

City of Wheeler regular council meeting minutes for October 15, 2019

Draft

- I. Call to order: Mayor Stevie S. Burden called the Wheeler City Council meeting to order at 7:04 pm on October 15, 2019, at Wheeler City Hall.
- II. Roll call: Stevie S. Burden, Dave Bell, Heidi Stacks, Jay Verburg, Dawn Sea Kahrs.  
Excused absence: Jim King  
Staff present: Juliet Hyams, City Manager  
Public present: Edith Rohde, Nan Devlin, Jim Horton, Carl Whiting, Peggy Schumann,  
C. Grandy, Sandy Sandhaugen, Pat Gross.  
Media present: none
- III. Mayor and Councilor comments:
  - Councilor Stacks observed that the OCSR was here this weekend and hundreds of people were here with nothing to do. She suggested that, by this time next year, Wheeler implements a plan to make the most of that tourism.
  - Mayor Burden addressed topics we can discuss at council and those we can't. She entered into the record a *Brief Historical Overview of the 'Uplands and Botts Marsh Properties'*. Remember that these decisions are based on evidence and our guiding documents. She will send this document to the planning commission as well. The comp plan is our binding document, versus the Vision Plan, which satisfies goal 1, citizen involvement. This content will comprise our next newsletter. The vision plan was a reference in creating the comp plan. Refer to the preamble of the comp plan. The lifespan of the comp plan is at least ten years, or until the state land use goals change. The Vision Plan was adopted as a "mandatory guiding document," but for the comp plan. The Vision is the data used to build the comp plan, which guides our zoning ordinances. Can it conflict with the comp plan? The Vision doesn't override the comp plan. The comp plan is approved by the DLCDC and is the document with legal standing.
  - The mayor added the new county Sheriff, Jim Horton, to the agenda under *Guests*.
- IV. Bell moved to adopt the consent agenda. Stacks seconded. All for the vote, 4-0.
- V. Presentations, guests, announcement and correspondence:
  - A. Presentations: none
  - B. Guest: Sheriff Jim Horton and Nan Devlin, Executive Director, Visit Tillamook Coast

Sheriff Horton was appointed by the county as sheriff to complete a term in August. He will run for the spot later. Has been in the sheriff's office for 23 years in multiple roles. He's available for anyone in the community to speak to him. They have 22 members; three per day for the whole county. They are spread thin. Some days they have only

City of Wheeler regular council meeting minutes for October 15, 2019

Draft

two deputies, 20 hours per day, 3 am to 7 pm. That's all the budget allows. His goal is to expand coverage to 24/7. He'd like to come back and discuss their long-term strategic plan. It's hard to recruit and retain law enforcement. They work closely with municipal police like Erik Harth of Manzanita.

C. Announcements: none

D. Correspondence:

- Manzanita Department of Public Safety, October, 2019

VI. Public comment on non-agenda items:

None

VII. Committee Reports:

- A. **Planning Commission:** Minutes for the October 3 2019 hearing are pending. Planning commission is planning its next hearing. It wants clarification of the difference between the Vision and Comp Plans previously discussed. Parks report: Wanted \$100 for daffodil bulbs and to clarify its availability. Also discussed the dog bag dispensers.
- B. **Parks & Recreation Committee:** Minutes for the November Parks & Recreation Committee
- C. **Wheeler Emergency Preparedness Committee:** Heidi Stacks reported that the WET will have its first work session tomorrow at 4 pm. She will work with staff tomorrow to prepare.
- D. **Port of Nehalem:** Dave attended and it was pretty uneventful. They will get a new tugboat, a flat-bottom barge which will facilitate the buoy transfer and more stable for that purpose. It will cost \$55000.

Stevie commented that the port should do more for our economic development. Jay asked if we can send a letter to that effect. Stevie feels they have not been receptive so far. Dave said that the composition of the port has changed and may be more receptive now. The last time Stevie tried was some time ago and the commissioners have changed about 90 percent. We can discuss it further at a future meeting. We should ask if they'd like to be part of a mutual aid agreement with us. In case of a disaster, we may have to evacuate by boat. Dave will take any message the council formulates. Heidi: The EVC is starting to work with the coast guard, so they might provide an access point.

VIII. City manager and public works department report. See September packet.

IX. **General Business:**

Draft

1. **Old Business**

None

2. **New Business**

A. Nan Devlin presented the proposed wayfinding plan. It probably won't go to a sign-making RFP for six months. It is a community process. We can schedule another meeting, but she took community questions. The plan is a guideline. It's not mandatory. There's no need to give up one's identity and brand. Signs can be interchangeable, in case a business changes.

Old Wheeler sign: Most of Wheeler would like it restored. Would the tourism board be part of that? It would go into the RFP and come out of the county's budget.

The Wayfinding team is very community focused. We need to figure out who owns it. It would be part of Wheeler's branding. It needs repair.

The kiosk is completely community driven.

Funding would be on the business to customize signs, but grants are available. Send back documentation and report for 50% reimbursement. You have to submit within a year. They don't have grants now for lighting. (All must comply with our sign ordinance.)

Nehalem's signs will cost \$155,000. Nan encouraged us to include interpretive signage to tell our story. Building plaques could be part of the plan. Nehalem is doing three.

One comment concerned the toxic nature of vinyl signs. However, they last the longest.

The next step would be to form a subcommittee to provide additional input. We would hold another public meeting. We would need volunteer applications to form the committee. Residents and the business community should lead the effort. Council would approve the subcommittee; possibly one from council, one from PC and community members and business owners. Council will discuss and request applications. Then we'd connect them with Nan. It should probably happen in November and establish a time limit.

Council took a recess and moved into executive session at 9:08.

- X. Executive session: 192.660(2)(a) and 192.660(2)(h)  
The session was convened at 9:09 and adjourned at 9:16.  
Stacks moved to act on decisions discussed in executive session. Verburg seconded.  
All for the vote 4-0.

City of Wheeler regular council meeting minutes for October 15, 2019

Draft

Council will strive to avoid forming a quorum by all attending the planning commission at once. Council wants insight and information from staff about the hearing. However, it needs to be limited, in case of an appeal, which would go to council. Dave is comfortable with no information. Can decide based only on information presented at the meeting.

XI. Adjournment: 9:24

Stevie S. Burden, Mayor

Juliet Hyams, City Manager

---

---

Juliet Hyams, Transcriber