

**City of Hood River  
City Council Work Session  
July 27, 2020**

Council: Mayor Kate McBride, Mark Zannmiller, Megan Saunders, Tim Counihan, Jessica Metta, Erick Haynie, Gladys Rivera

Staff: City Manager Rachael Fuller, City Attorney Dan Kearns, Finance Director/ACM Will Norris, Planning Director Dustin Nilsen, Fire Chief Leonard Damian, Police Chief Neal Holste, Interim Public Works Director Wade Seaborn, City Recorder Jennifer Gray, GIS Analyst Jonathan Skloven-Gill, Planner Jennifer Kaden, Project Manager Rich Rice

**I CALL TO ORDER – 6:00 p.m.**

**II BUSINESS FROM THE AUDIENCE**

**WORK SESSION**

**III OPEN WORK SESSION – 6:01 p.m.**

**IV AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS**

**V DISCUSSION ITEMS**

1. Council Pledge – Use of Force Policies, Council Subcommittee, N. Holste

On June 22, 2020, the Hood River City Council approved the Mayor's pledge, which was changed to Council Pledge. This is a national call for mayors and city council members to address police use of force policies. The pledge includes:

- 1) Review police use of force policies
- 2) Engage community by including a diverse range of input, experiences, and stories in the review.
- 3) Report the findings of the review to the community and seek feedback.
- 4) Reform police use of force policies, as needed.

A sub-committee was formed to review all Hood River Police Department use of force policies. An independent review of the use of force policies was completed by CIS, the entity who insures the City of Hood River.

Lieutenant Cheli presented a PowerPoint presentation. The PowerPoint has been added to the record. The results of the policy review were shared as well as department use of force statistics and community outreach opportunities.

Councilor Zanmiller thanked Cheli for his presentation. He knows it might be uncomfortable to do this type of review but it feels good to him ,that it was done. He appreciates the department for taking this seriously. He asked what the approval process is for the policy updates. Cheli explained the changes have been made and they have been communicated with the officers and the Officers Association. Councilor Zanmiller asked if the detailed information presented today can be put in a simpler digestible format. Cheli explained the policy manual was revised and cut in half when Chief Holste took over the department. There were policies for everything. There is a lot of paperwork, but the officers also rely on common sense and training to do the right thing. The department does a monthly policy training; they take one policy once a month and the training coordinator does a review and they are tested.

Councilor Rivera stated one of the PowerPoint slides showing the Police department doing outreach to the Hispanic community. She asked what the plan is to engage with the Native Americans and low-income white people in the community. She would then add to the outreach.

Mayor McBride stated this evening Council needs to determine if they agree with the proposed changes by the subcommittee. The additional trainings for the police department and other City staff has been discussed. It would be up to Council on how much more training they want. The additional trainings can be discussed at a later time.

Councilor Saunders asked if the language under Policy 300.2.1 DUTY TO INTERCEDE could be modified "any officer present and observing another officer using force that is clearly beyond that which is objectively reasonable under the circumstances." She would like "clearly" could be removed. She also had the understanding they would work with The Next Door on feedback on changes to policies. She asked how that was going to be done.

Mayor McBride stated that is something the Police Department would work on with The Next Door.

Fuller spoke about next steps. Staff will make sure this information is communicated broadly to the community. The Police Department will work with the communication staff to get the information out and to accept feedback. If Council is interested in doing broader outreach, staff has some ideas and they can brainstorm other ideas. It is important and would be helpful to understand what Council wants. Staff is still looking for some additional information and direction from Council, on what they want to see as next steps.

Councilor Saunders asked with the outreach that is planned with getting this information out depending on the feedback from the community, would Council go back and potentially make other changes.

Fuller stated that is a good question. That is the root of all of this. The purpose is to understand community problems, building relationships and building trust. If they hear there are issues, it would be incumbent upon the Police Department to address them.

Mayor McBride stated this is the first step in getting feedback. Let us start with the communication and see what the feedback is to determine where they need to go.

Councilor Rivera stated Council is in the discussion of building a larger Police Department

facility and what that could mean. She thinks it's important for them to hear what Cheli is telling them about mental health service in the community. How can the City can contract more with community partners to provide our own inhouse specialist that work at the Police Department, as opposed to having a contract with other providers to provide those services. She believes follow up will need to happen annually, to the work that has been done based on what their constituents tell them. That will be the driver on how much more is done moving forward. It is based on the feedback from the community.

There was a consensus among Council to approve the subcommittee recommendations and the one changed suggested by Councilor Saunders under 300.2.1 Duty to Intercede.

