

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION OF THE GERVAIS CITY COUNCIL
COUNTY OF MARION, STATE OF OREGON
HELD AT GERVAIS CITY HALL WITH ZOOM ALTERNATIVE AT 7:00 PM ON MARCH 3, 2022**

1. Call to Order

Mayor Annie Gilland called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

2. Pledge of Allegiance

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Councilor Gonzalez.

3. Roll Call

Mayor Annie Gilland	Present
Councilor Pamela Foreman	Present
Councilor Baltazar Gonzalez	Present
Council President Micky Wagner	Excused
Councilor Diana Barch	Present
Councilor John Harvey	Present

Staff Present: City Manager Susie Marston, City Recorder Denise Dahlberg, Police Chief Mark Chase, Public Works Superintendent John Robinson

Others Present: None

4. Announcements/Additions

Mayor Gilland swore in Officer Tim West as Lieutenant. Lieutenant West read the Gervais Criminal Justice Code of Ethics. Chief Chase expressed his appreciation for Lieutenant West. Lieutenant West's wife, Laura, pinned his badge on him.

5. Public Comment

Rocky Sherwood, 2622 Nina Pl., Hubbard, OR, 97032. Sherwood announced bringing the Easter Egg hunt back to Barnsy Park, and Hubbard Chevrolet is putting it on. Mayor Gilland asked Sherwood to post the event on her page. Sherwood mentioned a good turn out with the walk/jog event and that his next goal was to create a community youth group to give kids something to do that won't cost money.

Councilor Foreman acknowledged that Sherwood's idea was timely because a resident had asked about youth activities in Gervais. Sherwood encouraged the council to inquire about North Marion Youth Athletics.

Laura Clifton, 1065 6th St, Gervais. Laura reported that she looked into the resolutions that were in conjunction with the water bill raise of 6.6%. She mentioned hearing in the previous

council meeting that the increase would run through the year 2023 or 2025 and wanted to point out the resolution said the increase would go through the year 2035. She stated the resolution said 2.75% and it referenced an obsolete Portland Consumer Index, which is now the Business Bureau of Labor Industry. She stated the Portland Consumer Index was obsolete in 2018, and the resolution took effect in 2020 and it was signed in 2019. Clifton pointed out that the utility prices and other documents on the website were not current and misleading. Mayor Gilland stated she would talk more about that with Laura. Councilor Bartch noted that the website was in process of an upgrade; but that she believed this was an easy fix. City Manager Marston thanked Clifton for bringing it to her attention and told her that staff would get the website updated.

6. Consent Calendar

- a. Approval of the minutes of the January 20, 2022 Work Session
- b. Approval of the minutes of the February 3, 2022 Regular Session
- c. Approval of bill list for January 27 – February 24, 2022.

Councilor Bartch made a motion to approve the March 3, 2022 Consent Calendar as presented, seconded by Councilor Foreman. Motion is unanimously carried and so moved.

7. Committee Reports

a. Ad Hoc – Skate Park

Laura Clifton provided written minutes. For the Skate Park they are planning on having basketball tournament fundraiser in August. For the 4th of July event they will be having games for kids, parade, salsa contest, and quilting items on display. Erica Ramon, Vice-Chair of committee reached out to a local gentleman that sings and plays music at parties and he will volunteer his time. Ramon mentioned dancers named Aguilas de Oro that will be volunteering to perform as well. Christopher Bartch was concerned about the late August heat during the basketball tournament and suggested reaching out to businesses about donating large swamp fans with misty cool air blowing on the court. Clifton will be going back to the committee with alternate venues and to discuss moving the date. Clifton said she was moving the date to early August because there was a change in the hoopla event date and moving the venue due to unexpected costs. She stated they will vote on it next Tuesday and bring it back to the council.

