

**MINUTES FROM
A MEETING OF THE HINES COMMON COUNCIL
January 12, 2021**

Present:

Mayor:

Nikki Morgan

Council:

Councilors Marsallai Quick, Robert Beers, Ron Williams, Gary Miller and Misty Shepherd were present.

City Staff:

City Administrator Letham, Chief DeLange, Chief Spence and Public Works Acting Superintendent Lewellen

Public Audience:

Amity York, Edward Horvath, Rod Klus, Ray Breshears, Eldon Hart, Sally Hart, Amie Scott, Tyson Breshears, Mark Palmer, Lola Johnson, Tom Choate, Tammie Choate, Alex Portillo and Tim Sparks.

***Mayor Nikki Morgan called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm and led the flag salute.**

Swearing in of New Council Members:

Nikki Morgan sworn in as Mayor, Robert Beers sworn in as City Council Position 1, Ronald Williams sworn in as City Council Position 2 and Amity York sworn in as City Council Position 3.

Recognition of Former Council Member Ray Breshears:

A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Ray Breshears for his many years of service to the City of Hines.

Approval of the January 12, 2021 Agenda

Councilor Beers made a motion to approve the agenda for January 12, 2021 as presented. Councilor Quick seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried.

Approval of the December 8, 2020 Meeting Minutes

Councilor Beers made a motion to approve the meeting minutes from December 8, 2020. Councilor Williams seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried.

Accounts Payable for December 22, 2020, January 6, 2021 and January 12, 2021

Councilor Beers asked for clarification on the Tim Scott reimbursement payments from the December 22, 2020 A/P run. Chief DeLange explained that it was reimbursement for police radios. *Councilor Beers made a motion to approve the A/P for December 22, 2020 in the amount of \$18,232.61, for January 6, 2021 in the amount of \$163.95, and January 12, 2021 in the amount of \$521,519.19. Councilor Williams seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried.*

Department Reports

Chief DeLange – Reported there has been 211 call since the last Council meeting. This is up a little from previous months. Majority of the calls are domestic violence and mental health issues. These calls are very time consuming. Officer Mitchell arrested 3 DUIs in 6 days. All 3 were drugs. Officer Parker completed the Oregon Child Interviewing Class. November was slow for the police department. Officer Mitchell will be attending an advanced DUI Drug class.

Chief Spence – 5 calls to 911 since last month. 1 truck fire, 1 structure fire and 2 MVCs. 1 trainee attending training. Has complete 1 of 3 sessions. Keeping up on housekeeping and maintenance.

Public Works, Acting Superintendent Lewellen – They are pumping approximately 175K - 200K gallons of water/day currently. Lagoon is handling approximately 130K gallons per day. Pumps at the lift station are clogging daily with items that should not be flushed. They removed a pine tree out in front of City Hall. There is a tree behind City Hall that will need to be removed but it will need to be removed professionally. The Mayor asked if there was something like a cage that could be installed before the pump to catch the blockage before material reaches the pump. Superintendent Lewellen said they make such things, but they are rather expensive. He said it might be something to look at when the City thinks about updating the sewer system.

City Administrator Letham – The City Christmas light contest went well. Matt and Kelsi Palmer took 1st place. Seemed to be many more participants than in previous years. The City participated in the Christmas Parade. CARES funding has been extended to June 30, 2021. This will give the City time to get the bathroom project completed as well as other projects The City has begun the transition to Caselle.

Public Comment – Non-Agenda Items Only (Speaking time limits may apply)

None.

Old Business:

Mosquito Control Proposal – Ed Horvath of Three Rivers Mosquito & Vector Control

Due to budgeting cutbacks and concerns with broadcasting pesticide sprays, the City of Hines quit aerial spraying. The concern about mosquitos has surfaced again. Several Council members have received requests from citizens to implement a mosquito control program once again. Councilor Beers and previous Council members have researched this topic. Ed Horvath from Three Rivers Mosquito & Vector Control gave a presentation to the Council explaining their processes and their proposal. The Mayor advised that previously there was concern due to respiratory issues with fogging. Mr. Horvath explained that residents can contact the company to find out the application dates so that they know to close windows, etc. There was discussion as to why bids from other companies were so much more and the explanation was that Mr. Horvath's company uses drones rather than helicopters or airplanes which cuts their expenses dramatically. Mr. Horvath presented a proposal for one year of service for \$12,000.00. Mr. Choate asked about the bid process. Mayor Morgan explained that the bid process was followed. *Councilor Williams made a motion to accept the mosquito control proposal for \$12,000.00. Councilor Quick seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried.*

Lola Johnson, Director of the Chamber of Commerce:

Shop Harney program is going great. As of Christmas there was \$23K spent locally with a local group that has put in another \$20K into the program for a total of \$43K. Councilor Quick is now a member of the Chamber Board of Directors effective January 2021. The Chamber Banquet takes place January 22nd & 23rd. Ms. Johnson announced that Superintendent Lewellen has won the Man of the Year. Mr. Lewellen will be honored on Saturday January 23rd at 1:00pm. Congratulations Jerry!!! Ms. Johnson also announced that the winner of Woman of the Year is Andrea Letham.

