

December 16, 2013  
11:00 A.M.  
Newport, Oregon

## CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

Councilors present: Roumagoux, Saelens, Beemer, Busby, Allen (arrived at 11:27 A.M.), and Swanson. Sawyer was excused.

Staff present: Nebel, Smith, Hawker, Tokos, Gazewood, Gross, and Miranda.

Media present: Larry Coonrod from the Lincoln County Dispatch, and Dave Morgan from News Lincoln County.

Others in attendance: Alisha Kerns, Maryann Bozza, and Bob Hein (arrived at 11:22 A.M.) from the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee. Ken Dennis was also in attendance.

Roumagoux called the meeting to order and introduced Spencer Nebel, City Manager.

Roll was taken and individual audience members were introduced.

1. Members of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee were present to delineate the Committee's project priorities. Saelens reported that the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee update to Council is a first step in the refocusing of the Committee. He added that he has an action item associated with this update. Maryann Bozza, Chair of the Committee, introduced Alisha Kern (Committee member). Bozza stated that the Committee has been very active. She gave a brief PowerPoint presentation that included: who we (the Committee) are; what we do; the fact that the Newport Pedestrian and Bicycle Plan is a part of the TSP; completed projects; and priorities for the coming year. Bozza reviewed the priorities: 1. Sharrows on city streets; 2. Trail - NW Nye Street to Oceanview Drive; 3. Trail connecting Agate Beach Wayside Trail to sidewalk on Highway 101 west; and 4. Sidewalks from the Bayfront to the hospital. With each project, she reviewed the problem, solution, status, and what is needed. Roumagoux asked about the bicycling events held at the Wilder development, and a brief discussion ensued about those events and their growing status among bicycle groups. Beemer provided an update on the Corvallis to Coast Trail. Saelens introduced and recognized Ken Dennis, former Chair of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, who had recently resigned from the Committee. Saelens noted that a goal of this presentation was to get the Committee goals into a system of tracking and budgeting. He asked whether there is another source of funding that could be earmarked for this Committee. It was noted that there are vacancies on the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, and that the packet contains applications from three people that have been interviewed and forwarded to the Mayor for appointment. It was mentioned that the applicants represent the pedestrians in the community. Saelens noted that the goal is that it become a Committee that works on all aspects of multi-modal transportation issues. Ken Dennis reported that Council had

adopted a Complete Streets resolution in 2010, and that this resolution addresses multi-modal transportation, and could be used toward achieving Committee multi-modal goals. Kerns emphasized the importance of a north/south route through the city that allows bicyclists to avoid Highway 101. It was noted that Oceanview Drive is dangerous. Saelens reiterated that the goal is to find a way for the Committee to move forward more effectively with the city to accomplish priorities. He added that he would like a concept to be finalized so that the Committee and City Council and staff know how to move forward. Busby asked whether anyone had looked at SE Fogarty Street. Nebel suggested that the logical way to proceed would be to refer the matter to city administration and allow staff to develop a report and return to Council with information on how the Committee's priorities fit into the city's long range plans. He noted that this could be done by the first meeting in February. Bozza reported that the four projects identified by the Bicycle/Pedestrian Committee have been prioritized by number on the handout she distributed at the beginning of the meeting. She added that a Committee goal is to learn how to better interact with the city. She asked about the next step. Gross reported that part of the staff review will be to look at the proposed projects, challenges, and costs and report to the City Manager regarding implementation and how to proceed. Hein reported that the sharrow project and the sidewalk project are both projects that are ready to go, but that the other two prioritized projects are concepts at this time. Bozza noted that the Committee's frustration is that it is unsure where it fits in the city operation. She stated that she is pleased with the connection and looks forward to hearing from Council and staff. Kerns reiterated the need for a route to get bicyclists from one end of the city to the other, and noted that the sharrows stand out. Hein stated that he was pleased with a more established conduit for the Committee to work with. Saelens thanked the Committee, City Council, and staff.

2. A discussion ensued regarding the formation of a business license review task force. Busby reported that he had suggested a group to review the existing business license ordinance for several reasons, including: issuance process; inequalities in the types of businesses required to have a license; enforcement; inequality in rates as all businesses are charged the same regardless of size; the definition of business in general; and the ability to enforce the ordinance and measure compliance. Busby noted that he was looking for a consensus of Council to move forward. A discussion ensued regarding whether the group should be an official task force as authorized and defined by Council resolution, or a sub-group authorized by a Council motion. Busby suggested that the group be comprised of himself, Saelens, and enforcement, planning, finance staff, Rob Connell, and possibly a Planning Commissioner. Busby noted that the group could gather information by way of hearings and research of records, and ultimately make recommendations on amendments to the existing code. He added that he expected the work to take approximately six months. Allen suggested a sub-group of the City Council and noted that sub-groups have regularly noticed meetings that the public is allowed to attend. Nebel noted that a work group is a good start with staff involvement and hearings at the Council level. MOTION was made by Allen, seconded by Beemer, to form a sub-group of the City Council to consist of Busby and Saelens, along with staff designated by the City Manager, and perhaps a Planning Commission member to look at proposed revisions to the business license

ordinance and return to Council with recommendations. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

3. Swanson asked about the status of the taxicab ordinance, and it was noted that the matter is on hold until City Attorney Connell returns to work.
4. Swanson asked about the traffic hazards that Warren Chopp addressed during the recent hearing on the Teevin Brothers Traffic Impact Analysis relative to the addition of a no passing zone on Yaquina Bay Road, and the possible relocation of mailboxes at Running Springs Drive and Yaquina Bay Road. Tokos reported that staff will be looking at potential solutions and returning to City Council with proposed next steps.
5. Beemer suggested adding the review and discussion of the sale of some of the city properties to an upcoming work session agenda.
6. Busby asked about the status of the suggestion to remove stop signs near the high school. Miranda reported that staff opted to leave the stop signs in place.
7. Gazewood reported that the city is in the final stages of closing on the general obligation bonds for the new municipal indoor swimming pool. He stated that the closing is scheduled for 9 A.M. on Thursday. He added that the bids were opened last Thursday and that there were four bids. He reviewed the bids noting that the winning bid was submitted by Janney, Montgomery, Scott, LLC, an investment house. He reported that the net proceeds to the city will be \$8.2 million, which will be in the city's account by 9 A.M. on Thursday. Gazewood noted that a good faith deposit, in the amount of \$790,000, was received last Friday. Allen asked whether Gazewood needed Council action relative to the reserves, and Gazewood noted that he did not as these funds would be deposited in the State Local Investment Pool. A discussion ensued regarding the possibility of grant funds that could offset the cost of the pool project. Nebel noted that bonds are for a specific project, and the remaining funds, and the fund reserve, should be used to help pay the debt. Gazewood added that grants could help reduce the property taxes, but he cautioned about jeopardizing the city's tax exempt status. Gazewood addressed the concern, expressed in a letter from Standard and Poors, about the city's projected ending fund balance as of June 30, 2013. He noted that if the city fails to maintain a proper fund balance, it could be subjected to further review. Nebel concurred that the city needs to keep its fund balances sound. He added that he wants to understand Oregon budget law, and he expects the budget process to be clearer, more helpful, and with meaningful numbers at the end of the process.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:43 P.M.