8. Presentations

a. Chief Joe Budge, Woodburn Fire District – Update on Gervais Fire Station

Chief Joe Budge, Woodburn Fire District brought up previous discussions about the joint funding of the fire station here in Gervais. He was informed after the February meeting that all of the AARPA money was gone. It was all distributed to first round applicants, which were by invitation only. They are looking for other funding sources and they do have some money that City of Gervais and residents were a part of. Budge affirmed the Fire District was committed to having a fire station in Gervais. He had been meeting with City staff and looking at some options. He would keep the council updated moving forward. Mayor Gilland thanked him for coming, was sorry to hear about the loss of the grant money and was hopeful for future grant opportunities.

Councilor Foreman noted she thought the memorial for the fallen fire fighter was excellent and stated the community turned out strong for that event. She felt the community did a good job at recognizing the significant loss.

9. Action Item

a. Ratify Donation to St. Paul Fire District

Councilor Bartch moved to ratify \$100 donation by check on February 9, 2022, seconded by Councilor Harvey. Motion is unanimously carried and so moved.

10. Old Business

a. Council Rules Draft Update

Mayor Gilland gave Councilor Harvey the floor.

Councilor Harvey stated that since things didn't go as planned, he wanted to table the discussion to a work session. Harvey said there were things added into the document that he believed needed to be talked about. Councilor Harvey stated that if it would've been done the way they asked it to be done, they wouldn't be going through it right now. Councilor Harvey stated that he wanted to see the draft first and finalize it before it went to Monahan to save the back and forth.

The council discussed dates and agreed to have a Work Session on March 31, 2022.

City Manager Marston strongly recommended that Bill Monahan be present at that meeting to help facilitate the Work Session. Marston specified that Monahan did make the additions to be consistent with best practices. Those were his recommendations and she recommended him being present at the Work Session.

Mayor Gilland asked who SM was in the comments. Marston acknowledged that those were her initials and she was trying to put notes in the document that were provided by Bill Monahan. Gilland said she was just asking for reference.

Mayor Gilland agreed with Harvey on tabling the discussion because she wasn't satisfied either. Gilland stated the protocol wasn't followed and she wanted to talk about some changes. Mayor Gilland pointed out that if the directive had been followed by John to bring the draft back to council and had the council had been able to finish the social media discussion; they would've done alright on their own. She didn't see the need to pay someone to help them. Gilland voiced that they would send it to Bill Monahan for the language once they were ready to. She asserted that they were paying him to give them the proper language to the rules they want, not adopting rules from the LOC 2017 model (that she wasn't impressed with). Gilland noted that she saw some of his recommendations coming from there and she didn't see it

necessary to pay for that. Mayor Gilland claimed there were add-ins and changes the council didn't even talk about and she didn't understand how they got there.

Councilor Bartch understood they wanted to see the rules again before they sent them off to the attorney. Bartch explained that if there was stuff they had not yet discussed or additional changes that would be fine, however Bill Monahan had sent back some material to review. Bartch wondered how many times they were going to talk about it and come up with lines. Councilor Bartch asserted that eventually the rules needed to be sent to Monahan for the wording and explained that initially that is what he had sent back to them. Councilor Bartch acknowledged she saw where Monahan added in language and established that it was because they didn't know they needed it.

Councilor Foreman agreed with Councilor Bartch and communicated her concern of bringing the document back to a work session, sending it back, bringing it back, and sending it back. Foreman stated that Bill Monahan's efforts to make the document comprehensive may have included things they may or may not have asked for but she thought he was objective and clarified that they pay him to be objective and comprehensive. She doesn't mind having a work session or talking about it again, but she will mind if it's the fourth or fifth time they are doing it. Foreman concluded it would be nice to get it done, finalized, and have it in the proper language rather than continue to belabor it. She did not have a problem bringing it back to a Work Session.

Councilor Bartch moved to schedule a Work Session on March 31, 2022 at 6:30 pm to discuss the City Council rules, seconded by Councilor Harvey. Motion is unanimously carried and so moved.

b. See activity tracker

Mayor Gilland asked City Manager Marston about City Ordinances that were supposed to come back to council in March. Gilland asked Marston to look into it because there were requested changes in October and she wanted to give the people an answer. City Manager Marston replied the City Attorney's office was currently delayed due to not having a lead attorney and short staffing and she would look it into it further.

