ONTARIO CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
May 20, 2013

The regular meeting of the Ontario City Council was called to order by Council President Dan Jones at 7:00 p.m. on Monday, May 20, 2013, in the Council Chambers of City Hall. Council members present were Norm Crume, Jackson Fox, Charlotte Fugate, Dan Jones, Larry Tuttle, and Ron Verini.

Members of staff present were Jay Henry, Suzanne Skerjanec, Larry Sullivan, Mark Alexander, Mike Long, and Bob Walker. The meeting was recorded, and copies are available at City Hall.

Charlotte Fugate led everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA

Ron Verini moved, seconded by Larry Tuttle, to adopt the Agenda as presented. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

CONSENT AGENDA

Norm Crume moved, seconded by Charlotte Fugate, to approve Consent Agenda Item A: Minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 6, 2013; Item B: Bid Award: HVAC (Grant Mechanical); Item C: Bid Award: Janitorial Services (Varsity Facility Services); Item D: Resolution #2013-118: Oregon Savings Growth Plan as a Deferred Plan Option; Item E: Proclamation: Older Americans Month – May 2013; and Item F: Approval of the Bills. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

Councilor Jones read the Proclamation into the record:

Older Americans Month 2013
"Unleash the Power of Age"

WHEREAS, *the City of Ontario includes 2,363 people ages 60 and above; and*

WHEREAS, *Ontario is committed to valuing all individuals and recognizing their ongoing life achievements; and*

WHEREAS, *the older adults in Ontario play an important role by continuing to contribute experience, knowledge, wisdom, and accomplishments; and*

WHEREAS, *our older adults are active community members involved in volunteering, mentorship, arts and culture, and civic engagement; and*

WHEREAS, *recognizing the successes of community elders encourages their ongoing participation and further accomplishments; and*

WHEREAS, *our community can provide opportunities to allow older citizens to continue to flourish by:*

- *Emphasizing the importance of elders and their leadership by publicly recognizing their continued achievements –*
- *Presenting opportunities for older Americans to share their wisdom, experience, and skills –*
- *Recognizing older adults as a valuable asset in strengthening American communities.*

NOW, THEREFORE, the City Council of Ontario, Oregon, *does hereby declare May, 2013 as Older Americans Month. We support them as powerful and vital citizens who greatly contribute to the community.*

PUBLIC COMMENT

[Copied verbatim from hand-out]
Ruth Rolland, Ontario, stated *"I've lived here in Ontario since 1982. I've worked in Ontario for longer than that. Ontario has a wonderful community of business owners and professionals, but most of Ontario's residents are working people. They want to do their jobs, and they want to do them well. I am one of them from the day I was born. My parents were working people before me. So as one of the people who are in their element when they are out on the work floor, or out in the field rows, I stand here to speak on behalf of all the working people of the City of Ontario. They are the bedrock of this community – of every community – anywhere! They are just as human as everybody else here in these City Chambers and throughout the City. I do not speak to diminish enterprising business owners and white collar professionals in any way. They are all hardworking. The point is that we all need one another! We truly are a community. We all share the same proud, far-reaching history. And we all share a future that should embrace every one of us. I especially speak this evening with a focus on the City's Public Works employees, who have seen the City's leadership take actions that harmed each one of them, and the Council has never looked them in the eye about it. The City Council says they had the legal ability do this. But this is my question…Why do you want to treat the employees the way you've treated them? These city employees are working people with cherished families who come first in their lives, and because of families, they have tolerated the city's leaders' callous misuse of the power of their positions. What the City's Public Works employees deserve is what every citizen of this community deserves and wants – a fair, respectful relationship with their employer and fellow citizens – to be recognized and treated as full, equally respected human beings, with a working relationship that demonstrates it. The City unilaterally implemented a so-called labor contract on these City Public Works employees. That's why there were people outside City Hall, carrying signs again this evening. We are looking for the City's return to fairness."*

OLD BUSINESS

Ordinance #2678-2013: Amending OMC 8-7-4 re Installation of Sewer Back Check Devices (Backwater Valves) Final Reading
Jackson Fox moved, seconded by Norm Crume, that the City Council adopt **Ordinance 2678-2013, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING CITY CODE SECTION 8-7-4 REGARDING INSTALLATION OF SEWER BACK CHECK DEVICES (BACKWATER VALVES),** on Second and Final Reading by Title Only. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-Yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

