

COTTAGE GROVE CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES  
November 28, 2016

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Thomas Munroe called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

**ROLL CALL**

City Recorder Trudy Borrevik called the roll. The following were

PRESENT: Mayor Thomas Munroe, City Councilors Kenneth Michael Roberts, Jake Boone, Jeff Gowing, Garland Burbach, Amy Slay and Mike Fleck

YOUTH REPRESENTATIVE: Jennifer McReynolds

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Richard Meyers, Public Works Director Jan Wellman, Finance Director Bert Likens, Community Development Director Howard Schesser, Community Services Director Pete Barrell, City Engineer Ron Bradsby and Police Chief Scott Shepherd

CITY ATTORNEY: Lauren Sommers

OTHERS PRESENT: Sam Wright, The Sentinel; Cameron Reiten, KNND Radio

**ITEMS TO BE ADDED TO THE AGENDA**

None.

**PUBLIC COMMENT ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA**

None.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

- (a) Public Hearing to Combine the M-1 Light Industrial & M-2 Heavy Industrial Districts in to One M Industrial District. Comprehensive Plan (CPA-1-16), Development Code Text (DCTA-2-16) and Zoning Map (ZC-1-16) Amendments. City of Cottage Grove

Community Development Director, Howard Schesser, said there were three applications for the public hearing to combine the M-1 Light Industrial and M-2 Heavy Industrial into one industrial

district. He said the Planning Commission held a public hearing and it was now appropriate for the Council to hold the hearing. He said one of the three applications hadn't been advertised correctly, so he asked Council to take testimony and then continue the hearing to the December 12, 2016 Council meeting.

Mayor Munroe opened the public hearing.

No one appeared to speak.

Mayor Munroe adjourned the public hearing.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR BOONE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO CONTINUE THE PUBLIC HEARING TO DECEMBER 12, 2016 AT 7:00 PM.**

Mayor Munroe asked for clarification on the three applications.

Howard explained.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- (a) Approve Minutes of November 14, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting
- (b) Amendment to Row River Road Pedestrian Crossing Agreement With Oregon Department of Transportation

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR BOONE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA.**

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

## RESOLUTIONS AND ORDINANCES

- (a) Resolution Setting Recreational Marijuana Tax Rate and an Ordinance Amending Chapter 5.40 of the Municipal Code Regarding Intergovernmental Agreement for Collection of Marijuana Tax

Finance Director, Roberta Likens, said in May, 2016 the Council adopted a resolution to refer to the voters of Cottage Grove a 3% tax on retail sales of recreational marijuana. She said at the November 8<sup>th</sup> election, voters approved the measure and adopted Chapter 5.40 Recreational Marijuana Tax. She said pursuant to the ordinance, the Council must set the tax rate by resolution. She said a resolution setting the tax rate at 3% on the sale of recreational marijuana, marijuana products and extracts was in the Council packet.

She said the measure amending the municipal code was prepared before the City knew what the intergovernmental agreement (IGA) with the State of Oregon would include. She said the IGA was recently developed which would conflict with some of the provisions of the City Ordinance, particularly in terms of penalties and appeals.

She said the Ordinance before the City amended Chapter 5.40 and allowed the City to enter into an IGA with the State of Oregon Department of Revenue (DOR). She said the DOR would use their own rules and procedures when they collected and enforced the tax.

She said if the Ordinance was approved by Council, a Resolution would be brought before Council in December for consideration and approval of the IGA. She said it was staff's recommendation to adopt the Resolution to set the recreational marijuana tax rate at 3% and in a separate motion, the Council hold the first vote on the Ordinance amending Chapter 5.40 of the Cottage Grove Municipal Code and allow the City to enter into an IGA for the collection of recreational marijuana tax.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BURBACK THAT COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION 1917 TO SET RECREATIONAL MARIJUANA TAX AT 3%.**

Councilor Boone said what the voters approved was the setting of the tax up to 3% and he proposed setting it at 2%.

Jimmy Schapper, 31984 Nichols Lane, Cottage Grove, said Councilor Boone's suggestion might give Cottage Grove a competitive advantage that maybe it wouldn't be so insignificant.

