

**City Council Meeting
February 19, 2014
7:30 pm
Montpelier City Hall**

The meeting was conducted by Mayor Jared Sharp on February 19th at 7:30 at the Montpelier City Hall.

Present:

Dan Fisher
Heather Mortensen
Scott Nussbaum
Marden Phelps
Ted Slivinski
Mike Sparks

Others:

Clerk Leslie Tueller
Amy Bishop
Chief Russell Roper
Superintendent John Petersen

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Jared Sharp requested the Pioneer Travel Council be taken off the action items.

**Councilmember Marden Phelps moved to approve the agenda as amended.
Councilmember Mike Sparks seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Approval of Minutes

Councilmember Heather Mortensen requested that animal control discussion should be entered under Dan Fisher's name.

**Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to approve the minutes of February 5th as corrected.
Councilmember Marden Phelps seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.**

Approval of Bills

Councilmember Heather Mortensen moved to approve and pay bills in the amount of \$112,352.90, with \$32,516.97 being payroll. Councilmember Ted Slivinski seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Golf Commission Appointment

Councilmember Mike Sparks moved to approve the appointment of Jill Kunz to the City of Montpelier Golf Commission. Councilmember Ted Slivinski seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Water Share Leases

The City of Montpelier is able to lease one hundred shares of water in the Montpelier Irrigation Company. The councilmembers decided that it would be in the best interest of the city to advertise an auction for the leasing of 100 water shares. It was requested that the publication read the same as last years, allowing for leasing the entire 100 shares or leasing shares in increments of 25 shares up to the full 100. The auction will be held on March 19th.

Councilmember Marden Phelps moved to authorize the publication for an auction to lease 100 shares of water, allowing for leasing the entire 100 share or leasing shares in increments of 25. Councilmember Scott Nussbaum seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Sale of City Owned Land

The city councilmembers discussed the sale of city owned land. The property should be listed in the local newspaper stating the lowest minimum bid. There was discussion about property prices and how the property is at a very low selling price and it might be smart to hang on to land until the property value rises. It was suggested the city think about keeping the frontage land to sell as a future business lot. Realtor Evan Skinner suggested swapping a piece of land with Triad to have a business lot that is more favorably located. The councilmembers decided that they would table the sale of land until a later date.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to table the sale of city owned land until a later date. Councilmember Marden Phelps seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Police Budget

Mayor Jared Sharp informed the councilmembers that he would like their support to reduce the Montpelier Police Department by one officer, creating a savings of approximately \$60,000.00. Chief Russ Roper requested that he be able to use some of the savings for paying down comp time and for purchasing equipment. Mayor Jared Sharp proposed that Chief Roper be able to keep \$10,000.00 and the other \$50,000.00 be transferred into the street department.

A Public Hearing to open the budget was discussed and it was decided that the city advertise for a Public Hearing and publish it on February 26th and March 5th with the Public Hearing set for March 5th.

Councilmember Dan Fisher moved to authorize the publication for a Public Hearing to be scheduled for March 5th, published in the paper on February 26th and March 5th to meet the requirements for publishing. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to move \$50,000.00

dollars from the Police Department budget to the Streets Department budget. Councilmember Mike Sparks seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Parks and Rec Budget

Mayor Jared Sharp explained that the budget for the Parks and Rec Department had been amended incorrectly. The correction to this budget must be done in a Public Hearing and will need to be advertised in the local newspaper. The purpose of this hearing is to increase the budget over last years' and allow for another part time director.

Councilmember Ted Slivinski moved to authorize the publication for a Public Hearing to be scheduled for March 5th, published in the paper on February 26th and March 5th to meet the requirements for publishing. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to increase the budget over last years and allow for another part time director. Councilmember Dan Fisher seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Amy Bishop asked that grants be included in opening the budget.

Councilmember Marden Phelps moved to amend the agenda and add the action item of Public Hearing to amend the grant budget. Councilmember Scott Nussbaum seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

Councilmember Marden Phelps moved to authorize the publication for a Public Hearing to be scheduled for March 5th, published in the paper on February 26th and March 5th to meet requirements for publishing. The purpose of the Public Hearing is to amend the numbers for an existing grant. Councilmember Scott Nussbaum seconded. The voting was unanimous in the affirmative.

City Council Retreat

Mayor Jared Sharp reminded the council of the retreat. The retreat is scheduled for February 25th beginning at 6:00 pm at the City Hall. There will be a presentation by Superintendent John Petersen on comp time.

Dan Fisher

Councilmember Dan Fisher gave the councilmembers information on the Pioneer Travel Council. Tamra Fisher acted as our representative in the past and Councilmember Fisher stated that he felt it was important for the city to have a representative.

There was discussion among councilmembers about somebody representing the city and the costs associated with having a representative. Amy Bishop informed the council that her Economic Development budget was reduced and she would probably be able to pay the membership fees from her budget but the travel costs would more than deplete her existing budget.

Amy Bishop was given the task of finding a representative that would be willing to participate on the Pioneer Travel Council.

Heather Mortensen

Councilmember Heather Mortensen reported the Arts Council is doing a raffle fundraiser with many excellent prizes including two tickets to “Wicked”, framed pictures and a children’s quilt. They will be selling raffle tickets. They are also working on their annual Gallery Night.

Marden Phelps

Councilmember Marden Phelps reported on the recent concert held at the Oregon Trail Center. They had a great crowd to watch “Vocal Point” and they have other concerts scheduled for future dates.

Councilmember Marden Phelps attended the board meeting where their quilting program was discussed. They have expanded their quilting program and feature many workshops throughout the year.

Ted Slivinski

Councilmember Ted Slivinski, Lisa James, and Shane Johnson met with the County Commissioners to finalize the Allinger Park Agreement. The agreement is on the agenda for the County Commissioners meeting on March 10th. Councilmember Ted Slivinski will keep the councilmembers informed of the developments.

The Parks and Rec Department had a general planning meeting last week and their retreat is scheduled for March 12th. They are still working on the by-laws and they will be presented to the city councilmembers when they are completed.

Mike Sparks

Councilmember Mike Sparks reported that Greg Kunz is in need of a building inspector. He is planning on building and would like to know what is allowed on his site.

Mayor Jared Sharp informed the council that he has met with Wayne Davidson, the county building inspector, and the County Commissioners. They will be handling all the building inspections and set back inspections. A member of the Planning and Zoning Commission will be handling the fence permits.

Oath of Office

Chief Russ Roper requested the Oath of Office for Officer Cody Christensen be postponed until the next City Council meeting.

Mayor Jared Sharp adjourned until the next regularly scheduled meeting to be held March 5th at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Leslie S. Tueller