Ordinance #2679-2013: Amending OMC 8-1-1 re Specifications Adopted (Final Reading)
Charlotte Fugate moved, seconded by Jackson Fox, that the City Council adopt **Ordinance 2679-2013, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 8, CHAPTER 1, SECTION 1, OF THE ONTARIO MUNICIPAL CODE - SPECIFICATIONS ADOPTED,** on Second and Final Reading by Title Only. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-Yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

Update on Mayor Vacancy
Jay Henry, City Manager, stated they had received only one letter of interest at this time.

NEW BUSINESS

Resolution #2013-119: ODOT Fund Exchange Agreement #29178

The State of Oregon offered fund exchange programs acting by and through its Department of Transportation, in which federal funds were exchanged for state funds at a ratio of $94 state dollars for $100 federal dollars. This gave the city the ability to build projects under local control instead of federal control. The process would grant the city $132,771.24 for $141,246.00 federal funds.

Charlotte Fugate moved, seconded by Norm Crume, that the City Council approve **Resolution 2013-119, A RESOLUTION APPROVING FUND EXCHANGE AGREEMENT #29178 BETWEEN THE CITY OF ONTARIO AND THE STATE OF OREGON, ACTING BY AND THROUGH ITS DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION FOR FUND DISTRIBUTION FOR ONTARIO TRANSPORTATION PRESERVATION PROJECTS**. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

CORRESPONDENCE, COMMENTS, AND EX-OFFICIO REPORTS

- Jay Henry stated the Police Chief had provided the Council with 9-1-1 budget comparisons. It was not for discussion, but for review.

- Councilor Verini reminded them they had just celebrated Armed Forces Day, and they would be observing Memorial Day on Monday.

- Councilor Fox stated regarding the cemetery, over the past two or three weeks, the mowing and upkeep was horrid. He wanted it on record that they needed to do way better than what was currently occurring.

- Councilor Jones stated he had received a letter from Mr. and Mrs. Baker. As they were unable to attend the meeting, they asked that the letter be read into the record. The letter was from Robert and Cheryl Baker, 3988 Highway 201, Ontario. *To Whom It May Concern – I recently paid a visit to the Evergreen Cemetery in Ontario, and I must say, I was deeply saddened by what I saw. We are fast approaching what should be one of the busiest weekends for the cemetery – Memorial Day – and one would think that that should mean that the cemetery should be looking its very best. Instead I found poorly mowed grass, no trimming around gravestones, and a general lack of care. As a society, the effort and care that we put into honoring our dead, reflects on our community as a whole, and speaks volumes about our town and our commitment to providing a great place to live. Memorial Day means that a lot of out of town visitors will be in Ontario, and this is one small way to show others the true caring nature of our community. In looking at other community cemeteries in our area, I did not find the same dismal results. Ontario, we are better than this. Maybe it's time to put the upkeep of the cemetery out for bid, where there is instant accountability for performance or lack thereof. Respectfully, Robert Baker.*

  With that, Councilor Jones was going to allow the City Manager, before he made the request, in July, as a request he wanted a breakdown of the Parks & Recreation Department, in regards to the number of employees, the type of employees (union, temps, non-reps) and the cost of those employees. Also, break that down between Parks, Recreation, Cemeteries and Aquatic. That would be brought back on the agenda in July. This would allow them to get through the budget process and to clean up end of year issues in June. It would be a top priority, and he hoped to have the support of the Council on this.

  Mr. Henry stated that staff had recently been informed of reorganization in the Parks & Cemetery Departments, and HR was working on an informational memo to Council regarding implications of privatization of those employees.

ADJOURN

Norm Crume moved, seconded by Jackson Fox, that the meeting be adjourned. Roll call vote: Crume-yes; Fox-yes; Fugate-yes; Jones-yes; Tuttle-yes; Verini-yes. Motion carried 6/0/0.

APPROVED:

Dan Jones, Council President

ATTEST:

Tori Barnett, MMC, City Recorder