



CITY COUNCIL May 15th, 2017

WORKSESSION

Time: 7:37 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.

MINUTES

Call to Order -- Mayor Leonetti

Mayor Leonetti called the work session to order at 7:37 PM

Additions or Removal of Agenda Items

New Business

- Open Space Parking

City Administrator Mitchell presented maps to Council of all vacant city lots and parks. The main objective of the work session is to decide how to regulate truck parking and where/if to provide it. Ben Fousek explained that providing truck parking had been discussed previously. City Administrator Mitchell stated that discussions at the previous Council meeting had expressed concern over blocking the Rose Avenue lot to parking and where the truck drivers whom currently park there would go.

Council then discussed potential trucking companies who may use a designated truck parking lot. If the City decided to move forward with designated truck parking, signs could be put up explaining what is expected and allowed at the site.

Potential truck parking areas discussed were as follows:

- Adams Avenue

One of the potential sites discussed was the paved city lot off of Adams Avenue and Maple Street. One potential issue with the site is that the only access is from the alley. Council Seager stated that truck parking at this lot would be difficult without access off of Adams Avenue. Councilor McNair stated that one of the advantages this site has over others is that it is paved and would sustain less damage from heavy truck parking compared to a gravel lot. This site is also not in a residential area so noise would be less of an issue. If this site was chosen for designated truck parking, we could stipulate that trucks would have to move for festival parking.

Council then discussed how many trucks could fit at the lot and different methods for managing them.

- Rose Avenue Gravel Lot

Councilor Seager stated that in order to prevent people from parking at the site, it would need to be fenced. As far as he has seen, its mostly out of town truck drivers who park there. City Administrator Mitchell explained that if Council chose to, the lot could be designated no parking.

Mr. Fousek stated that the lot should be marketed as it is a prime location. City Administrator Mitchell explained that it couldn't be sold but someone could ground lease it.

Councilor Seager is in favor of post and cabling the lot to prevent parking. Councilor McNair stated that Council should direct Staff to do whatever they feel is needed to make the lot look good.

➤ California Avenue (Old Photo Solutions Lot)

Ben Fousek proposed that the designated truck parking site could be at the old Photo Solutions site. Councilor McNair expressed concern that it may affect the tenants at Blue Herron. City Administrator Mitchell stated that truck noise is expected in a timber town. The current problem with the Rose Avenue lot is all of the broke down cars, campers, and vehicles posted for sale. Councilor McNair is interested in finding a lot that will have the least impact. One potential problem with this site is the limited traffic and lighting, which could lead to vandalism.

Councilors Seager and McNair spoke in favor of this location if lighting was put in to reduce potential vandalism.

➤ Birch Street

City Administrator Mitchell stated that a potential site may be the empty lot at the beginning of Birch Street.

➤ Old West Oregon Lot

Councilor Seager proposed the old West Oregon site. Councilor McNair explained that this lot was discussed as a pay to park previously and with lighting, may be a good option. City Administrator Mitchell stated that we could start with this site as a temporary parking site and direct those currently parking trucks on Rose Avenue to the site. Staff can put up barricades for festivals and notify truck drivers that they cannot park there on festival days.

After brief discussion, Consensus of Council is for staff to move forward with post and cabling the gravel lot on Rose Avenue and direct trucks to park at the old West Oregon lot.

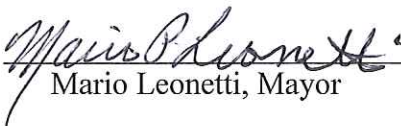
Council would then like for staff to bring them a DRAFT Parking Ordinance for regulation of parking on city lots. They would like to prohibit vehicles marketed for sale from being on the lots. City Administrator Mitchell explained that Council will need to designate areas that are truck parking and where parking is allowed with a park sticker.

Adjournment

Mayor Leonetti adjourned the work session at 8:48pm

These minutes were approved at the June 6th, 2017 City Council Meeting.


Stephanie Borst, City Recorder


Mario Leonetti, Mayor