



SCIO CITY COUNCIL ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES
MONDAY, April 12, 2021

COUNCIL PRESENT: Councilors Karen Eckhart, Tom Gray, Joey Ferguson, Tom Meyer, Debbie Nuber, and Chadd Weaver, were present at City Hall.

STAFF PRESENT: City Manager Ginger Allen and Administrative Assistant Cathy Martin, were present at City Hall. Assistant City Attorney Jeffrey Clayson was present via video.

AUDIENCE MEMBERS PRESENT: Katrina Clouse, Christina Eastman, May Garland, and Kendra Kimbirauskas joined the meeting via Zoom.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Weaver called the Regular Session of the Scio City Council to order at 6:07 P.M., followed the American Flag salute.

ROLL CALL: Roll call was taken with Councilor Whalen excused.

APPROVAL OF CONSENT AGENDA: Mayor Weaver asked for comments.

Councilor Ferguson moved to accept and pass the Consent Agenda as presented, Councilor Nuber seconded. A hand and verbal vote was taken. Motion passed 5/0

CORRESPONDENCE: None

PRESENTATIONS:

- **Linn County Sheriff's Report – Presented by Sgt. Beth Miller, Linn County Sheriff** – Sgt. Beth Miller reviewed the monthly reports for April (see report included in the council packet).

REGULAR SESSION:

1. 2020 Audit Plan of Action – Presented by Ginger Allen, City Manager

Ms. Allen stated that Kori Sarrett, Auditor, during her presentation to the city council of the 2019-2020 Audit, that there was a deficiency. The city has to send a letter to the Secretary of State, letting them know what the plan of action the city will be taking to keep the deficiency from happening again.

Councilor Ferguson moved to approve the 2020 Audit Plan of Action as presented, Councilor Meyer seconded. Motion passed 5/0

2. 2021 Lamb & Wool Fair Public Event Permit – Presented by Ginger Allen, City Manager

Ms. Allen stated that due to COVID restrictions she was bringing the permit application to the City Council for Approval. She met with both Karen Borchard, President and Katrina Clouse, Treasurer of the Linn County Lamb & Wool Fair Board to go over questions that she had regarding the event. Ms. Allen stated that she wanted to make sure that there was fencing around the perimeter, that there were people counters, to make sure that they didn't exceed the number of people allowed depending on the risk level that Linn County is in at the time of the event. Ms. Allen stated that they have everything in place, and as long as the Lamb & Wool Fair follows the risk guidelines then she didn't see where the city would be at risk of liability for allowing the event to take place.

Mayor Weaver asked if it was true that the vendors would all be "non-profits". Katrina Clouse, Linn County Lamb & Wool Fair Board, stated they are giving the community non-profits the first chance to sign up. They are also trying to team up information booths and food vendors. Ms. Clouse stated that in normal years the non-profits are located in other areas, however this year all vendors must be situated on the fairgrounds.

Councilor Nuber asked if there was going to be a parade. Ms. Clouse stated that they are doing a version of the porch parade, starting and ending at the high school. People are encouraged to watch it from home. It will be different than the others, it will stay off of Main Street, the streets will be open and some temporary closures and detours were approved by ODOT and Linn County. Ms. Allen stated that a big difference in the parade is that only one lane will be shut down for short periods of time and the other will be kept open for traffic. Ms. Clouse stated the route map will be on the fair website.

Councilor Ferguson moved to approve the application for a Public Event Permit submitted by the Linn County Lamb & Wool Fair as presented, Councilor Eckhart seconded. Motion passed 5/0

CITY MANAGER REPORT: Allen asked if there were any questions regarding her report. Allen briefly reviewed the report that was included in the council packet.

Ms. Allen stated that she had a few highlights. The senior center remains closed, the library is open for curbside pick-up and limited entry. The Travel Oregon Grant was submitted on time, we are awaiting the announcement of the grant recipients on April 28th. The Rapid Response Grant is still in progress Ms. Allen stated she is working closely with School Superintendent Steve Martinelli to submit that application. She has an appointment with a representative from the sheriff's office to discuss the speed indicator signs and will place that order using the COVID grant money to pay for the signs. Ms. Allen stated that Ben Jones passed his Collections Certification Test, and the city will no longer have to pay for oversight coverage. Ms. Allen stated the library's grant is for the digitizing of our historical documents.

Councilor Ferguson praised the city staff for going after grants.

Councilor Nuber asked about the Neighborhood watch signs. Ms. Allen stated that they have been installed at the entrances to Scio, they are small and the city may want to consider ordering larger ones. The city could utilize the community involvement funds that have not been spent this year due to COVID cancellations to order larger signs. Council consensus was to purchase larger signs.

CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT: Presented by Jeffrey Clayson – Mr. Clayson stated he did not have anything new to add. He asked for a status update on the Scio Stop n Save alley vacation. Administrative Assistant Martin stated that we are waiting for the survey from Udell Engineering to be completed.

ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL:

Eckhart: None
Nuber: None
Ferguson: None
Meyer: None
Gray: None

BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC: Christina Eastman, Jefferson-Scio Rd, and Kendra Kimbirauskas, Richardson Gap Rd, spoke to the council regarding the chicken farm that is being built on property located on Jefferson-Scio Rd west of town, by Eric Simmons. They presented information to the city council as members of the “Farmers Against Foster Farms” organization. Ms. Eastman stated that Foster Farms finds farmers like Mr. Simmons that are willing to build these large industrial size facilities on their property, which are allowed under the county zoning code as they are considered a farming operation. They have received building permits from the county to build twelve 60x600-foot buildings, potentially raising 3.1 million chickens per year. Concerns were shared by Ms. Eastman and Ms. Kimbirauskas regarding the potential environmental impacts to air and water quality.

Council members asked questions regarding the disposal of waste, potential water contamination, etc.

Kimbirauskas urged the city council to help them by writing a letter to the Oregon Department of Agriculture requesting that a public hearing be held prior to the issuance of any Confined Animal Feeding Operation (CAFO) permit by the state.

The City Council directed City Manager Allen to draft a letter urging the Oregon Department of Agriculture to hold a public hearing. Ms. Allen will draft letter and for the council to review prior to sending.

May Garland, N Main Street, announced that the Friends of the Library will be participating during Lamb Fair by having a modified book sale out on the gravel area beside city hall.

There were no additional comments

Mayor Weaver adjourned the meeting at 7:25 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for May 10, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Cathy Martin
Administrative Assistant