

**Executive Session / Regular Council Meeting
January 16, 2024**

Members present were Mayor Trish Callahan, President Stacy Equitz, Vice President Delena Oden, Councilor Keith Gilliam, Councilor Peggy Davis-Gilliam and Councilor Alvin Thompson. Councilor Paul Price was absent.

Staff present was City Recorder Lori Paxton.

Vice President Oden made a motion to open the executive session at 6:31 pm. President Equitz seconded. All ayes motion carried.

A discussion was held on whether to open the police department back up and hire a new police officer. The hiring board received one application and previously held an interview with the applicant. The hiring board presented the interview information to the council for their consideration.

Councilor Davis-Gilliam made a motion to adjourn the executive session at 6:58 pm. Councilor Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Staff present was Treasurer Katie Misfeldt, City Recorder Lori Paxton and Public Works Operator Chris Bray.

Audience in attendance were Ryan and Tara Holley, Roger Hayden, Mark Rohde and Evan Goettel.

President Equitz made a motion to open the regular session at 7:03 pm. Vice President Oden seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Pledge of Allegiance

Previous Minutes: President Equitz made a motion to approve the previous minutes from December 19, 2023 and January 8, 2024. Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Bills: Treasurer Misfeldt said she did not have time to get her report ready and she would submit it next month.

Mayor Callahan said she was advised not to have the entire council be on the hiring board. It would be best to have only three councilors, the municipal judge and herself on the board. Councilor Price, Vice President Oden and President Equitz will be on the board.

Business from the Audience: Evan Goettel said he is get prepared for the Redwood Avenue and Second Street project and installing a cul-de-sac. He asked if the west end of the fence on Second Street be moved and readjusted to accommodate the cul-de-sac. He said he would relocate the fence around the cul-de-sac and donate his labor. He said he can utilize all material the town has from the cattleman's association. President Equitz has a concern about still having access to her property and everyone agreed that a gate could be installed for that purpose. **Councilor Thompson made a motion to accept the plans and proceed as proposed, with the adjustment to the fence to install a gate.**

Vice President Oden seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Old Business: Executive Session decision – **Councilor Davis-Gilliam made a motion to hire a police officer. Vice President Oden seconded.** City Recorder Paxton said the motion needs to be restated because they had already come to an understanding to hire the only person that was interviewed. **Councilor Davis-Gilliam restated her motion to hire Ryan Holley as our new police officer. Vice President Oden seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

Mayor Callahan said we should hold a work session to discuss his schedule and City Recorder Paxton suggested to hold an special meeting the same night, if there are any formal decisions to be made. June 30th at 6 pm will be the work session with special meeting following.

Ordinance #342.2: A second amendment to the Butte Falls Forest Commission. **Councilor Thompson made a motion to approve and adopt Ordinance #342.2 Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

New Business: Town of Butte Falls Annual Audit: **Vice President Oden made a motion to approve the audit for fiscal year 2022/2023. Councilors Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

Resolution #643: Donation to the Butte Falls Volunteer Fire and Rescue Dept. The George 'Buck' Rowden estate donated \$10,000 to the dept. **Vice President Oden made a motion to adopt Resolution #643. Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

Department Reports: BF Community Forest report is available at city hall upon request.

Mayor Callahan said it was noted that none of the planning commission members have gone to one of the forest commissions meeting to discuss their idea of the forest commissions plans for any building projects should be sent to the town planning commission first.

Planning Commission: Mayor Callahan said we have received a recommendation from the planning dept to to vacate a portion of north Cedar Ave and a portion of Bluff Street on the north side. Two letters presented last November, one from Marc and Shone Ellis for a portion of Cedar Ave and Bluff Street and a letter of intent to vacate from the all the property owners along that north section of Bluff Street that abuts their properties: Phil and Nancy Thompson, Anita Sinclair, T'Neal Myers and Jordan Davis.

She said you also received a letter from Fire Chief Jeff Gorman regarding his concerns about fire safety. At this point, Mayor Callahan asked what the council has decided on, vacate the property or not. **Vice President Oden made a motion to deny the street vacation request due to fire hazard issues Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

Chair Roger Hayden turned in his resignation from the planning commission. The council thanked him for his volunteer service.

Mayor Callahan said she received two complaint letters, one from Chris Bray and the other from Mildred Arnold, about the way the planning commission has been operating. The council discussed it further and decided to try and restructure the commission and the way it should be operated. **Councilor Thompson made a motion to temporarily close down the department, revamp it and then open it back up. Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded.** Vice President Oden suggested not dissolving the planning commission, but just ask for the resignation of the two remaining members,

Marc Ellis and Barry Gwin. If there is business to be done, then the council can handle it.

Councilor Thompson restated his motion to not close the department, but to ask for the resignation of the two members. Councilors Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried. The first motion was not passed. Vice President Oden made a motion to send termination letters to Mr. Ellis and Mr. Gwin. Councilor Davis-Gilliam seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Public Works: A copy of this report is available at city hall upon request. Mayor Callahan said she will be going to a Travel Oregon meeting this week in Talent and further explained how it will all tie in to the community forest.

She said we have been put back on the list to try for the five generators with a grant. The deadline is the end of the month.

Councilor Equitz asked Chris Bray if the sludge truck was still running and he said yes, barely. She said there is another truck we could purchase for the department. It has a vacuum on it along with a tank for sludge. It is fitted with a spreader, can clean out the lift station and has a heavy duty power washer attached. The cost is \$7,000. Mayor Callahan and Treasurer Misfeldt said they would check into the funds to see if we have the money to purchase it. **President Equitz made a motion to approve the purchase of the truck for \$7,000 for public works, if we can afford it. Vice President Oden seconded. All ayes motion carried.**

President Oden made a motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:55 pm. President Equitz seconded. All ayes motion carried.

Minutes submitted by City Recorder Lori Paxton.