Karen Munsell, P. O. Box 174, Cottage Grove, asked Council to consider Councilor Boone's idea of a 2% tax rate.

Katy Owens, P. O. Box 1062, Cottage Grove, thought that people who voted for the legalization of marijuana did so to get rid of the black market. She said the more recreational marijuana was taxed, the more it subsidized the black market.

Councilor Gowing said it was his understanding that the State was reducing the percentage of the tax they were currently assessing for recreational marijuana so the 3% wouldn't be noticeable.

City Manager Richard Meyers said on January 1, 2017 the tax rate for the State dropped from 25% to 17% which would make it 20% when a bulk of municipalities and counties added their 3%.

Councilor Boone said with the tax being at 25% there was a resurgence of the black market because it pushed the price up. He said the more recreational marijuana was taxed, the more the differential in price was which allowed the black market to come back.

Councilor Slay said she didn't agree with Jake at first but because citizens actually voiced their opinion, she could agree to a 2 ½% tax.

Councilor Fleck said he appreciated the comments from the audience but the voters approved 3% and he felt somewhat obligated to stick with that percentage.

Councilor Boone said the 3% wouldn't change the black market however if local shops could advertise that they weren't being taxed as heavily, the City might see more income from the tax.

Mayor Munroe thought maybe people wouldn't mind paying the 3% to have a safe product that was tested and certified.

Councilor Fleck urged the Council to be cautious by changing something that the citizens had voted on. He referred to Lane County changing things passed by the voters numerous times which affected their reputation. He said the 3% was referred to the voters and he thought if the Council changed that, they could be accused of gerrymandering.

Councilor Gowing asked if the City approved a 2% tax if the County could use the other 1% since the County passed a 3% tax as well.

Richard said no because the maximum amount allowed was 3%.

Councilor Boone said the voters voted to allow the Council to go up to 3% which wasn't the same as the voters saying it was exactly 3%. He said if they had wanted an exact 3%, they could have filed an initiative for exactly 3%.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X		X	X		X	X
NAYS		X			X		
ABSTAIN							

Mayor Munroe announced that Resolution No. 1917 had passed.

(b) An Ordinance Amending Chapter 5.40 of the Cottage Grove Municipal Code

City Manager Richard Meyers said Item 7(a) and 7(b) had been combined and this was the second motion as part of the staff report. He said the amendment allowed the City to enter into an agreement with the Department of Revenue to collect the tax for the City.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR SLAY TO ADOPT ORDINANCE NO. 3069.**

Katy Owens, P. O. Box 1062 asked what the cost difference was between the State collecting the tax or the City collecting the tax.

Richard said the State would charge up to 4% and they had everything set up, including forms and auditing procedures.

Bert said the City had budgeted \$15,000 in the current fiscal year. She said she had also heard from other finance directors that there were issues with having auditors audit with the involvement of the marijuana tax.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

**BUSINESS FROM THE CITY COUNCIL**

(a) Safe School Routes

City Engineer Ron Bradsby said in late 2015, Officer Branstetter had approached him about installing a crosswalk at 4<sup>th</sup> and Fillmore Avenue near Lincoln Middle School. He said when he looked into the situation; he noticed that there were no sidewalks on the south side of Fillmore. He said he broadened the review and noticed there were no sidewalks on other streets in the area of the school. He said since school began in the fall, he had been in contact with Emily Wren, Vice-Principal of Lincoln Middle School and Officers Nelson, Branstetter and Walker who were all concerned about the safety of the children.

He said Council discussed the matter in October, 2015 and the direction for staff was to provide a list of priority areas, as well as provide notice to property owners. He said the list was attached to his Memorandum. He said he hadn't contacted any of the property owners until he received direction from Council if they wanted to include the entire list or just sections. He asked Council if they wanted to place safe routes on both sides of the street or only on one side and if they were ready to place an order for the placement of sidewalks per the Municipal Code. He said it was

staff's recommendation for Council to provide direction on items mentioned in his Memorandum considering the scope of improvements and moving forward to ordering the construction of improvements.

Councilor Fleck asked if in his report, if missing sidewalk meant there was never one placed and the ones that said old concrete had at one time been a viable sidewalk that had deteriorated.

