

CITY OF EUREKA SPRINGS COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

June 15th, 2000

The June 15th, 2000 meeting was called to order at 7:10 p.m. by Mayor Beau Satori. It was held in the courtroom of the Western District Courthouse.

PRESENT: Mayor Satori, and Alderpersons Jeffrey, Schrader, Stoppel, Freeland, Taylor, and Sumpter.

ALSO PRESENT: Ron Pedersen, Glenn and Carol Strange, Robert Miller, Jane Girken, Joe Zickmund, Bill King, Bruce Crabtree, Ed Leswig, Sue Ely, Don Alberson, Lavenya and Bill Schenck, Jim and Patsy Girkin, Bill Eamgey, Gail Larimer, David White, Cheryl Tucker, Kelly Simon, Don Matt, Kim Dickens, Sherry Wilson and Clerk Lee. There were several more people who did not sign in.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Ms. Dickens led in the Pledge of Allegiance.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA:

The motion was made and seconded to approve the agenda. Under Unfinished Business Item #3 was moved to item #1; Item # 2 was resolved by staff; Item #5 was postponed to July 6th and Item #7 was postponed until July 6th. Under New Business, Mayor Satori asked to add Item #6: Use of the City's Capital Reserves by CAPC to purchase Planer Hill Property. The agenda was approved as amended, 6/0/0.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES:

The motion was made and seconded to approve the Minutes of June 1, 2000. The amendments were noted. The vote to approve was 5/0/1. Alderman Freeland abstained because he was absent.

COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND AUTHORITY REPORTS AND VACANCIES:

Mayor Satori had nominated Britt Evans to fill Position 4 on the City Advertising and Promotion Commission, beginning date June 30, 2000.

The motion was made and seconded to approve Mr. Evans. The vote to approve was unanimous, 6/0/0.

DEPARTMENT HEAD COMMENTS:

There were no comments.

CITY ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT'S REPORT:

Ms. Dickens reported that she had applied for a grant to re-survey and catalog the Historic District, and the City has received \$26,200 for that purpose. The City will receive a like amount next year, also, for that purpose.

Ms. Dickens said that Thomcrown Chapel has been listed on the Historic Register.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding petition to remove a Planning Commissioner:

Alderman Jeffrey asked Mayor Satori if he planned to remove the commissioner. The Mayor said no. Alderman Jeffrey said then there was no need to discuss the situation. The City Attorney suggested that the Planning Commissioners might benefit from training to help them to discuss

subjects and make decisions in an appropriate and legal manner.

Alderman Taylor asked if the inappropriate comments made by the commissioner could be used against the City in a pending lawsuit. Ms. Wilson said it would be difficult to second guess a judge or jury. Comments were made by others at the table.

Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 1840, Flood Loss Prevention, (third reading):

The motion was made and seconded to place Ordinance No. 1840 on its third and final reading by title only. The roll call vote was 5/1/0, with Alderman Schrader voting no.

Ms. Dickens read the ordinance by title only.

The motion was made and seconded to approve. The vote in favor was 5/1/0, with Alderman Schrader voting no.

Discussion regarding loading zones:

The motion was made and seconded to set a workshop to discuss the loading zone problem. The date was set for June 27th, 2000, at 2 p.m.

Gail Larimer spoke of the great need for a loading zone close to her business and those businesses near her. As it stands now, unless you want to park in a red zone and risk a ticket, there is no place close enough to carry heavy items in and out. She asked the Council to do something now and then have the workshop.

Mayor Satori said that part of the street would have top priority.

Discussion regarding a standard intake form for citizens requests:

Alderman Schrader had introduced the idea of a form for citizen complaints and requests, and to prove that the citizens had been contacted back about what had been done.

Ms. Dickens passed out a memo of the staff review of the proposed form. There were questions as to who would maintain the forms, and would forms then be mandatory for every inquiry?

Permitting circumvention of documentation leads to the confusion that was the reason for the documentation. Who will build the database and be responsible for the collection and entry of all of this information? How long will the forms have to be kept? The City has a great many forms that must be maintained, and has limited space to do so.

Alderman Freeland said he thinks that the staff at City Hall does a fairly adequate job at this and we should not encumber them or the citizens with more forms and rules.

Ms. Dickens said that the City already has a complaint form for people to fill out. She also said that a lot of the information requested is on the City's web site.

Discussion regarding the courtesy shuttle for the 2000 season. (Schrader):

Ms. Dickens presented a working draft of an invitation for bids for the courtesy shuttle to the Mayor and the Council.

She explained that it was a place to start and that it could be modified. A long discussion ensued.

Alderman Schrader said that the service stated in the contract did not fit the idea of what the downtown merchants wanted. Ms. Dickens said again that it was a place to start.

Mayor Satori said that the whole idea is to supplement the transit system so that people would be encouraged to leave their cars at the motels and use City transportation.