## 2. City of Hood River – COVID-19 Response, R. Fuller

The purpose of this item is to communicate the City's emergency declaration and current actions related to the COVID-19 crisis and to answer questions from Council about the City's response to the public health crisis. To maintain readiness and resiliency during the public health crisis, the City of Hood River is operating under a local State of Emergency following provisions of HRMC 2.48.

Since declaring an emergency on March 17, 2015, the following actions remain in place:

- All utilities have been continued regardless of a customer's ability to pay. Anyone unable to make a payment may defer payment through the end of the state of emergency, plus 60 days, with no penalty or interest charges.
- Highly visited parks are closed and posted.
- City buildings are open to the public with limited services.
- The City is collaborating with local agencies to communicate public health and other relevant local information.
- All City services have been maintained or modified to comply with physical distance guidelines.
- Food trucks are permitted to remain in place longer than 180 days.
- Non-essential meetings are suspended.

Fuller stated staff had committed to checking in with Council and thought this was a good opportunity to do that. If the emergency declaration is extended into September, staff will present another opportunity to touch base with Council.

Councilor Saunders asked in regard to transient merchants, would they have to be removed once the emergency declaration ends, or is there some type of pathway for them.

Fuller stated she would be open to ideas. She can't imagine making them move immediately. The transient permit holders are all aware of what is going on. If Council wanted to consider similar language that is used for utility payments with a 60-day extension, that is an option. Councilor Saunders stated having something in writing might be helpful, so they have clarity and security. Council agreed.

## 3. League of Oregon Cities Legislative Priorities, R. Fuller

The purpose of this item is to identify the Hood River City Council's collective input on the legislative priorities developed by the League of Oregon Cities. Each city is asked to rank four priorities and submit them to the League of Oregon Cities by August 7, 2020.

In advance of every legislative session, policy committees supported by the League of Oregon Cities develop policy issues for consideration by local governments. Each city is asked to review the recommendations of the policy committees and provide input to the League of Oregon Cities Board of Directors as it prepares to adopt the 2021 Legislative Agenda.

Council discussed and selected their top four priorities. See below.

- D. COVID-10 Economic Recovery Investments
- H. Housing and Services Investment
- O. Low-Income Energy Efficiency and Affordability Programs
- Q. Mental Health Services Delivery

## **VIII ADJOURN WORK SESSION – 7:33 p.m.**

### **REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING**

#### **I OPEN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING – 7:33p.m.**

#### **II AGENDA ADDITIONS OR CORRECTIONS**

#### **III CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Council Meeting Minutes – July 13, 2020
2. Columbia Land Trust Mt. Vistas Phase 3, Tract 2 Easement, R. Rice

**Motion:** To approve the Consent Agenda  
**First:** Saunders  
**Second:** Counihan  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed (roll called)  
Ayes: McBride, Zanmiller, Saunders, Counihan, Metta, Haynie, Rivera  
Nays: None  
Abstentions: None  
Excused: None

#### **IV REGULAR BUSINESS ITEMS**

1. Hood River Garbage Rate Review, Jim Winterbottom

Winterbottom stated Hood River Garbage presents an annual rate review for trash and recycling services. The presentation to Council by Hood River Garbage was delayed by several months due to COVID-19 and circumstances. He was asked to present later for a possible implementation of a September rate increase.

The proposal before Council is based on a CIP of 2.53%. They are asking for 85% of that to be an increase of 2.15%. That is what the Wasco County landfill was approved for January 1, 2020. Some of the other things that are impacted by the increase ask; health care costs, environmental compliance, equipment, containers and maintenance. Dirt Huger is increasing tip fee for organics and yard debris by 3%, effective August 1, 2020. Winterbottom explained a standard residential customer bill is currently \$26.13/month, with this proposed increase would increase it to \$26.70/month. A commercial customer that has a dumpster currently pays \$130.01/month, they would see a increase to \$132.86/month.

**Motion:** I move to approve the rate increase as presented.  
**First:** Saunders  
**Second:** Zanmiller  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed (roll called)  
 Ayes: McBride, Zanmiller, Saunders, Counihan, Metta, Haynie, Rivera  
 Nays: None  
 Abstentions: None  
 Excused: None

## 2. IGA with ODOT Regarding Jurisdictional Transfer, W. Seaborn

The purpose of this item is to request City Council approval of an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Hood River and the Oregon Department of Transportation (ODOT) to transfer ownership of Oak Street between State St and 13th to the City of Hood River. Hwy 30 is a historic remnant of the state highway system as it existed before I-84. Despite being within Hood River's historic downtown, this section of highway is still operated, maintained, and controlled by ODOT. The City and ODOT have a collaborative and positive relationship and frequently work together on projects. However, due to various rules and regulations imposed by ODOT, the City Council requested that staff look at options for the City to assume ownership of the highway. It is not uncommon for Cities to assume operational control of these historic highway segments to gain more control over these sections.