Ron said he was correct. He said there was a curb on the missing sidewalks but no concrete pathway. He said the ones on the eastside of South 4<sup>th</sup> still had concrete however a handicapped person in a wheelchair might have difficulty.

Councilor Fleck said he didn't have an issue with requiring a property owner to install a sidewalk if there had never been one. However he did have concerns if there had previously been a sidewalk and requiring the property to pay for that or should the City pay for the repair.

Richard said the current code required the adjacent property owner to maintain the sidewalks, so they would be responsible for repairing and maintaining the sidewalk.

Councilor Fleck asked if it would qualify for an LID.

Richard said if Council ordered sidewalks then property owners would be required to install or repair sidewalks. He said an LID would require a vote and remonstrance process. He said there was something similar to an LID in the Code. The Council would order the sidewalks and set a time limit and if a property owner refused or neglected to do so, then a lien, plus interest, was placed on the property. The property owner could then make payments or pay nothing until the property was sold or refinanced.

Bert said depending on what kind of financing the City received, the interest rate could range from 9.99% and up.

Richard said the code addressed what the City could do for interest.

Councilor Boone asked if Council placed an order for sidewalks, if the code addressed the time frame. He suggested a year to allow sidewalks to be installed.

Ron said what he remembered was the City could set the timeframe.

Richard said the Council would set the timeframe. He said something Council might want to consider when setting the timeframe, is the City might be able to get a better rate from contractors if there was a bulk number of sidewalks to do. He said if Council set a shorter timeframe to complete the project, the City would know what properties hadn't complied and they could be added to the City's list and be included in the better rate and then a lien placed on their property.

Councilor Burbach asked about areas that had trees in the right-of-way and if Ron had talked with any property owners about them having to remove the trees.

Ron said trees would have to be removed and there were several areas that had a lot of landscaping that would also have to be removed. He said there were also fences that would have to be moved. He said he hadn't talked with any of the property owners but would depending on what Council decided this evening.

Councilor Burback thought it would be a good idea to contact the property owners who had income properties to talk to them.

Ron said he just reviewed the transportation impact analysis for the new elementary school at the old high school site and there were several recommendations on Taylor Avenue between Gateway and 4<sup>th</sup> Street which included handicapped ramps and missing sidewalks.

Mayor Munroe said he was in favor of a year which allowed property owners to complete the project when the weather cooperated.

Councilor Slay said she was comfortable with a time limit but thought it should be completed by summer so it was done by the beginning of the school year. She said it was one of the situations where previous councilors hadn't addressed the issue but it needed to be done.

Councilor Gowing said he thought six months was adequate time and he wouldn't want to go out any further than that.

Emily Wren, 3877 Wilshire Lane, Eugene, Assistant Principal at Lincoln Middle School, talked about their concern regarding traffic safety around the school. She said 40% of the students walked or were dropped off at school and the parking lot was so outdated and not user friendly so parents dropped their kids off down the street. She said they didn't have enough staffing to supervise in all the areas where students were crossing streets. She said they wanted to be pro-active not reactive to something happening in the community. She said nationwide in 2015 there was a 10% increase in the number of pedestrian deaths. She said their goal was to keep the kids safe.

Karen Munsell, P. O. Box 174, Cottage Grove, said she had been a school bus driver for fifteen years and she agreed with everything that had been said about the traffic issues around the school.

Councilor Burback asked Ron if he was asking Council's opinion on all the streets at the same time or just the select group.

Ron said the City wasn't asking them to consider Taylor outside of 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup> Streets, unless they wanted to tackle that problem as well. He said he hadn't provided a detailed list but would like to address what to go forward with off the list they were provided. He said they could approve the whole list or part of the list or certain areas. He said he had emailed back and forth with Ms. Wren and the school's priority as far as Lincoln Middle School was South 4<sup>th</sup> Street, Fillmore Avenue, Triangle Park and to get students to Grant Avenue and South 6<sup>th</sup> Street and cross the street there.

Councilor Burback said he could see doing that as long as property owners were given plenty of notification. He thought staff should talk to the property owners directly to let them know what was happening.

Richard said it was part of the order process and there were requirements regarding notification.