Councilor Foreman appreciated having the activity tracker and noted having everything in one place was a nice addition it was to the work they had been doing. She appreciated the red writing showing actual updates.

Councilor Harvey asked City Manager Marston about her meeting with Dandy and a grant writer and asked if they had a grant writer. Marston replied yes and her name was Hilda Roselli and she had provided a proposal. Hilda talked about what she envisioned as growth opportunities for Gervais. Roselli has a copy of the City's goals, budget and the school district strategic plan and budget. She is planning to be at the joint meeting on March 7th between the School District and City Council. She will be bringing Mayor John McArdle from the City of

Independence to talk about the value of community partnerships. Marston stated they thought it would be a good starting point for the joint meeting.

Mayor Gilland stated that was an important meeting and would have appreciated more dates to choose from. Gilland argued that there weren't any dates given at all and expressed her displeasure when the only dates given were March 7th and April 7th. She advised incorporating the council with future dates offered.

Councilor Foreman and Councilor Bartch noted that there were dates that were talked about at a meeting.

Councilor Foreman said she would be there. Gilland asked for the information to be brought back to her.

Councilor Harvey said there weren't enough dates given.

Councilor Harvey asked if the grant writer fee was going to be the same. Marston replied that Roselli hadn't mentioned her hourly rate, but the council had authorized a \$5,000 match for her services and the school district would carry the contract. Mayor Gilland asked if the other grant writer was named when the council authorized the \$5,000 and if so asked if the council would need to ratify that. Marston said she would go back and look and if so, the council would need to ratify it if the other grant writer was named.

11. New Business

a. Set date for budget committee meeting

The council discussed dates. Mayor Gilland announced there was an opening for a budget committee member.

Councilor Bartch moved to schedule the Gervais budget committee meeting on May 19, 2022 at 6:30 pm, seconded by Councilor Foreman. Motion was unanimously carried and so moved.

b. Veterans Wall

Mayor Gilland acknowledged Councilor Gonzalez's dream of a Veteran's Wall. Councilor Gonzalez brought his ideas to her and she found brick fundraising places online. Laura Clifton and Mayor Gilland had a phone meeting with Gary Alfred from Bricks-R-Us. She met with others but found that Bricks R Us had been in business for 30 years and was very reputable. Gilland presented a slide show titled the Getting Started Guide. She asked people in the meeting and council if they would like to have a Veteran's Wall. Bartch and Foreman agreed that it was a good idea.

Where to build it - Councilor Gonzalez spoke about several ideas on where to build the Veterans Wall. He had considered Black Walnut and he spoke with Superintendent John Robinson and recognized there had been problems with vandalism. He mentioned the center attraction downtown but was concerned about disrupting the kid's artwork. Gonzalez

proposed building the wall at 4th and Fir across the street from City Hall. There was discussion about utilities, irrigation, and the size of the wall. Mayor Gilland pointed out that it was a safe spot because of the cameras on that location. Mayor Gilland stated she wanted to open the Veterans Wall to veterans all over because Gervais wasn't that big and it would draw attention to Gervais.

What Design - Councilor Gonzalez created a design on paper and explained the wall would be a pyramid. On top he wants to put 5 designs for every service referencing Marines, Navy, Air Force, Army, and Coastguard. His design included poles with the US, Veterans, Vietnamese, Oregon and MIA flags. He talked about creating castle pillars along the fence line as the wall grew. Robinson asked if he wanted it lit at night. Gonzalez said he wanted a light that shined bright and an inscribed commemorative plaque.

Gilland asked if John could get the pillars in place along the fence line so that when the bricks are selling they could be filling the wall in for future growth. Robinson suggested to look at a type of design like ODOT does with their sound walls, where the pillars are set 10 feet apart and the cement panel slides into the pillars. Robinson explained with cinder blocks there may be enough rebar to support one wall, but adding on would require tying the rebar into the next section. There was more discussion on how to build the wall. Rebar with cinder blocks or cement slabs sliding into the pillars columns.

