**Regular Council Meeting**

**April 7, 2021**

The regular meeting of the Arlington City Council was held on April 7, 2021 in the Council Chambers of the Municipal Building and via telephone conference. Present were Councilors: Leslie Walborn, Denise Ball, Robert Christensen, Kelly Margheim, Matthew Irby, Mayor Jeffery Bufton, Public Works Superintendent Bill Rosenbalm, Attorney Ruben Cleaveland, Recorder Pam Rosenbalm. Absent Councilor: Marshall Swope. Guests include: Brad Baird, Riley Bennett, Bobby Gentry, James Wright, Mike Margheim, Pat Shannon, Korbin Jaramillo, Mariah Shandy and Doug Kolberg (Leah Shannon arrived later). Mayor Bufton called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Pledge of Allegiance Recited**

**PUBLIC COMMENT:** Korbin Jaramillo was present and reported that the new reader board will be installed on April 20th and spring and fall sports have both started. Korbin also stated the May Day program and the parade with be held April 30th; the theme is Kaleidoscope. Jim Wright was present and asked the Council to not judge him on his last performance. Jim stated he was put in a box by the Mayor based on advice from legal counsel to not allow him to speak at the end of the meeting or in executive session (as he was not on the Agenda and had used all 5 minutes of is allotted time in public comment). Jim also stated he has hired legal counsel and is holding the City of Arlington totally responsible for what he considers mismanagement of the sidewalk project. Jim stated he feels this is a real unfortunate situation and he has given each Councilor a list of all the things he’s been involved in with the city, including bring businesses here since 1988; stating 40-50 items are on the list. Jim stated he felt it has come to the point where people involved in the project will have to tell the truth under oath in a civil court due to the city’s decisions. Jim also stated the city will be hearing from his legal counsel regarding the water at his home; stating there has been an issue for a year and a half. Jim stated the city has put themselves in this situation due to the convenience of keeping the current legal counsel and the engineer over a long period of time because it’ s comfortable; he doesn’t feel this is best for the tax payers of Arlington. Jim warned the Council that hell is coming and they brought it upon themselves. Pat Shannon was present and reports there is an effort with the county to work with Columbia Community; targeted towards building houses. Pat also informed the Council of a discussion at County Court on economic enhancement and what is going on with Waste Management host fees, and how the county handles them. Pat stated his wife Leah is working towards getting a group of people together for hopes of enhancing the downtown area in Arlington.

**COMMUNITY CHAMBER OF COMMERCE UPDATE:** Riley Bennett was present and reported the Chamber will be moving forward with their projects this year; the first will be painting the caboose followed by a dinner for the volunteers. Painting will begin Saturday, April 24th and the River Clean up will be in May. Riley also reported the fishing derby had been moved from its original date to Saturday May 29th; Memorial Day weekend. Riley also stated the Chamber is now registered with the state and the Chamber’s web page will be revamped focusing on local businesses; updates should be done in the next two weeks.

**BRAD BAIRD ANDERSON PERRY & ASSOCIATES:** Brad Baird was present and handed out the Water Master Plan, going over the high points of each of the four main reservoirs. The city’s water system has been inspected by the Drinking Water Services and North Central Public Health District, and there were no system deficiencies. The system was classified with “Outstanding Performance.” The recommended system improvements on well no.1, is to eliminate hydrogen sulfide. A second project would be the Columbia River pump station, which would include a permanent pump station by the treatment plant entrance with a pipeline to the golf course pond. Brad then discussed the costs and grant qualifications for the projects listed above. Brad stated with permission from the city he will send the Water Master Plan to the Drinking Water Program. Consensus of the Council was for Brad to send in the WM Plan.

**CONSENT AGENDA:** The consent agenda consisted of the following items: **a**. Approval of minutes- March 3, 2021. b. Approval of bills as listed. Councilor Christensen motioned to approve the consent agenda. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Walborn.

**COUNCIL ACTIONS-APPROVE OR DENY:**

**Budget Calendar:** Councilor Walborn motioned to approve the budget calendar as presented. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Ball.

**Budget Committee**: Consensus of the Council was to approve the Budget Committee as listed; (Jeannie Kirksey, Julie Valdez, Irene Steward, Sherrie Wilkins, Susan Jones, Cindi Davidson and David Anderson).

**Resolution’s No. 711 & 712**: Councilor Walborn motioned to approve Resolution No. 711 for the budget transfers as listed. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Ball. Councilor Ball motioned to approve Resolution No. 712 for the budget transfers as listed. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Walborn.