Councilor Fleck said if a home had never put in a sidewalk, he felt they were obligated to do it. He said he was less certain about rebuilding, although he didn't want to set a precedent because there were large trees in town that damaged the sidewalks. He said he was going to support doing the entire proposed list. He said he walked the City a lot and the sidewalk system was horrible. He said there were gaps everywhere in town which created hazards. He didn't feel there should be a City wide order but targeting the students in the City and their access to schools was a key piece. He said he also supported Taylor when the City was ready to do that.

Ron said it might not be too long depending on what happened tonight. He said it would be the price of economics and might be cheaper to do it all at once.

Mayor Munroe said in this instance safety people from the junior high, the police department and city staff had agreed it was a hazardous area. He said if the plan was laid out that eventually all the sidewalks in town had to be done, the area in question was a good place to start.

Ron said in the City's Transportation Plan, under pedestrian and connectivity, it said the City needed to replace and install sidewalks in various areas of town. He said with the new Federal ADA Ordinance, the City might be required to meet ADA standards on the cross section of all the sidewalks in town.

Councilor Boone said he agreed with Councilor Fleck and wanted to require all the proposed sidewalks and would even go further to include River Road. He said ODOT prevented the City from doing some safety issues on Hwy 99 where someone died. He didn't see any reason that the City needed to wait for someone to die walking to school.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR BOONE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BURBACK THAT COUNCIL APPROVE THE ENTIRE LIST OF RESIDENCES PROVIDED BY THE CITY ENGINEER TO INSTALL SIDEWALKS AND REPAIR SIDEWALKS AND DRIVEWAYS WITHIN SIX MONTHS.**

YAC Representative, Jennifer McReynolds, said they had discussed this issue at their last meeting and they agreed with everything that had been said. She talked about students walking to school and how dangerous it was without sidewalks.

Councilor Roberts asked if property owners were required to pay for the relocation of power poles or if it was something the City paid for.

Ron said he was going to go about it as a project where the City had in its franchise agreement that the power company was responsible for relocating their facilities in the City's right-of-way. He said the City had gone around with Pacific Power and other utilities, that if there was a development, they wanted to charge their costs to that development. He said in this case there wasn't any development and with a six month window, he could contact Pacific Power and ask them to move their power poles.



Councilor Roberts asked if the ADA requirements fell on them because it was their power pole.

Ron said the City had to maintain a four foot clearance around the poles and a lot of them were two and a half feet and would be right in the middle of a sidewalk and there wasn't clearance on either side.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(b) Cottage Village Coalition - Affordable Housing

City Manager, Richard Meyers, said at the last Council meeting there was a presentation from the Cottage Village Coalition regarding a project/program to create affordable housing in Cottage Grove. He said the coalition was asking for support from the Council in two forms. One was a letter of support of the program. He said the other was the possibility of putting a dollar value on the project and having the City take in the costs of some of the development. He said it was a tough decision because Council couldn't make the decision based on a specific location. He said Cottage Grove was different than Eugene and the City's process with land use law was if there was a land use action and a development that occurred, it went to the Planning Commission and the Council, as an appellate lobby or certain conditions that had to be met in that land use decision, the Council might have to make the final decision. He said the decision needed to be made on program only, so if they made a decision; it wasn't supporting a specific development that needed to go through the process on its own merits to meet all the land use requirements and regulations. He said if there were an appeal that came to Council, they were able to handle it without any bias.

He said it was staff's recommendation for the Council to voice their support of the project. It was also staff's recommendation that they could offer up to \$15,000 in development costs with the potential that as the City got the specifics and after approvals were made, they could come for more if needed. He said it would help them secure other grants or funding and support from other organizations as well.

Councilor Gowing said he supported the program and that Sharon Jean did a great job in all the programs she worked on so he didn't doubt that this project would be the same. He said affordable housing was a hot topic at the NLC Conference, but what they were really talking about was low income housing because affordable housing based on the average medium income in Cottage Grove would be \$868.75 a month. He said there were two different things that were being looked at. He said he spent a lot of time researching and running numbers and 50% of the medium income would be \$500 per month for housing and the proposed units were lower than that. He felt the concept needed to be cleared up that it was affordable housing. He thought it was a really good

idea and would set some developments in other areas.