The intergovernmental agreement establishes the framework for a future agreement between the City and ODOT, which will take time to develop. Key points for the City Council to consider:

- **Liability.** Assuming ownership of any property is not without risks. Through this agreement, the City assumes liability associated with the roadway. The agreement outlines the terms under which ODOT will bring the roadway to current standards.
  - **Cost.** The City and ODOT have agreed that ODOT will bring all ADA ramps within the section to current ODOT standards. In addition, ODOT will upgrade the pavement between 5th and 13th or provide funds to the City to do so, if mutually agreed. The City will assume the repair liability for pavement for the entire section upon completion of this project. Pavement typically has a useful life of 20-30 years. The City and ODOT have agreed to share the cost of signal operations. The City's share of the cost is \$1,250 per year.
  - **Operations.** The City does not operate or maintain signals. The City and ODOT have agreed that ODOT will continue to operate the signal per the terms above. At the request of the City, ODOT will assist with snow removal.
- Other important points are outlined in the agreement and include the requirement to confer with the Historic Columbia River Highway Advisory Committee. The City is also required to maintain certain freight levels in collaboration with ODOT.

Staff recommends that Council authorize the Mayor to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT for transfer of Oak Street between Front St. and 13th to the City of Hood River.

There was discussion and support among Council to starting the conversation of the City acquiring ownership of 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor McBride stated this will take time, staff would

need to meet with ODOT regarding the state of the roads. The City would need to make sure they would be getting the needed support by ODOT. It is a larger project than Oak Street. If Council wants to continue discussing 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup>, they need to give staff that direction.

Seaborn noted the draft version of the agreement was included in the packet. There have been modifications that have been made.

**Motion:** I move to authorize the Mayor to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement with ODOT that is substantially similar to the draft version attached to transfer of Oak Street between Front St. and 13th to the City of Hood River.  
**First:** Metta  
**Second:** Rivera  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed (roll called)  
Ayes: McBride, Zannmiller, Saunders, Counihan, Metta, Haynie, Rivera  
Nays: None  
Abstentions: None  
Excused: None

## **V REPORT OF OFFICERS**

- A. Department Heads
  - 1. Announcements
  - 2. Planning Director Update

## **VI REPORT OF COMMITTEES**

- 1. Visitor Advisory Committee – Metta and Saunders

## **VII MAYOR**

Mayor McBride stated there has been a perception that Councilor Rivera is not being supported by Council. She wanted to state that she supports Councilor Rivera and she is an important part of Council. She explained Council members do have conversations of support with one another that happen away from meetings, that have nothing to do with Council business.

Mayor McBride added she is trying to make the zoom Council meetings as close to a real meeting as possible but it's not 100% successful. She calls on Council members the best she can during discussions. She also wanted to make clear the chat feature is not turned on during Council meetings. Councilor cannot chat individually with one another during meetings or with anyone else. She expects that all Council members are paying attention, as they did in normal on-site meeting. Council members are not texting people, checking emails or looking at their phones during the meeting. She trusts that Councilors are doing everything they would as if they were in a in person meetings. She has had people from the public tell her they do not think that is happening.

## **VIII COUNCIL CALL**

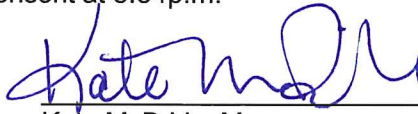
- 1. Resolution of Equity and Social Inclusion

Resolution for Racial and Social Equity submitted by the subcommittee for consideration to the Council, as discussed at the June 22 and July 13 Council meeting.

Councilor Saunders stated the subcommittee incorporated all the changes they received at the last week. They did some work to tighten up the language, while keeping the same thought and direction. There should not be any substantial changes beyond what Council discussed.

**Motion:** I move to approve the Resolutions 2002-13 for Racial and Social Equity within the City of Hood River, submitted by the subcommittee.  
**First:** Rivera  
**Second:** Saunders  
**Discussion:** None  
**Vote:** Motion passed (roll called)  
Ayes: McBride, Zanmiller, Saunders, Counihan, Metta, Haynie, Rivera  
Nays: None  
Abstentions: None  
Excused: None

**IX ADJOURN** – Adjourned by unanimous consent at 8:34p.m.

  
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Kate McBride, Mayor  
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Jennifer Gray, City Recorder

Approved by City Council on Aug. 10, 2020