

City of Mabton, Washington

**City Council**

**Meeting Minutes**

Tuesday, April 12, 2016

**Call to Order:**

Vice-Mayor Oping Hutson called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

**Present:**

Council members – Sophia Sotelo, Vera Zavala, Mark Gourneau and Arturo DelaFuente; City Engineers, Jamin Ankey & David Van Cleve; City Administrator Walt Bratton, City Attorney James Carmody; Interim Police Chief Lee Reed; Private Citizens: Mark Gourneau’s wife & daughter; Richard Galland, Claude Cox; Vicente Medelez (Police Officer).

**Absent:**

Fire Chief Luke Cussins and Mayor Mario Martinez

**Meeting Agenda:**

Motion made by Council member Mark Gourneau to approve the agenda; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member DelaFuente; motion passed.

**Consent Agenda:**

Motion was made by Council member Mark Gourneau; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Vera Zavala; motion passed (to approve Items A through C on the Consent Agenda).

**Public Hearing:**

None

**Old Business:**

A. Repealing Ordinances 575, 734 and 756 and approving Ordinance No. 2016-1077:

City Attorney James Carmody discussed this agenda item and how it was revised to have several old and outdated city ordinances compiled into one streamlined ordinance. After a lengthy discussion the governing body directed the city attorney to come back to the next City Council Meeting with a revised ordinance with their input discussed at the meeting on this date. Council member Gourneau voted to table this ordinance which was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Sotelo; motion passed. The city attorney will work on the revisions and bring it back (and un-table it) at the next city council meeting on April 26.

B. Approval of Resolution 2016-04 authorizing the City of Mabton to submit application to the Recreation Conservation Office for grant funding for Land and Water Conservation Fund (LWCF) project RCO # 16-1364, City of Mabton, Spray Pad:

City Administrator Walt Bratton elaborated on this agenda item and told the council that this is a mandatory item that needs to be approved by the governing body in order to submit for grant funding for the City of Mabton for a potential Spray Pad. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Sotelo; motion passed.

C. Approval of Resolution 2016-05 authorizing the City of Mabton to submit application to the Recreation Conservation Office for grant funding for Washington Wildlife Recreation Program (WWRP), Local Parks category, project RCO # 16-1316, City of Mabton, Spray Pad:

City Administrator Walt Bratton elaborated on this agenda item and told the council that this is a mandatory item that needs to be approved by the governing body in order to submit for grant funding for the City of Mabton for a potential Spray Pad. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve and it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Sotelo; motion passed.

D. Approval of Engineering Amendment 12 to Contract for Professional Engineering Services with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF):

City Engineer David Van Cleve elaborated on this agenda item and told the council that because of the new WWTF it would be beneficial for staff and new operators to this plant to have this option for quick reference and tutelage. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Zavala; motion passed.

E. Approval of Engineering Amendment 13 to Contract for Professional Engineering Services with Gray & Osborne, Inc. for construction administration services for equipping Well No. 6:

City Engineer David Van Cleve elaborated on this agenda item and told the city council that this will allow the oversight and supervision for the Well No. 6 project at Governor's Park West. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Zavala; motion passed.

F. Approval of Change Order No. 5 for the Wastewater Treatment Facility (WWTF) improvements project:

City Engineer David Van Cleve elaborated on this agenda item and told the city council that it was a zero dollar change order and paperwork that needed to be completed and filed based on multiple agencies funding the City of Mabton on this improvement project over a several year/fiscal year timeline. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by council member Sotelo; motion passed.

**New Business:**

A. Oath of Office for new Police Officer Vicente Medelez:

City Clerk Walt Bratton gave the oath of office to the new Police Officer Vicente Medelez. Then Interim Police Chief Lee Reed introduced the new police officer in the Police Department to the governing body.

B. Amending Ordinance 2016-1075 with Ordinance 2016-1076 Setting Wages for Police Officers, Police Reserves and City Personnel:

City Administrator Walt Bratton elaborated on this agenda item. He told the city council that the revisions to the salary ordinance were due to new employees starting with the city. Council member Gourneau made a motion to pass this agenda item; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Zavala; motion passed.

C. Approval of Unison Contract Agreement for cell phone tower:

City Attorney James Carmody elaborated on this item and told the council that he has reviewed and approved of this initial term agreement and is working with Unison on this item. The funds for this agreement will be depositing (i.e. \$102,400) in the general fund in three to four months. Council member Gourneau made a motion to approve this item; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member DeLaFuente; motion passed.

D. Updating signature authority for the City of Mabton accounts with Banner Bank:

Council member Gourneau made the following motion;

To update signature authority for all City of Mabton accounts with Banner Bank,

I make a motion that the City of Mabton has approved to make the following changes to the signature cards for all deposit accounts held at Banner Bank, the following individuals are to be the only signers on all the accounts until further notice,

Mario Martinez, Walt Bratton, Oping Hutson and Michelle Coronado

I motion to approve this agenda item. Motion was 2<sup>nd</sup> by Council member Zavala; motion passed.

E. Approval of the Chief of Police Employment Agreement:

This item was discussed in executive session and brought back to the meeting and voted on and approved.

**Visitors Comments:**

Richard Galland complained about the current city ordinance water services connection fees and requested that the city ordinance on this subject be updated. He complained that his viewpoint of the ordinance was the correct version. City Attorney James Carmody stated he would come back to the next meeting with a legal opinion on this ordinance for the city council.

**Staff Reports:**

Interim Police Chief Lee Reed requesting of the governing body to have the new Police Officer be able to take his city vehicle home to Toppenish. After discussing the item Council approved of this request as long as the police officer brought the vehicle back if he was going on vacation or out of the office for a long period of time.

City Attorney James Carmody updated the council on the water rights acquisition project.

City Administrator Walt Bratton has no report. Questions of the Council included,

Continue to enforce the illegal parking in the ROW and alleys in the city.

Discussion of low water pressure at homes.

Report of lights out on light poles in the city, we need to report this to Pacific Power and Light Co.

Speed up the reader board to 10 seconds per frame on the scroll.

**Mayor's Report:**

None

**Executive Session:**

Personnel Matters and approval of the Employment Agreement for the new Chief of Police

Start Time: 9: 02 pm

End Time: 10:00 pm

The Vice-Mayor ended Executive Session at 10:01 pm.

The Council moved to approve the Chief of Police Employment Agreement for Claude Cox with a start date of Monday, April 18, 2016. Council member Zavala made a motion to approve the employment agreement; it was 2<sup>nd</sup> by council member Sotelo; motion passed.

**Adjournment:**

The Vice-Mayor adjourned the city council meeting at 10:06 pm

---

Walt Bratton, City Administrator

---

Mario Martinez, Mayor