

MINUTES, UMATILLA CITY COUNCIL MEETING
JANUARY 16, 2018 7:00 P.M.
COUNCIL CHAMBERS, 1 S CENTRAL AVENUE, UMATILLA, FL

Pledge led by **President Wright** and invocation given by **City Clerk Karen Howard**.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

ROLL CALL

IN ATTENDANCE: President Laura Wright; Vice President Brian Butler; Council members Katherine Adams, Eric Olson, Scott Purvis; Public Works Director Aaron Mercer; Police Lt. David Seeley; City Attorney Kevin Stone; City Manager Scott Blankenship; City Clerk Karen Howard
ABSENT: Mayor Mary Johnson

AGENDA REVIEW

MOTION by Purvis; SECOND by Adams; to approve the agenda as presented. Motion carried.

MINUTES REVIEW

1 Minutes, City Council meeting, January 2, 2018

MOTION by Purvis; SECOND by Olson; to approve Minutes of City Council meeting of January 2, 2018. Motion carried.

PRESENTATION

2 Susan Davis, SJRWMD Intergovernmental Coordinator – Grant Presentations
City Manager Blankenship gave background on the initial meeting he and **Public Works Director Aaron Mercer** had with **Ms. Davis** two years ago and their discussion regarding the things SJRWMD could do for our community. We learned about the REDI grant process, applied for REDI status, and were awarded a \$500,000 no-match grant.

Mr. Mercer and I attend the SJRWMD Board meeting and thank them for their support of Umatilla. The Board thanks us for undertaking infrastructure work that meets their core mission. We are blessed to have a good partnership with SJRWMD.

Susan Davis thanked the Council. The REDI program is near and dear to the heart of **Executive Director Dr. Shortelle**. It is a big deal for the smaller communities. Umatilla is often mentioned as an example of how to work together. I am happy to be here to present another \$500,000 to Umatilla. **Ms. Davis** presented a \$500,000 check to the City Council.

Council member Olson thanked the city staff for their diligence in obtaining these grants.

PUBLIC COMMENT

None

PUBLIC HEARINGS/ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

3 Resolution 2018 – 01 City Wide Yard Sale

City Attorney Kevin Stone read the resolution by title:

RESOLUTION 2018 - 01

A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF UMATILLA, FLORIDA, AUTHORIZING THE NINETEENTH ANNUAL CITY WIDE YARD SALE SPONSORED BY THE FRIENDS OF THE UMATILLA PUBLIC LIBRARY, TO BE HELD ON SATURDAY, MARCH 3, 2018, THROUGHOUT THE CITY OF UMATILLA AND IN THE UMATILLA PUBLIC LIBRARY PARKING LOT; ALLOWING WAIVER OF THE REQUIREMENT FOR A YARD SALE PERMIT FOR RESIDENTS OF THE CITY PARTICIPATING IN THIS EVENT; PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

City Manager Blankenship said this is an annual event put on by the Friends of the Library.

MOTION by Olson; SECOND by Purvis; to approve Resolution 2018-01. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS

4 City Hall Campus/Cadwell Park

City Manager Blankenship presented an idea for the City Hall campus area to include the building behind City Hall and shuffleboard courts that have not been used in many years. We were looking at opportunities and how could we tie it into Cadwell Park. The concept that would mitigate some of the traffic at the intersection next to City Hall. GAI came up with a concept. There is a single entrance onto SR 19 that is located in the same area as the existing Chamber entrance. This is out for discussion.

My concern is for the residents who may feel like they would lose access when we close off the road. It features a right in and right out. There may be some inconvenience and this could be off in the future. This is a concept for the Council to consider.

Discussion took place on the possibility a turn being added to the median near the Chamber. **City Manager Blankenship** said that DOT will recommend closing some of the median cut-throughs during their public meeting next week. My guess would be they would not allow it. FDOT says a U-turn is one of the safer traffic maneuvers you can make.

Brandinin Vanzant of 28 Rose Street talked about people speeding down the road and said the traffic has picked up in the last year. She would not be opposed to a cul-de-sac.

Discussion on razing the building and shuffleboard court would not be cost prohibitive. The construction portion would be expensive.

Discussion took place on opening up the area and being able to see the park from SR 19 with the new amenities. **Vice President Butler** would like to see some work starting on it by tearing the building down and getting the road closed off at an earlier point.

Discussion ensued regarding obtaining engineering estimates and finding funding for it and then pursuing the project.

City Manager Blankenship discussed the potential park expansion and working with the church to improve parking on both ends of the park area and install a dedicated crosswalk. We will start with demolition, perhaps tearing down building this year. This could be a multi-phase project.

GENERAL DISCUSSION

None

REPORTS

CITY ATTORNEY

Attorney Stone said the cell tower contract should be finalized. The company's response to our request exceeded my expectations with a new sealed engineer's report.

MAYOR

Absent

COUNCIL MEMBERS

Adams – Discussed issues with obtaining a Historical designation for museum.

City Manager Blankenship said he would bring some information at the next Council meeting. The historical designation will make changes to the building expensive because they will have to be period specific.

President Wright noted school is back in session and she is busy with SAC meetings. The UHS Key Club will be hosting a Swing Concert and tickets are on sale.


STAFF

Police Chief Adam Bolton noted upcoming events include Career Day at Umatilla Elementary School and the Boys & Girls Club 5k.


Discussion took place on property crimes with **Chief Bolton** said are difficult to solve. We are reminding people to lock their doors and vehicles.

President Wright referred to the reports in the packet and upcoming events.

Meeting adjourned 7:42 p.m.



Laura K Wright
Council President

ATTEST:


Karen H. Howard, CMC
City Clerk