



CITY COUNCIL MAY 15<sup>th</sup>, 2017 MINUTES  
REGULAR MEETING 7:00 PM  
City Hall, 1001 Bridge St. Vernonia OR 97064

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**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.

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**Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance – Mayor Leonetti**

Mayor Leonetti called the meeting to order at 7:02 PM

**Additions or Corrections to Agenda**

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

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes      Councilor Hult: Yes      Councilor Wagner: Yes  
      Councilor McNair: Yes      Mayor Leonetti: Yes

**Councilor Committee Meeting Reports**

There were none

**Topics from the Floor/Audience Participation**

**Consent Agenda for Approval**

- A. City Council Meeting Minutes for May 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017
- B. Library Board Meeting Minutes for April 2017

Councilor Seager corrected the City Council meeting minutes for May 1<sup>st</sup> to reflect that the County fixed Airport road, not Public Works.

Councilor Seager made a motion to approve the meeting minutes as listed above, with the correction. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wagner, motion carried.

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes      Councilor Hult: Yes      Councilor Wagner: Yes  
      Councilor McNair: Abstained (Did not read the minutes)      Mayor Leonetti: Yes

**Unfinished Business**

**New Business**

- C. Bargain and Sale Agreement – Creps property

City Administrator Mitchell presented the agreement to Council. She explained that a title report was run and there were no issues or liens on the property.

Councilor Seager made a motion to authorize the City Administrator to sign the agreement on behalf of the City. The motion was seconded by Councilor Wagner, motion carried.

Votes: Councilor Seager: Yes      Councilor Hult: Yes      Councilor Wagner: Yes  
      Councilor McNair: Yes      Mayor Leonetti: Yes

## **Business from Departments**

### **D. Police Department – Chief Conner**

Chief Conner stated that Officer Pesio is expecting a baby soon and will be taking some time off to be with his family.

### **E. City Administrator Report – J. Mitchell**

*Wastewater Treatment Plant:* The walk through for substantial completion was held today. Present were myself, George Tice, Jeff Burch, Del Bibler (R & G), Michael Byer (USDA), Trish Cousins (USDA), and Erik Nordholm (Tetra Tech). The pressure grouting was completed on the DAF, however it was not overseen by the engineer as the subcontractor did not notify the contractor whom would notify the engineer. So the City will be requiring the contractor to provide an extended warranty over that part of the DAF for the period of 48 months. The extended warranty will cover any issues related to the seeping from the crown of the DAF an additional 36 months past the standard warranty period of 12 months. With only a few minor items outstanding the City will sign substantial completion letter. Attached to that letter will be the remaining punch list items. The City will hold back 200% of the cost estimates of remaining items on punch list from retainage and release the remaining retainage. We are awaiting the change order that outlines the ammonia infrastructure that will come from Tetra Tech, they plan to have it completed by next week.

There are a few changes with the paving now that the California Avenue project is no longer slated to happen. We are going to pave around the infrastructure as well as potentially pave the linear trail where it connects to the new pavement.

Councilor McNair inquired about when we will start dumping into the hyporheic chamber. City Administrator Mitchell explained that tonight is the deadline for dumping into the river. Before R&G receives final completion DEQ is requiring them to perform a 3 or 4-day test of the chamber. This is waiting for the water table to be low enough. Staff's hope is to do the test and empty lagoon 3 for placement of the biodomes. The hyporheic can be operated with the temporary permit, discharging is prohibited until the bio domes are installed. The final operating permit should be obtained by the end of August.

*Rose Avenue Project:* The final architecture meeting was held today with representatives from SEA, Seniors, and Vernonia Cares. The architect will be delivering the documents three weeks from today to Planning, CDBG, NW Code Pros for approval. Once the approval of the plans is obtained the City can start the formal bid process to find a contractor.

*Nickerson Ridge Estates:* No correspondence.

*Creek Issues:* The state authorities have been notified of the continued violation in Bear Creek. The City received a letter noting the initial violation in mid-April. The State representatives were onsite last week documenting the issues. The City has not received any new communication.

*Picnic Shelter / Tree Donation Spencer Park:* The cutouts for the foundation piers happened on Saturday and the electrical conduit was placed in the ground. Next will be the forming of the concrete pier forms, construction of the trusses continues this week. Roofing materials will be delivered May 30<sup>th</sup>. The project is expected to be close to hitting its June 30<sup>th</sup> grant funding deadline. Of the 9 trees slated to be planted, 7 have been donated.

*Cemetery Shed Demo:* The cemetery shed has been demolished. The lot line adjustment from KLS is scheduled.

*Storm drain Issue Rose Avenue:* Columbia County has approved the giving of the strip of land between Rose



Avenue and First Avenue. Once the paperwork gets to City Hall the City will sign and pay the recording fee. Once recorded the City Public Works crew will install new storm water line within that strip from First Avenue to Rose Avenue, solving the storm water issues for the neighbors adjacent to the property.

**Ordinances/Resolutions**

**Correspondence**

Mayor Leonetti explained that next Monday the Cemetery Committee will be having a meeting here at City Hall to finalize Memorial Day planning.

**Items from Mayor and Councilors**

Councilor McNair would like to thank Casey Mitchell for his effort on the Picnic Shelter and Cemetery Shed this weekend. City Administrator Mitchell added to the list of volunteers this weekend: Ben Fousek, James McMahon, and Desmond Hines.

Consensus of Council is for City Administrator Mitchell to write a Thank You letter to the volunteers on behalf of Council and the City of Vernonia.

Councilor Hult notified Council that she has accepted a job with Columbia County Mental Health. She starts on May 22<sup>nd</sup>. She also saw that Ginger is leaving the City. City Administrator Mitchell stated that she is and her last day is June 2<sup>nd</sup>. Her position will be posted in the Vernonia Voice on Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup>. Council consensus is to get a card to thank Ginger for her years of service.

**Action Item Summary**

**Adjournment**

Mayor Leonetti adjourned the meeting at 7:29PM

These minutes were approved at the June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2017 City Council Meeting.

  
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Stephanie Borst, City Recorder

  
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Mario Leonetti, Mayor