



**CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
May 12<sup>th</sup>, 2020**

**Council Present:**

Brad Smith  
Lilly Foster  
Melissa Pettyjohn  
Barb Northington

**Public in Attendance**

Shane Koppel  
Josh Walker

**Minutes taken and recorded by City Manager/Recorder Amanda Born**

**Meeting called to order by Mayor Smith at 6:00pm.**

**Open Floor:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud and called for open floor items. Shane Koppel said that the last few years the Golf Course was charged for costs that weren't approved by the Golf Committee. For example, some of the cost of the metal for the new wood stove in the shop was charged to the Golf Course and over \$1000 was charged for the audit. He explained that is approximately 1/2 the Golf Course's income. City Manager Born explained that around \$1000 was paid out of the golf budget for the audit last fiscal year as well. Councilor Pettyjohn asked what the amount was in prior years and if there was a large increase in the cost. City Manager Born didn't have the actual amount but thought it was around a few hundred dollars. Shane Koppel said that moving forward, any costs billed to the Golf Course need to be approved by someone on the Golf Committee.

Josh Walker asked the City Council if the Public Works Update Agenda could be moved up on the agenda.

Manager Born mentioned that Winnie Browning had made a request for banners for the Seniors graduating this year. Councilor Pettyjohn said other cities are doing banners as well. The Council asked that the City Manager looked into if the City could do that.

Shane Koppel informed the council that the Golf Committee would like to sell the Golf Course's tractor as surplus equipment. They would like to buy a mower similar to the City's to replace it.

**Approval of April 6<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Special Council Meeting Minutes:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud and asked for any corrections or changes. None were noted. Mayor Smith called for a motion to approve and sign the minutes.

*-Councilor Northington made the motion, Councilor Pettyjohn seconded it. All in favor, motion passed to approve and sign the minutes.*

**Public Works Update:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. Shane Koppel informed the council that on April 7<sup>th</sup>/8<sup>th</sup> the new lagoon system went online. He

figured they were 80-90% completed with the project and that gravel, finish grading and seeding still needed to be completed. The fence is being erected now. Councilor Northington asked how close the fence is to the Dump Road and if the fence would act as a barrier. Shane Koppel proposed widening the dump gate. There was a discussion about increasing the initial level of liquids in the new lagoons to help hold the liners in place; potentially pumping the liquids from the old lagoons to the new system or pumping water from the golf irrigation well.

The project to move the existing meter and water line on Higbie's property on Shirttail Creek Road is delayed in order to find an agreeable plumber.

There was a discussion on not shutting off water services due to non-payment during the COVID-19 restrictions and the need to send out nuisance property notices.

**SCA Grant: Fremont & North Bridge Road Construction Bid Review:**

Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. City Manager Born read the bid schedules aloud.

*-Councilor Northington made the motion to accept Hueckman Construction's bid of \$74,750 for the Fremont & North Bridge Road Construction Project. All in favor, motion passed.*

There was a discussion on the need to improve Shirttail Creek Road and City Manager Born explained that since the City has 2 SCA Grants open now, we have to wait until at least 1 of the projects is completed before we could apply for additional funding from ODOT's SCA Grant Program. Shane Koppel said that he intended on adding gravel to help the road surface in the meantime.

**Aquatic Center Proposed Resolution:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. It was brought up that there has been both negative and positive feedback on this from people in Seneca. There was a discussion of passing a resolution to put it on the Grant County ballot this fall so that it could be voted on by the citizens of Seneca. City Manager Born said it looks like if the City Council passed a resolution to put it on the ballot, all voters in the proposed tax district would be voting on it, not just the voters in Seneca voting if they wanted Seneca to be included in the proposed tax district. Councilor Northington had concerns if adding this tax was the best deal for Seneca during the uncertainty of the economy during the COVID-19. Councilor Pettyjohn said that, since the City of Seneca isn't in the current tax district, people from Seneca pay a small fee when they use the pool. The Council suggested getting more information on this and discussing at next month's Council Meeting.

**Proposed Franchise Agreement- Oregon Telephone:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. This is a draft proposed Franchise Agreement with Oregon Telephone for the internet project. There would need to be public hearings to approve an ordinance to accept the Franchise Agreement.



**Insurance Renewal:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. The insurance premium increased \$1800 due to the new Wastewater Facility and other improvements.

*-Councilor Pettyjohn made the motion to approve the insurance renewal, Councilor Northington seconded it. All in favor, motion passed.*

**Authorization Update:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud. City Manager Born explained that this is to remove Raamin Burrell from City of Seneca accounts since she no longer works for the City.

*-Councilor Pettyjohn made the motion to remove Raamin Burrell's authorization to sign for the City of Seneca, Councilor Foster seconded it. All in favor, motion passed.*

**Bills Before Council/Signatures:** Mayor Smith read the agenda item aloud and called for a motion to pay the bills.

*-Councilor Pettyjohn made the motion, Councilor Foster seconded it. All in favor, motion passed, bills signed.*

Councilor Northington brought up making a memorial park out of the 25' by 100' lot by the Catholic Church that is owned by the City and blocking off the "shortcut" people use across the empty lot. Council Northington said this was discussed in a meeting about a year ago.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:19pm.**

Attest: Brad Smith  
Mayor