

**TOLEDO CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING**

July 15, 2020

6:00 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Rod Cross called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Present	Absent	
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Mayor Rod Cross</u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Council President Joshua Smith</u>
<u> </u>	<u>X</u>	<u>Councilor Jackie Kauffman</u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Councilor Heather Jukich</u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Councilor Bill Dalbey</u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Councilor Stu Strom</u>
<u>X</u>	<u> </u>	<u>Councilor Betty Kamikawa</u>

Staff present: City Manager (CM) Judy Richter, City Recorder (CR) Lisa Figueroa, Police Chief (PC) Michael Pace, Public Works Director (PWD) Bill Zuspan, Fire Chief (FC) Larry Robeson, City Attorney (CA) David Robinson, Library Director (LD) Deborah Trusty, Co-Fire Chief (FC) Dave Inman

Visitors present: Nancy Bryant, Craig Lash, Todd Michels

2. VISITORS/PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no comments.

3. CONSENT AGENDA

Minutes from the Work Session held August 28, 2019 and the Minutes from the Regular Meetings held February 19, 2020 and March 18, 2020.

Motion – It was moved and seconded (Strom/Smith) to approve the Consent Agenda as presented and the motion carried five to one with Councilor Jukich opposed.

4. DISCUSSION & DECISION ITEMS

Authorize the expenditure of up to \$40,000 for Heat/AC units to replace work and inefficient electric units at the City Library

PWD Zuspan provided the Council report. He said Northwest Natural Gas has agreed to install a service line from the street to the building with a \$5,000 savings and said there will be an air purification system. The Council questioned if the purification system would damage the books. LD Trusty indicated the system is safe for books. PWD Zuspan indicated staff received two other bids, which did not want to consider natural gas and this bid was the only one to address natural gas. He said switching to natural gas could save approximately 30% a month on the utility bill. The Council inquired if there was a Request for Proposal (RFP). CM Richter noted the dollar amount did not warrant an RFP. Several Council members expressed concern that two of the bids

did not address natural gas and asked staff to contact the other companies asking them to submit a quote based on natural gas. CM Richter noted the other companies may base their bids on the quote included in the packet. Following discussion, the item was tabled until the next meeting.

Discussion regarding framework for Wholesale Utility Rate Agreement

Mayor Cross commented how the Council negotiates an agreement is a reflection on the City and asked the Council to negotiate an agreement in good faith. The Council discussed options and CA Robinson shared information of Seal Rock Water District's (SRWD) 2018 rates they charge their customers. CM Richter said the City is currently charging \$4.75 per 1,000 gallons and the City does not have a graduated rate. She said there is a service charge and a facility charge, which is dependent on the meter [most have 5/8" meter] for \$30.36 kind of a base rate. She said there are rates for customers not within City limits. CM Richter commented on the fact that their current rate is \$3.67, which is based on last year's cost and the 7.5% increase SRWD proposed will bring the rate to the City's current costs. She said the future rate should include another 7.5%. She said SRWD does not pay facility or service charges at this time. She said at the rate they are proposing for a 6" meter inside the City, it would be \$2,340.57 per month or \$20,000 a year. There was discussion about the miscalculated rate in 2018-2019. Mayor Cross suggested the City begin negotiating with the \$4.75 [inside residential rate] rate and possibly include in the agreement the rate increases when the residential rate increases. The Council discussed whether SRWD should pay a percentage for system improvements and CP Smith suggested the City charge SRWD a higher rate instead of negotiating for system improvements and/or minimum gallon usage. There was discussion in regards to terms for providing surplus water in the event of an emergency, which would need to include the City of Newport and other entities. Councilor Strom commented in regards to the communication process and recommended that SRWD should communicate by phone to the Mayor, City Manager and the Public Works Director. CP Smith recalled a carrier fee was suggested [in a previous discussion] so when SRWD supplies water to other entities in an emergency, the City collects a small fee as well.

Mayor Cross suggested the City consider including an emergency supply agreement for all entities, which would require them to notify the City before it is supplied through SRWD. The Council discussed how long the agreement should be in effect. After further discussion, the Council directed staff to prepare information such as a comparison of residential, commercial and industrial rates; SRWD usage; planned capital improvements for the next year, etc. for their review at the next meeting. There was consensus from the Council to recuperate if not all, at least a portion of the lost revenue from the previous year.

Discussion regarding scope of Planning Commission

Mayor Cross indicated he requested this item be included on the Agenda and indicated the Council can direct the Planning Commission to review certain sections of the Comprehensive Plan. He provided an example, such as evaluate the buildable lands inventory to identify where the City can identify areas to build multi-family housing or cottage type housing. He said the City should have an updated list of buildable land. The Council reviewed the Commission's duties.

Planning Commission Chair Michels provided a report on tasks the Commission has completed or is in process of addressing.

5. REPORTS AND COMMENTS

FC Robeson indicated there is a recruitment for two positions within the Department currently.

LD Trusty said the Library District is preparing to develop a Strategic Plan and will be seeking information from cities on what they would like to see from the District.

PC Pace indicated the Department was contacted in regards to a possible [peaceful] protest in front of a local business. He said he does not anticipate it will cause any disturbances, but is planning accordingly.

PW Zuspan reported the street sweeper arrived this week and a bid request has been posted for the Spruce Street water main replacement. He said the deadline is July 30. CP Smith noted he received a comment in regards to citizens seeing staff out cutting trees without proper safety equipment. PWD Zuspan said he would look into that.

CA Robinson indicated he attended a BOLI webinar that day to clarify mask wearing requirements. He noted Oregon OSHA will only investigate complaints related to workplace safety and will forward any complaints regarding masks to the proper agencies such as the Oregon Liquor Control Commission.

Councilor Dalbey commented on recent issues within the community and proposed a document for the Council to adopt stating their stance on racism, discrimination and social injustice. The Council suggested minor amendments to the proposed document and directed staff to bring it back as a proclamation.

Mayor Cross updated the Council that he and CM Richter have been working with Sequoia Consulting on a National Endowment for the Arts Grant. He said he is still working with the Siletz Tribe in regards to a biosolids incinerator plant in Toledo, which has been put on hold due to the pandemic. He announced he will re-file to run for Mayor in the General Election.

6. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.

ATTEST:

APPROVE:

/s/City Recorder Lisa Figueroa

/s/Mayor Rod Cross