker Ten:

Bill Clark of Molalla stated that the ban would wreck the community. You'll see more illegal dumping, more trash on the roadside because people can't afford the extra service. He is against the backyard burning ban.

AWARDS & RECOGNITIONS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

CONTINUING BUSINESS

Nuisance Abatement Ordinance

After listening to all of the speakers the Council went into a lengthy discussion between the public and staff. After debating the issue Councilor Needham moved to table the issue. Councilor Leighton seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

NEW BUSINESS

Molalla Police Department Motorcycle Unit Presentation

Sergeant Gordon White presented a proposal to create a motorcycle patrol unit for the City of Molalla. The position would be filled with existing police workforce and the fiscal impact would be minimal. After questioning by Council to staff, a motion was made by Councilor Leighton to approve the addition of a motorcycle unit to the Molalla Police Department. Councilor Boreth seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

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Resolution 2007-13, initiating the Formation of the Clackamas County Extensions Service and 4-H District.

Mike Bondi, Extension Staff Chair in Clackamas County, explained that city approval of this resolution would allow voters in this jurisdiction the opportunity to cast their voice on the district's formation. If the City approves, the Clackamas County Board of Commissioners would hold public hearings later in spring 2008 to take citizen input regarding the district's formation. If the district formation is approved, voters will see this issue on the November 2008 ballots. Councilor Clark moved to approve Resolution 2007-13 agreeing to have Molalla included in the district and allowing the question of formation to be referred to the voters. Councilor Jacober seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

Resolution 2007-14 Supporting Alternative Energy Production

At Council's last regular meeting, staff was instructed by Council to consider a model resolution introduced at the League of Oregon Cities Annual Conference. Resolution 2007-14 was drafted stating that the Molalla City Government will make it a priority to ensure the prevention of catastrophic energy cost increases by vigorously investigating alternative energy production. Councilor Boreth read the entire resolution to the public and council. Councilor Needham moved to approve Resolution 2007-14 for Alternative Energy Production. Councilor Jacober seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

ORDINANCES& RESOLUTIONS

None.

PROCLAMATIONS

Mayoral Veteran's Day Proclamation

Mayor Tom Foster participated in the annual Veteran's Day Proclamation celebration and presented a Mayoral Proclamation to the School District.

AUTHORIZATION OF EXPENDITURES OVER \$10,000.00

REPORTS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Palomar Gas Pipeline Project.

Councilor Leighton went to the Palomar Pipeline briefing and stated she is not in support of the gas line. It does not benefit Oregonians and represents a danger to the community and the environment. After discussion between Councilor Needham, Leighton and Boreth a motion for the Council to take an official written position opposing the Palomar project was made by Councilor Boreth. Councilor Leighton seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye) City Manager Atkins stated a letter would be drafted reflecting the Council's actions to FERC by November 28, 2007. This action by the Council was in addition to a previous authorization to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission objecting to the proximity of the propose pipeline to Molalla and urging that it be sited farther to the south.

Molalla River Alliance

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City Manager Atkins also presented the Council with an option to establish a Molalla River Alliance, in cooperation with the Molalla CPO, Molalla RiverWatch, and other organizations that would work to reduce crime, vandalism and promote public safety, environmental protection and fish and wildlife enhancement in the Molalla River Recreation Corridor. Councilor Needham moved to authorize the City's participation in the Alliance. Councilor Needham moved to authorize the City's participation in the Alliance. Councilor Jacober seconded. Motion carried (6-0) (Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Leighton, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

Homeless Youth

Councilor Leighton spoke about the homeless youth in the community and moved to direct staff to return with a resolution at the next council meeting to create a fund to ad homeless youth and families. Councilor Boreth seconded. The motion was approved unanimously.

Deputy City Recorder Sadie Cramer announced that there are several community events that are going to take place for the fall and holiday season. The Christmas Tree Lighting will be taking place at 6:45 this year.

City Manager John Atkins Jr., stated that grant funds for Molalla Communities that Care Program would be expiring in March of 2008. However, sufficient funds remain within the budget to continue operation through the end of the current fiscal year.

Councilor Leighton condolences to the Greif and Schorenborn families, and thanked the citizens for attending tonight. Happy Thanksgiving.

Councilor Needham thanked the citizens for coming tonight and speaking. Sorry to hear about Marge; she will be missed.

Councilor Boreth said he was happy with the big decision the council was able to make tonight. Happy Thanksgiving.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Boreth moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Jacober seconded. Motion carried (7-0) (Mayor Foster, aye; Councilor Boreth, aye; Councilor Leighton aye; Councilor Jacober, aye; Councilor Mackie, aye; Councilor Clark, aye; Councilor Needham, aye)

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Deputy City Recorder- Sadie Cramer

Mayor Tom Foster