

APRIL 18, 2017 MINUTES  
WASCO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

Present: Mayor Carol MacKenzie, Ken DeGrange, Beth McCurdy, Scott Miller, Carol Olmstead, Eileen Wainwright; City Staff: Clerk Cassie Strege, Maint. Tech. Greg Gosson, Attorney Will Carey; Visitors: Len & Danee Rankin

The meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m. with Mayor MacKenzie leading the flag salute. A quorum was present; no news media were in attendance.

Consent Calendar: Motion, Wainwright/Olmstead to accept the March 21, 2017 minutes, and approve payment of the April bills as presented. Aye vote was unanimous – motion carried.

CONSIDER PROPOSAL FOR TRANSFER OF OWNERSHIP OF THE WASCO SCHOOL TO THE CITY:

The Mayor asked for the latest results of the survey, with the Clerk advising that Establish City Advisory Committee & approve Bylaws -- The Clerk advised that the Advisory Committee had begun meeting some time back – and although the official monthly meeting had been set for the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of each month, to be held at the Wasco School, beginning at 5:30p.m. – the Committee had met several times in the past few months. The Committee would consist of 5 voting members – with the following Individuals interested in acting as a voting member – Carol Olmstead, Sharon Chard, Gail Macnab, Cal McDermid, Jessie Fuhrer, Gena Arthur, and Megan Jensen – to date, officers had not been elected. Additional individuals who were interested in being involved would be asked to serve on sub-committees. The Clerk also reported that the proposed name of “The Preserving Our Past Advisory Committee” be amended to include “FRIENDS OF THE WASCO SCHOOL” in the title.

Discussion ensued, with consensus of the Council that at least one City Council member serve as a voting member; and approving the additional title of “Friends of the Wasco School;” to the Advisory Committee name.

Cnc. DeGrange referred to capital improvements that would need to be completed and recommended that Terry Fassbender be assigned as Project Manager – this led to discussion of Contracting and Procurement Rules , with Attorney Carey recommending that the City adopt it’s own rules rather than having to follow the strict Attorney General’s Public Contracting Rules. He would contract a firm who could do this – the cost would be in the \$400 range. The Clerk advised that the City had adopted their own Contracting Rules years back – with the Attorney advising that he felt it would be beneficial to adopt updated Rules. Motion, McCurdy/DeGrange to authorize Attorney Carey to proceed with acquiring Contracting and Procurement Rules for the City – at a cost of \$400. Aye vote was unanimous – motion carried.

The following action took place: motion, DeGrange/McCurdy to formally establish the Advisory Committee to be known as “The Preserving Our Past Advisory Committee, FRIENDS OF THE WASCO SCHOOL” Aye vote was unanimous -- motion carried.

Issue Formal Decision of Whether or Not to Accept Transfer of Ownership of the Wasco School:

Following discussion, the following action took place: motion, DeGrange/Wainwright that the City will assume ownership of the Wasco School from the County, with the following conditions:

- That the City will receive an annual payment of \$50,000 from the County for, at least,

- six years and that these funds will be used solely for operation of the Wasco School
- that the City will receive an additional \$250,000 from the County to be used for capital outlay projects (such as roof repair/replacement; repair of the exterior of the building (including the pillars), and prep and painting of the exterior
  - That any unknown costs (such as cleanup of oil leaks) will be paid by the County – and not expended from the \$250,000
  - That an Advisory Committee will be appointed to handle general operations of the School property – but that the City will maintain fiscal management and act as the final authority in major decisions
  - That transfer of ownership will take place 7-1-17, with funds to be issued to the City from the County made available in the 2017-2018 fiscal year

Voting **aye**: MacKenzie, DeGrange, McCurdy, Olmstead, Wainwright    Voting **nay**: Miller  
Motion passed.

The Maint. Tech. asked if the City Public Works crew would be responsible for grounds mowing & maintenance, with consensus of the Council that all grounds keeping would be the responsibility of volunteers or hired by the Friends of the Wasco School Committee.

Cnc. DeGrange stressed that booking and financial reporting regarding the operation of the School would be done by the Wasco City Clerk.

CIS INSURANCE RENEWAL PROCESS FOR 2017-18: The Council reviewed property schedules that had been prepared by the City's Insurance agent, and approved as presented. Insurance coverage of the School property was discussed, with general consensus that coverage for Actual Cash Value be requested, along with general liability, to be effective 7-1-17. Motion, McCurdy to pursue continued coverage with CIS for coverage/premiums as discussed. Aye vote was unanimous – motion carried.

Motion, Wainwright/Olmstead to retain Stacy Anderson from PayneWest as the Agent of Record for 2017-18. Aye vote was unanimous – motion carried.

MAYORS REPORT; COUNCIL UPDATES; CITY STAFF REPORTS: The Mayor reported that: she had applied for/been awarded a \$500 grant from the Sherman County Cultural Trust to purchase plywood, paint and supplies for additional quilt trail squares; the Streetscape Committee was considering painting a mural to be attached to the old fire hall; the Memorial Day Committee had begun planning – with State Senator Bill Hansel invited to be a guest speaker during the Memorial Service, the flyover would, again, take place, and western author, Rick Steber, would hold a book signing in City Hall.

The Clerk reported on a meeting that she had attended regarding a "shared" Code Enforcement Officer to be available to interested cities in the County (and maybe including Maupin and Dufur). Additional meetings would be scheduled – and she would report back on the progress. Brief discussion ensued, with Council not in agreement of whether or not this program would be advantageous to the City.

The Mayor brought up the issue of cars/trailers that continued to be parked on the street in front of the Lean To, with Cnc's DeGrange & Miller stating that the Sherriff was working with

the person responsible for these vehicles -- no further action was needed from the City at this time.

The Maint. Tech. referred to the two properties that had obstructions in the alley that were hindering replacement of the sewer line – Sylvia Reiten had been cleaning out her shed and planned on moving it 20 ft; Rocky Rhodes had been working on clearing out the alley for some time.

The Maint. Tech. also advised that he had attended a meeting where the City of Wasco had been mentioned, and praised for the improvements that had been carried out over the past twenty years.

The Mayor advised that it would soon be time to plant flowers in the downtown planters, and stressed that she did NOT want to continue watering these herself. She asked when a new pickup would be purchased that would hold the water tanks – with the Maint. Tech. stating that the barrels could be thrown in the back of one of the City trucks until a new one was bought. The Mayor added that, another option would be to hire Tom Lepinski to take on this job – with the Council asking if funds were available to pay Tom. The Clerk answered in the affirmative – a line item for “Grounds keeping” was included in the General Fund.

ADJOURN: The meeting adjourned at 8:15p.m.

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City Clerk