Councilor Burback said he had read about Springfield and St. Vincent DePaul working together on affordable housing and St. Vincent receiving a federal grant. He asked if the local group had looked into a partnership with St. Vincent.

Richard said they hadn't worked with St. Vincent DePaul on the project. He said St. Vincent had projects already in Cottage Grove. He said the local group was working with Square One Villages out of Eugene and modeling the project after one of theirs. He said the proposed project targeted lower income tenants than St. Vincent did.

Councilor Slay said she supported the idea of the program and felt it was necessary; however there were too many loose ends to support it. She said she knew there was a need, but there were just too many unknowns for her.

Councilor Boone confirmed that what Council was being asked was to approve the City paying some of the fees, assuming the project made it through the whole process; and that the loose ends would be tied up before any money would be paid by the City towards the project. He assumed the reason the request was coming now instead of after the planning process was to help make sure that other grants could be obtained and they could show the City's support for the project.

Richard said the Cottage Village Coalition needed the City's support to get grants and funding to do the plans and design.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR BOONE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BURBACK THAT COUNCIL EXPRESS SUPPORT TO THE EFFORTS OF THE COTTAGE VILLAGE COALITION TO PROVIDE AN AFFORDABLE HOUSING DEVELOPMENT WITHIN THE COMMUNITY AND AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO PREPARE AN AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE CITY AND COTTAGE VILLAGE COALITION TO COVER THE COSTS OF UP TO \$15,000 OF DEVELOPMENT FEES. THE CITY COUNCIL'S SUPPORT DOES NOT PROVIDE ANY FAVORITISM OR SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS THROUGH THE LAND USE PROCESS. WHEN THE COALITION'S LAND USE OR BUILDING APPLICATIONS FOR THE PROJECT ARE SUBMITTED, THEY WILL BE CONSIDERED ON THEIR MERITS PURSUANT TO APPLICABLE CODE CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES.**

Councilor Fleck said his agencies board of directors had voted to support the project and had submitted a letter in support. He said he did see a huge need for the project as well as others. He said he would like to see housing developed in all income levels. He said it was brought to his attention that Habitat for Humanity also built houses regularly in the community and there was some question about whether the City might do some small offering for their projects. He felt they were also doing great work in the community.

Richard said it had been done in the past and they could come before Council to make a request.

Mayor Munroe emphasized the need to get the word out to the public about what was going on and

what they were trying to accomplish so they would understand.

Councilor Slay said she was hearing that the project wasn't welcome and that perception needed to be worked on.

Councilor Gowing said he hoped that if Sharon Jean was involved in the project that she would help curtail those issues. He commented about Habitat for Humanity and said if Council set a precedent to help one housing project with costs that they needed to do it for all community housing projects like this.

Sharon Jean, 33914 Row River Road, Cottage Grove, commented about people not knowing what was going on with the project. She agreed that it was a leap of faith and trust for the Council but said the project would be completed and affordable and would be pleasant to look at and everyone would be proud. She said once they secured the property, things would start happening.

Jimmy Schapper, 31984 Nichols Lane, Cottage Grove, said he was representing the Cottage Grove Habitat for Humanity and they were in support of the Cottage Village Coalition's efforts and shared some of the same problems. He said they did plan on initiating the construction of two new houses next spring. He said their program was different in that they were making home ownership possible. He talked about housing issues and how it affected communities and said it was in the community's best interest to support programs that addressed housing issues.

Karen Munsell, P. O. Box 174, Cottage Grove, said she was in support of the project and that Sharon Jean wouldn't take on something that wouldn't be successful. She talked about housing situations in Cottage Grove that she was are of and encouraged everyone to support the project to help those in the community.

Lise Colgan, 79093 Highway 99, Cottage Grove, suggested that everyone take a different look at the situation and instead of thinking of it as lifting people up, think of it as catching people who were falling. She referred to senior citizens who had an income but it wasn't enough and they were getting priced out of affordable housing. She encouraged Council that as they thought about the development, to broaden their vision and think of the people who were at risk of losing what they had and had nowhere to go without projects such as the one proposed.

Emily Sessems, 80450 Hazelton Road, Cottage Grove, said she had a background in international human rights and was in support of the project. She said Emerald Village in Eugene was getting a lot of news coverage and was bringing the community together. She thought it was a way to demonstrate where values lie for the citizens.

