



ORIGINAL

April 9th, 2018 MINUTES
CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION
Time: 6:30 pm
City Hall, 1001 Bridge St. Vernonia, OR 97064

Mission Statement

The City of Vernonia pledges to be an ethical and responsive government using community collaboration to foster leadership and a vision for civic improvement while providing a safe, peaceful, economically viable community.

Councilors in Attendance: Mayor Leonetti (Late), Councilor Hult, Councilor Seager and Councilor McNair, Councilor Wagner

Staff in Attendance: City Administrator Mitchell and City Recorder Borst

Call to Order – Councilor McNair

Councilor McNair called the meeting to order at 6:31pm

Additions or Removal of Agenda Items

Councilor Hult made a motion to approve the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Seager.

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes Councilor Hult: Yes Councilor Wagner: Yes

 Councilor McNair: Yes Mayor Leonetti: Absent

Motion carried.

New Business

- Ora Bolmeier Park Vision

City Administrator Mitchell presented the topic and handouts (See File) to Council. She explained that there are potentially two lots that could be separated and sold. The proposed location of the new play area is outlined on the map provided (roughly half way down the property). Staff would like direction from Council on whether or not this is something they are interested in pursuing.

Councilor Wagner inquired as to whom uses the park. Staff explained that the majority of use comes from neighborhood kids. Citizens Brett Costley and Dallas Armstrong explained that there is a significant amount of use from neighborhood children. Mrs. Wagner explained that she is not concerned about moving the park, more that the size would be reduced significantly. Mrs. Mitchell explained that the suggested location is the only area flat enough for a play area. Parking for the park would continue to be along the road shoulder.

There was then discussion about the potential value of the lots. Councilor McNair explained that there is an abundance of parks in town and the income could greatly benefit the parks fund. Costs associated with partitioning the park would include planning fees, recording fees, surveyor costs, and the cost of putting in the new park.

Mrs. Mitchell explained that previous Council had discussed creating lots on the bottom section of the park. Mr. Costley stated that those lots would have a hard time competing against the other lots for sale in town. Mrs. Mitchell stated that the lots in the upper section of the park could be increased in size if Council chose as well. Mayor Leonetti explained that he was involved in the initial creation of Ora Bolmeier Park and his biggest concern is that it is kept in

some form. Councilors Hult and Wagner expressed concern that there may be language on the deed that prohibits change in use for the property. Mrs. Mitchell explained that she can check with City Legal on what restrictions are.

After brief discussion, consensus of the group is not to move forward with discussions regarding partitioning the park. Council requests that staff continue with the plan to log the 40 trees as previously decided and replant with appropriate species.

Mrs. Mitchell then explained the plan for the new play structures at Airport Park and Anderson Park. New play at Anderson park includes timber play, swings, and a play structure similar to Hawkins eventually.

Mrs. Mitchell also explained the plan for replacing the pavers on main street. The city currently has a job opening posted which is for a seasonal worker to do the paver work.

Adjournment

Mayor Leonetti adjourned the meeting at 7:13pm

These minutes were approved at the April 16th, 2108 City Council Meeting.



Stephanie Borst, City Recorder



Mario Leonetti, Mayor