The subject of bidding came up and Ms. Liggett, Director of Transit, reminded the Council that if the project goes out for bids, a route must be established so that people know how to bid. The fact that a taxi service does not have a fixed route, added to the dilemma.

In the discussion pertaining to other bidders, the City Attorney said our City Code does not limit the City to having one taxi service. She also reminded the Council that the word "shuttle" does call for a fixed route, and not a point to point service, which is good because it is more general. With the

amount of money involved, it has to be put out for bid.

After more discussion, Alderman Jeffrey said to put it on the agenda for the July 6th meeting, and be prepared to discuss waiving the bidding and getting on with it because the year will soon be half over.

Becky Taylor left at 9:20 p.m.

The motion was made and seconded to recess. All were in favor, 5/0/0. The meeting was recessed at 9:20 p.m. It reconvened at 9:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS:

Discussion regarding setting a date for a workshop with the Historic District Commission:

After some discussion the Council decided to wait to set a date for the workshop until after the commission had met.

Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 1842, waive bidding on financial software, (first reading):

The motion was made and seconded to place Ordinance No. 1842 on its first reading in its entirety. All were in favor, 5/0/0.

Ms. Dickens read the ordinance in its entirety.

The motion was made and seconded to approve. The vote was 4/1/0, with Mr. Schrader voting no.

Discussion regarding Ordinance No. 1843, Artists in the Park:

The motion was made and seconded to place Ordinance No. 1843 on its first reading in its entirety. All were in favor, 5/0/0.

Ms. Dickens read the ordinance in its entirety.

The motion was made and seconded to approve.

Alderman Schrader said some of the verbiage was ambiguous. There was some discussion. The vote on the first reading was 4/1/0, with Alderman Schrader voting no.

Discussion regarding setting a date for a workshop, July Budget Revisions:

The Council set the workshop date for the July Budget Revisions. The date is Thursday, July 11th, 2000 at 1 p.m.

Ms. Dickens reported that the pay raises of 4% will go into effect July 7, 2000.

Permission for a Banner." Fourth of July at Lake Leatherwood Park", across Spring Street (Parks):

The motion was made and seconded to approve the banner. The vote was 5/0/0.

Use of Capital Reserves of CAPC to buy the Planer Hill Property:

Mayor Satori presented his idea to purchase Sandy Bass' Planer Hill Parking Lot property with CAPC capital reserves. The Mayor said that the owner is asking \$380,000 for the property. The CAPC could pull out \$250,000 from its reserves. The City could come up with the other \$140,000 from its Capital Reserves, which would be paid back by the CAPC by the end of the year 2000 or possibly the beginning of next year. The Mayor said that using this money would in no way impact the expenditures that have to be made. He said that revenues of the CAPC are up 17% and the expenditures are down 24% for the year 2000. Mayor Satori said that immediately, then, the City could buy one of the pay stations and get that lot going.

Mayor Satori said there are many reasons for buying that property. The City owns the property on the corner above it, and it would tie together very well. The State Highway Department has just

spent a huge amount of money on the highway on the hill. The Planer Hill sidewalk will improve the property there even more. The City should own that piece of property. He said he was asking the Council to commit to being willing to loan the CAPC the \$140,000 should they go forward with the purchase. He said the City has talked about it for twenty years and this would be a good time to act.

There was a long discussion.

Alderman Jeffrey made the motion that the City should indicate to the CAPC that we would be willing to loan them \$140,000 from General Fund Capital Reserves.

Alderman Sumpter seconded.

Kelly Simon said he would like to see the City own the property, however, here is another case of a proposal without a plan to put into motion. He said a study should be done as to what is really under there. Money is going to have to be spent on the CAPC offices and no one knows what that is going to cost.

Alderman Schrader said this is another example of the lack of long term capital planning.

The vote on Alderman Jeffrey's motion was 4/1/0, with Bryan Sumpter voting no.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Alderman Stoppel said since the City is building a brand new Police Building, he would like to see the City earmark \$1000 for some kind of a memorial to Bobby Weber. Mayor Satori said lets look at the options before we set an amount of money. Everyone at the table was in favor of the memorial. Mr. Stoppel said that people might want to contribute, also.

Alderman Jeffrey said he know that a lot of people left the meeting tonight dissatisfied because they didn't get a chance to vent about removing a planning commissioner. He said he would hope that they would take into consideration the fact that if there was not going to be a vote on the subject, there was no point in a divisive and hurtful discussion.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS:

Mayor Satori thanked the members of the council for being there for another long and laborious meeting. He appreciated their time.

The motion was made and seconded to adjourn. All were in favor, 5/0/0. The meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.

APPROVED:

Beau Zar Satori, Mayor

ATTEST:

Mary Ann Lee, City Clerk-Treasurer