Brad Tschirgi, 80574 Hazelton Road, Cottage Grove, said he had been homeless in the past. He said a survey from 2013 said for every 100 households that were low income; there were only about 30 affordable apartments nationwide. He said as a builder, he was very excited and ready to throw his support behind and hammer behind the project.

Mark Wisebrode, 628 Birch Avenue, Cottage Grove, said he was extremely low income and was excited about the project and getting involved and contributing his skills.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X		X	X
NAYS					X		
ABSTAIN							

(c) Planning Commission Appointments

Community Development Director, Howard Schesser, said a sub-committee consisting of Councilors Roberts, Boone and Slay interviewed applicants for two positions on the Planning Commission. He said it was the sub-committee’s recommendation to appoint Darby Valley and Krista Farris be appointed to the Planning Commission with terms to expire December 31, 2019.

Councilor Boone said the other applicants, Jim Tidrick and Keith Folkman, should be considered for a vacancy on the Planning Commission that will be available when Bob Ehler resigns at the end of the year.

Councilor Roberts said applications for Bob Ehler’s position would be accepted until 5:00 pm on November 30, 2016.

Councilor Fleck said he supported the recommendation and that he had served with Keith Folkman on numerous committees and he hoped he would stay in the loop.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR BOONE AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR FLECK THAT DARBY VALLEY AND KRISTA FARRIS BE APPOINTED TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION FOR THREE YEAR TERMS TO EXPIRE DECEMBER 31, 2019.**

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

Howard said he would use the same Council sub-committee to interview for the next position if that was acceptable to the Mayor.

Mayor Munroe said that was acceptable.

(d) City Manager Annual Performance Review and Employment Agreement

City Manager, Richard Meyers, said the Council met in Executive Session prior to the meeting and did a performance evaluation of the City Manager He said it was now appropriate for Council to provide a summary and take any action as a result of the evaluation.

Councilor Fleck said he had the pleasure of serving with Richard for many years and there were few people with as much integrity, hard work and backbone as him. He said he was very pleased with Richard, that he an exceptional job and prepared one of the easiest budgets to read.

**IT WAS MOVED BY COUNCILOR FLECK AND SECONDED BY COUNCILOR BOONE THAT COUNCIL GIVE THE CITY MANAGER A TWO PERCENT COST OF LIVING INCREASE PLUS A TWO PERCENT INSURANCE CHANGE.**

City Attorney, Lauren Sommers, suggested the motion include authorizing the Mayor to sign an amendment to the existing contract with the proposed changes.

**COUNCILOR FLECK AMENDED HIS MOTION AND COUNCILOR BOONE APPROVED THAT THE MAYOR BE AUTHORIZED TO WORK WITH THE CITY ATTORNEY ON PREPARING AN AMENDMENT TO THE TO THE EXISTING CONTRACT TO INCLUDE A TWO PERCENT COST OF LIVING INCREASE AND A TWO PERCENT INSURANCE CHANGE INCREASE AND HAVE THE MAYOR SIGN THE SAME.**

Councilor Gowing said it was a pleasure to work with Richard and he admired him and he couldn't do his job.

Mayor Munroe said he had worked with a lot of people in his life and he hadn't met a more gentlemanly gentlemen in his life. He said he was a credit to the City and a good family man.

Councilor Boone said Richard took a lot of heat and if you listened to rumors that he was someone working behind the scenes to control all of Cottage Grove, it just wasn't so. He said he couldn't say enough good things about him.

Councilor Slay said she agreed with what the others had said about Richard.

Councilor Roberts thanked Richard for the education he had provided and he was one of the reasons he wanted to get involved in City government and looked forward to working with him.

The vote on the motion was as follows:

VOTE	Councilor Roberts	Councilor Boone	Councilor Gowing	Councilor Burback	Councilor Slay	Councilor Fleck	Mayor Munroe
AYES	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
NAYS							
ABSTAIN							

(e) Concerns from Council

Councilor Slay said last Saturday they had a send-off for the Cottage Grove High School Football team going to the State playoffs and she had heard some grumbling about it being a poor use of City resources. She said she appreciated the Police Department and Fire Department and for the few minutes it took them for the send-off was well invested.