Councilor Foreman acknowledged she thought the Veterans Wall was a great idea. She wasn't clear of why only the specific Vietnamese flag would be displayed when there were several generations of military that served in other wars such as the Korean War and World War II. Mayor Gilland responded that the founder of the wall fought in Vietnam. Councilor Gonzalez replied that he had seen that flag on other walls.

Councilor Foreman stated she lived in Idaho and they had done a similar project and it took one day for it to be vandalized. They ripped off all five military service plaques. Foreman stressed the importance of constructing the wall and making sure it was cemented well, to make it as anti-theft as possible so it isn't ruined the day it is put up.

Gilland mentioned getting estimates from three different masonry contractors to determine the cost of the project.

Ways to cut cost - Mayor Gilland spoke about Brick-r-Us providing free tools to cut the cost; such as a website for campaigning with a store front with option to pay.

Donated materials & labor – Gilland suggested people could donate labor and materials. She stated her husband would donate rebar and that her boss would allow her to collect left over materials. She also mentioned there were lots of contractors in town. She talked about an outreach and having some of the work done by the community.

Start brick sales campaign - Mayor Gilland explained that people could share the website link with templates and order forms to social media pages such as Gervais page, Hubbard page, and personal pages. She spoke about spreading the news by word of mouth and a potential table top at the 4th of July event where they could sell the bricks. They would need to determine the cost of the brick which goes from \$50 to \$250 a brick. Gilland stated that in the Gervais community it would be closer to \$50 and the only way that could happen is to get some of the work donated.

Gilland asked if it could be done through a committee or be done as a council. She asked if there were volunteers that would be willing to help get this going and said Laura Clifton would be willing.

Councilor Foreman commented that she thought the committee is ideal and she volunteered to be a part of that committee.

Gilland stated she would be looking and advertising for people that want to volunteer and she would appoint an Ad hoc and couple it with that. Gilland stated there was a great team of people in Gervais for the 4th of July, Basketball & Skate Park and they are willing to do more because these tasks were not continual. Gilland stated it was nice having just one meeting a month. Mayor Gilland told Councilor Foreman that it would be nice to have someone from the council there because she couldn't always be there.

Gilland asked about money for the fence line on the Veterans Wall. She commented that they couldn't use some of the money on a park and wondered if they could use some of the money if it was for an improvement to the City. Bartch asked if she was asking about the AARPA money. Gilland asked Marston if the AARPA funds could be used for it. Marston stated there were certain categories and she wasn't sure if it would fit one of the categories. Gilland said they needed a fence for the railroad that's dangerous. Gilland asked Marston to find out if they could use some of that money for that and that way then they could get the whole street made for the wall. Gilland stated the Brick campaign goes on forever. She explained each year there would be a campaign to sell bricks and that could put money back into that fund.

Gonzalez communicated needing money for the start of the wall. Harvey said what they needed to know is what categories they could use the money for. Gilland said so they can start planning the future of Gervais. Harvey asked what the AARPA funds categories were. Marston stated the categories were public health and safety, premium pay for employers, water and sewer infrastructure projects, and revenue replacement.

Mayor Gilland explained there had been talk about partnering with the school district and businesses coming down here to 4th street. Gilland stated she had lived here a long time and the reason the businesses do not work in Gervais was because the buildings were ugly Gervais did not have the foot traffic to sustain them. But a Veterans Wall would help bring people into the City.

Rocky Sherwood presented a picture of his suggested design for the Veterans Wall that he felt would bring the foot traffic that Gervais wanted. Mayor Gilland invited Rocky to attend the Veterans Wall meeting. Gilland announced she was looking for people and wanted to get an Ad Hoc committee started.

Councilor Gonzales volunteered to help Superintendent Robinson when he began removing the bushes. Robinson responded that if they wanted to put a wall on 4th Street it would be a major renovation. There was a discussion about the structural design. Gonzalez said it would be 18 ft. long with 18 bricks at 6'4 in. Gilland said the committee would be getting the details and the estimates for the mason and structural design would require John Robinsons help. Gilland told Gonzalez to work with John.