**Abandon Water Line**: Public Works Superintendent Bill Rosenbalm reported there is a water line on the county plat maps showing plans for a possible water line in the subdivision, this water line is not on any city maps. The county maps reflect plans made before the property was brought into city limits. Doug Kolberg stated he is the property owner and explained that this is a recorded easement on his title report, and his issue is during the transfer into the city it was stipulated that certain easements will survive the transfer into the city from the county. Attorney Cleaveland stated the way to remove this issue is to do a Quit Claim Deed which will abandon water line easement. Attorney Cleveland also stated that he believes the owner of the property should be responsible for writing up the Quit Claim Deed. Councilor Ball motioned to approve a Quit Claim Deed for Mr. Kolberg and include language regarding a temporary easement to abandon a platted water line. Motion passed unanimously after a second by Councilor Walborn.

**COUNCILORS REPORT**:

* Councilor Irby reported he had been researching possible Grants and agrees the city should start working on getting Grants from the county for equipment maintenance and repairs for the Public Works Department.
* Councilor Margheim reported the county has well over 30 million dollars and the city does need to start asking for funds from the county. Councilor Margheim also suggested the Council listen to the Youtube meeting that County Court held today. Councilor Margheim suggests having a Councilor delegated to going to the County Meeting to represent Arlington.
* Councilor Swope was absent.
* Councilor Christensen reported that all volunteers in the fire dept are now trained.
* Councilor Ball reported the Council had discussed at the Budget Workshop to raise the water and sewer rates $1.00 a month starting in July. However, after hearing Brad Baird’s report, she would be inclined to raise more. Brad stated the rates don’t need to be raised all at once.
* Councilor Walborn reported that she is moving to Pendleton so the Council Meeting in June will be her last meeting. Councilor Walborn stated she had enjoyed working to better the City of Arlington and she appreciates all in attendance and the town’s people; Councilor Walborn handed in her official resignation. Mayor Bufton spoke on behalf of the Council and himself stating it has been a pleasure having her on the Council and thanked her for her public service. Councilor Walborn stated the city and the town are something she truly believes in, and thanked Public Works Superintendent Bill Rosenbalm for being a joy to work with. Attorney Cleaveland stated the city will check the Charter for the procedure to replace the open position. Councilor Walborn also reported the Golf Course has been getting some use with the warmer weather and the summer club house staff has been hired; she appreciates all the work being done at the course.
* Public Works Superintendent Bill Rosenbalm reported there have been a couple sewer projects in town; Contractor Steve Lindley was called to help assist with the projects, who helped with finding a sewer line that was 12 feet deep, locating a line that was previously installed with no records, and to install 5 more spots of full hook-ups at the Airport R.V Park. Superintendent Rosenbalm also reports he is looking into hiring soon for 2 summer maintenance positions at the the Golf Course. Superintendent Rosenbalm mentioned returning help from last year and Alex Hansford, stating Alex had done some work for him before and he was a good worker. Councilor Walborn stated she trusts Superintendent Rosenbalm’s decision to move forward with interviewing Alex and returning help and has no problem with hiring 2 workers again. Superintendent Rosenbalm also reported; a new company in town is requesting rock for the solar farm, the fishing tournament is happening this weekend and we should be expecting the new golf carts.

In other business, Attorney Cleaveland reviewed a Draft for an Ordinance on the Second Amendment in Yamhill County. Attorney Cleaveland encouraged the Council to review this Draft and discuss it at the next Council Meeting. Attorney Cleaveland reported regarding the Sewer Ordinance; the city’s current Ordinance states the resident is responsible to the main line. The other two options would be the city is responsible from the edge of the right-a-way or from the edge of the pavement. Councilor Margheim stated she had called a few engineers from various cities in Oregon to hear their way of doing this; she stated there were a few different ways it was handled but none that she spoke with were how Arlington’s Ordinance is written . She also stated if residents are going to be held responsible, the city needs to do their due diligence such as maps for residents to review. Mayor Bufton stated the Council will explore the options the city has, as he would like some clarification. Attorney Cleaveland will bring in some sample Ordinances for the Council to review. Recorder Pam Rosenbalm stated she had sent the Council the letter from Deputy Beard on the Public Nuisance Ordinance. The Council would like to review this Ordinance and discuss at next meeting.

Regular meeting adjourned at 8:36 p.m. Executive session opened at 8:39 p.m. per ORS 192.660 (2) (i). Executive session was closed at 9:13 p.m. Regular meeting opened at 9: 14 p.m. Mayor Bufton stated there was no formal decisions made in executive session. Regular meeting closed at 9:14 p.m.

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Jeffrey Bufton, Mayor Pam Rosenbalm, Recorder