

April 7, 2014  
Noon  
Newport, Oregon

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Councilors present: Roumagoux, Beemer, Busby, Allen, Sawyer, Swanson, and Saelens.

Staff present: Nebel, Hawker, and Tokos.

Also in attendance was Adam Denlinger, General Manager of the Seal Rock Water District.

Media present: Dave Morgan from News Lincoln County, and Dennis Anstine from the Newport News-Times.

Roumagoux called the meeting to order.

Roll was taken.

1. Roumagoux reported that the League of Oregon Cities is holding a workshop at City Hall, next week, entitled, "Managing in Turbulent Times."
2. Swanson noted that she would like to add a discussion item related to the Coast Guard and Loyalty Days.
3. A discussion ensued related to the amendment to the City of Newport and Seal Rock Water District urban service agreement. Tokos distributed a handout. He noted that the details of the amendment to the urban services agreement had been defined. He stated that the Seal Rock Water District Board will be meeting on April 10 and discussing the amendment to the urban services agreement. Tokos reported that the legal description and map associated with the amendment are nearly in final form. He noted that there will be an additional change to incorporate the pump station site, and the city will need to provide the Seal Rock Water District with an easement. Tokos stated that this amendment will position the city to provide water to the airport, and back-up water to the District. Denlinger noted that the pump station will go in both directions. Tokos reported that the draft agreement has been modified to include final language changes that spell out the statutory mechanics of the withdrawal process should a withdrawal be initiated. He added that he expects more explicit language in the final version. Tokos noted that the intent is that this is the first step toward providing tax relief to properties that are no longer served by the District.
4. A discussion ensued regarding the regular scheduling of City Council work sessions. Nebel noted that it has been the city's practice to hold regularly scheduled work sessions on Mondays of Council meetings. He added that if there are no issues to discuss, he has not been scheduling work sessions. Swanson stated that she believes that regularly scheduled work sessions are important for allowing sufficient time to gather adequate information on subjects. She added that the informality of the sessions promotes team development. She stated that work sessions are paramount

in getting new Councilors up to speed on various issues. She added that without free discussion on issues, Council will be dependent on one person's recommendation on issues. Saelens agreed with Swanson and added that information is subject to change from the date the packet is distributed until the Monday of the meetings. Busby agreed that work sessions are a good opportunity for more open discussion. He noted that the city lacks a well-defined process between informal and formal meetings. He cited the taxation of marijuana as an example, and noted that there is no clear path to move the matter from an informal discussion to a formal discussion. Sawyer agreed with much of what has been noted. He suggested that if there is nothing controversial, issues could be heard and discussed at the evening meeting, but added that if there is an in-depth issue, a work session is a good idea. Allen noted that in the past, work sessions were used to review the evening meeting agenda. He added that work session discussion later revolved around a list of issues that Council wanted to discuss. He added that there needs to be a balance between a defined list of issues and flexibility. Beemer noted that everyone had made good points, but that the number of meetings is part of the reason he is not running for re-election. Roumagoux noted that it is difficult to attract potential Councilors and participants who are employed due to the conflict with work hours. Saelens suggested that if a Council would like a work session on an issue that they talk with Nebel about scheduling. Nebel noted that if staff generates an issue, he schedules a work session, and that any Councilor can ask for an item to be placed on the agenda. He added that he is striving for predictability on the evening agenda. He asked what type of items would be included on work session agenda, and reiterated that Council could let him know if they wish something on a work session agenda. Allen suggested that with issues such as compostables, work sessions could be used to collect information before making a decision at the evening meetings. A discussion ensued regarding the collection of Council suggestions for work sessions. Roumagoux suggested a sign-up sheet in the Council office for suggested future agenda items. She noted that the consensus of Council is to hold work sessions as needed; maintain a list of potential work session agenda items in the Council office along with a possible meeting date; and that an on-line suggestion form be developed; and that it be at the discretion of Roumagoux and Nebel to organize meetings. It was agreed that if the work sessions were going to be short in duration, they be scheduled at 5:00 or 5:30 P.M., on the day of Council meetings, and if they might be longer, they should be scheduled at noon. Nebel noted that this item will be included on the next agenda for formal direction.

5. Saelens requested an excuse from the April 21, 2014 meeting, and Beemer requested an excuse from the June 2, 2014 meeting. MOTION was made by Sawyer, seconded by Busby to excuse Saelens and Beemer from the respective meetings. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.
6. It was noted that August 4 is Coast Guard Day, and suggested that the city do something to recognize the Coast Guard on August 4 and possibly during Loyalty Days. Roumagoux noted that she planned to discuss this matter with Patty Louisiana and Police Chief Miranda. She added that she would like a monument recognizing the city as a "Coast Guard City." Busby stated that he was unaware of the potential closure of the Coast Guard Airbase. He added that it is scheduled to remain open until 2015.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:10 P.M.