Deer Population – Review and Discussion

In 2015, the City became aware of problems caused by citizens who would feed and attract wild animals into residential areas, even into their yards. The City Council passed Ordinance #312 banning the practice of feeding all wild animals, including deer. In 2017, the Oregon Legislature passed SB-373. This Senate Bill required ODFW to develop and adopt a “pilot program for urban deer population control.” The cities of Burns and Hines would have been “test pilots” for this program. The draft program outlined 3 basic steps to start the program. 1) Adopt an ordinance prohibiting the feeding of deer, which the City of Hines already had in place 2) Adopt a resolution declaring the deer population had risen to levels that constitute a public nuisance; 3) The City could then petition ODFW for kill permits to reduce deer population levels within city limits. Ordinance 312 and Resolution 2252 met the first 2 requirements to initiate the program. Several Council meetings were held with strong and heated opinions on both sides of the issue. At that time, the topic was tabled and has not been discussed until now. The question remains, should the City move forward with the program developed by ODFW? Rod Klus from ODFW gave information on the numbers of deceased deer they picked up in city limits. 2016 – 71, 2017 – 59, 2018 – 38, 2019 – 37 and 2020 – 17. Administrator Letham asked Mr. Klus what would be the process for thinning the deer population if the City moved forward with the program? Mr. Klus explained that to thin the herd permits would be issued for females and only during an established season, probably concurrent with hunting season. Mr. Letham explained that if the City moved forward the ODFW would issue permits detailing the numbers that would be harvested. An authorized City employee would kill the deer with the meat donated to the food bank at City cost. Administrator Letham explained that the subject has come back in front of the Council at the request of some residents that have had pets killed by deer. Councilor Miller expressed his condolences to Mark Palmer on the death of his dog that was killed by a deer. Councilor Miller reviewed the responses from the amateur polls that were sent back during 2018/2019. At that time responses seemed to favor leaving the deer alone. He suggested that rather than an amateur survey, put it on the ballot and let the voters decide. Discussion ensued regarding the program. Question was posted to the efficacy of relocating the deer. Mr. Klus responded that it has been proven that relocation does not work. ****Councilor Miller stated that he had researched the deer issue and the City of Hines would be the first in the state to seek kill permits even though other cities have a lot of deer.*** Councilors Beers and Shepherd went on record that they agree with Councilor Miller that the decision should go before the voters. Mayor Morgan encouraged the new Council members to read the minutes of previous meetings to understand what has been discussed in the past. The Mayor mentioned that if the City chooses to do a special election there is a significant cost involved, otherwise the decision would have to wait for the next general election. *The topic has been tabled at this time and will be discussed later.* ****Minutes amended per discussion of January 26, 2021 Council meeting.***

New Business:**January 26 Meeting – Work Session**

Administrator Letham proposed that the 2nd City Council meeting of each month be designated as a work session. The difference between a regular meeting and a work session is that a work session is open to the public however it is not open to public comment, nor are any decisions made during these sessions.

Public Comment Period (Speaking time limits may apply):

Raymond Breshears – commented about the deer.

Mayor and Council Comments

Councilor York – None

Councilor Shepherd – None

Councilor Williams - None

Councilor Miller – Welcome to the new Councilors. Thanked Mr. Breshears.

Councilor Quick – Thanked Mr. Breshears for his work with the Council. Enjoyed the League of Oregon Cities (LOC) training.

Councilor Beers – Thanked Mr. Breshears for his years with the Council. Thanked the department heads for doing great jobs.

Mayor Morgan – Thanked Mr. Breshears for his work with the Council.

Next Council Meeting is scheduled for January 26, 2021 at 6:30pm.

Adjournment:

There being no further business, Councilor Williams made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Councilor Beers seconded the motion. All ayes, the motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:11pm.

Respectfully Submitted:

Kirby Letham
City Administrator

ACCEPTED AND APPROVED BY THE CITY COUNCIL ON JANUARY 26, 2021.



Nikki Morgan, Mayor