Gonzalez said he wanted to have had it done by 4th of July but it was looking more like November 11th. Bartch thought they were going to use 4th of July to sell bricks.

Gilland said if they could get the committee together by next month, by May she should be feeling well enough to knock some meetings out of the park and within two weeks they could have the campaign website up, links being shared, and bricks being sold. In the meantime they needed to figure out what to charge and that would be where John Robinson came in.

12. Staff Reports

a. City Manager

City Manager Marston provided written report in the packet and asked council if they had any questions about that. Marston reported on the joint meeting with School District earlier in the session. Marston noted she was contacted by a student at Gervais High school and he asked if his art class could display a couple of art pieces a month in our lobby. She told him it would be fine and thought it would be a positive display of support and partnership for our students here in town. She commented that a few of the council members had contacted her about having trouble accessing emails remotely. She asked the Mayor if she had a chance to contact Woodburn IT. Mayor Gilland responded that she hadn't because she had been slammed at work and had many appointments. Marston reported that Councilors Bartch and Foreman were having similar issues. She had been working with Woodburn IT on it and did not have an answer yet. Marston addressed the public comment from Laura Clifton about the Resolutions in regards to the Utility Rate increases. Marston explained in 2019, the council passed 3 resolutions to institute utility rates. The Resolution for the water increases called for a 2.75% increase each year for 5 years when we would look at it again. The storm and sewer increases called for an increase of the CPI in accordance to the previous year. For this year, we used the December 2021 CPI which is 6.5%. She just wanted to state that for the record. Mayor Gilland asked Clifton where in the Resolution did where it said 2035 because she wanted to be clear. Laura Clifton read from the Resolution that stated the Water rates would continue to increase by 2.75 % annually through 2035. Mayor Gilland asked Susie if that was what the Resolution said and where did the 5 year statement come in. Marston re-read that part of the Resolution and she apologized stating yes, it did say 2035. She stated they had increased water rates a couple of times since she had been with the City and she must've been thinking of a different

Resolution. But it did say 2035. Mayor Gilland stated that this was something the council needed to be looked at. That concluded Marston's report.

b. Police Department – Chief Mark Chase

Chief Mark Chase provided the council with his written report and stated that John Robinson had some stuff to show the council so he passed the time to him.

c. Public Works – Superintendent John Robinson

Superintendent John Robinson the contract was signed to restore the tree farm. He presented two videos taken with Kyle's drone to show the council the restoration progress of the tree farm. Councilor Foreman asked about the damage on the east gate. Robinson reported that it was the farmer's fence and when they were harvesting hay last year a giant bale fell on the fence. Robinson narrated the video and referenced the different lagoons. Robinson stated the footage was from a week ago and they had already cut down zones 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and they are starting zone 8 which was east of the tree farm. He reported with the weather being dry they could tentatively be done cutting trees down by the end of the week. Robinson reported at lagoons one and two was where the influent came in to the City's sewer system. Pond #1 was the primary treatment, 2 was the secondary treatment and to the north was lagoon 3 was a finishing pond that has treatment, as well. Tree farm has 10 zones. John spoke about the tree farm having 10 zones and the different sections that were harvested. Foreman asked how long they anticipated the harvest. Robinson reported that everything should be back up and operational by July 1st. Councilor Bartch asked if we could put the videos on the City's Facebook page and or the City website for the public to see the damage and what's been accomplished. There was a discussion about how the trees would be planted and how long it would take for them to grow. Mayor Gilland thanked Robinson for putting in the stop sign on Cedar.

13. Business from the Mayor or Council

None

14. Adjourn

Mayor Gilland adjourned the meeting at 8:22 PM

I, DENISE DAHLBERG, DO HEREBY CERTIFY THAT THE FOREGOING MINUTES OF SAID MEETING OF THE GERVAIS CITY COUNCIL HELD ON MARCH 3, 2022 ARE, TO THE BEST OF MY ABILITY, CORRECT AS RECORDED.

ATTESTED:

Denise Dahlberg, City Recorder

Annie Gilland, Mayor