Councilor Burbach said he had received complaints about parking along the City streets in Ward 3 and asked if there was a way to allow parking on only one side of the street.

Richard commented and discussion was held on the matter.

Councilor Gowing provided an update of his recent trip to the National League of Cities Conference in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania.

Mayor Munroe also commented on the NLC Conference.

Councilor Fleck said during the campaign he talked a lot about SDC and permit fees. He said he had talked with Travis Palmer from the Chamber and was going to join a sub-committee of the Chamber to look at the City's planning process. He said it was the infant stages but he wanted to look at the process, fees, current housing pricing and lending options and why the housing situation was bad. He wanted to come up with a collaborative process between City staff, local builders and realtors and see what could be done to increase the business environment in Cottage Grove. He said it was his hope that the group would bring a recommendation to Council.

Councilor Roberts asked if there was anything Council could do to congratulate the football team for their great season.

Mayor Munroe said a proclamation could be prepared and presented to the team at the next Council meeting.

Councilor Roberts also reminded everyone that Mayor-Elect, Jeff Gowing, would be spinning around a pole tomorrow at 6:00 pm to raise money for the Family Relief Nursery on Giving Tuesday.

Councilor Gowing said when he was campaigning, he promised that if he were elected he would take a pole dancing class at CG Body Studio.

### **BUSINESS FROM CITY MANAGER**

(a) Report from City Manager

City Manager, Richard Meyers, said in the LOC Bulletin there was an article about the Supreme Court reversing the Handy vs. Lane County decision in part.

Richard said a Judge in Texas last week put an injunction on the new rules that the Department of

Labor was putting into effect for overtime. He said the City Attorney's office was looking to see what it might mean to the City.

Richard said on Saturday at 3pm there would be the "Turkey Drop" off the roof of the Odd Fellows Lodge. He said 50 stuffed animal turkeys would be thrown off the roof to pre-selected people on the street who would have a chance to win a prize.

Richard said also on Saturday there would be the tree lighting ceremony at All-America Square and pictures with Santa at City Hall from 5:30 to 8:00 pm. He said the YAC would also be caroling around downtown.

Richard reminded Council of the dinner on the 15<sup>th</sup> at Middlefield Golf Course.

Richard said the last nineteen years working for the City had been spectacular and he couldn't ask for anything better and said he loved working for the City. He said a lot of things had been accomplished in the nineteen years was amazing and Council laid the groundwork for more amazing things tonight. He said it was exciting to be a part of it and the community. He thanked the Council.

#### **BUSINESS FROM CITY ATTORNEY**

(a) Report from the City Attorney

None.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business, Mayor Munroe adjourned the regular meeting of the City Council at 8:51p.m.

The next regular City Council Meeting will be held December 12, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Trudy Borrevik, City Recorder

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Jeffrey D. Gowing, Mayor



# Community Sharing Program

P.O. Box 351 • Cottage Grove, OR 97424 • Ph: 541-942-2176 • Fax: 541-767-0373

November 23, 2016

Cottage Grove City Council Members  
400 Main Street  
Cottage Grove, OR 97424

Dear Mayor and Council Members –

On behalf of the Board and staff at Community Sharing Program, we encourage you to support the proposed “tiny homes” project from the Cottage Village Coalition.

Community Sharing Program provides rent assistance programs and emergency housing funds to low-income residents of South Lane County. We see the effects daily of poor economic conditions in our area as families struggle to maintain housing. Each month, our housing assistance program receives ten times the number of requests we are able to serve. In addition to families struggling to pay their rent, they may also be unable to find available housing.

Maintaining or obtaining housing is one of two Priority Area Outcomes established by the Lane County Human Services Commission. Homelessness is a terrible experience for families, it creates barriers to success that are extremely difficult to overcome and expensive to the community as a whole. By providing affordable housing in our community, we can keep more families in their own homes rather than have them live in a car or move from couch to couch.

We urge you to vote to support well-constructed, well-managed affordable housing in Cottage Grove – a step towards a livable community for all.

Sincerely,

Sean Kelly

Board President

Sincerely,

Mike Fleck

Executive Director