



SCIO CITY COUNCIL ELECTRONIC MEETING MINUTES  
MONDAY, May 10, 2021

**COUNCIL PRESENT:** Councilors Karen Eckhart, Tom Gray, Joey Ferguson, Tom Meyer, Debbie Nuber, John Whalen, 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:** Rebecca Gabert, Katrina Clouse, Karen Borchard, and Melissa Ely joined the meeting via Zoom.

Luke Zedwick, Michael Harr, Nicholas Schrick, Andrea Gershpaecher, and Stephen Lucas were in person.

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Weaver called the Regular Session of the Scio City Council to order at 6:00 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 Nuber moved to accept and pass the Consent Agenda as presented, Councilor Meyer seconded. A hand/verbal vote was taken. Motion passed 6/0*

**CORRESPONDENCE:** Chicken Farm Correspondence Letters from the City of Scio and to the Scio City Council. Ms. Allen stated that in addition a letter has been received from the Oregon Department of Agriculture which states that there is a 35-day public participation process and hearing procedure. Once the hearing date has been set they will notify property owners within the required notice area and any parties who have also requested to be notified. Allen stated that she has signed up to receive the notification on this application. Allen will set up tour to see the Brownsville chicken farm facility. Councilors decided to have a council meeting and to invite the Chicken council to do a presentation.

**PRESENTATIONS:**

- **Linn County Sheriff's Report – Presented by Sgt. Beth Miller, Linn County Sheriff** – Lt. Brandon Fountain reviewed the monthly reports for April (see report included in the council packet). Noted – burglaries are concerning, other cities are dealing with stolen vehicles, picked up and dumped. Catalytic converter thefts are on the rise in the area. Mayor Weaver asked about thefts that took place over the weekend. 2 Friday, 3 Saturday in the Thomas Creek Development. Requesting meeting regarding theft – neighborhood watch.

Fountain asked what was being targeted – Weaver stated that it was trucks to trailers, anything. Lt. Fountain stated he would get together with Michael Mattingly. Whalen asked if there was any update on the hardware store theft. Fountain stated that the little things should be turned in. Allen stated that she hoped to finalize the meeting time on May 11<sup>th</sup>.

- **Library Committee Appointment – Presented by LaVonne Murray, Librarian** – Ms. Murray recommended the appointment of Rebecca Gabert to the Library Advisory Committee. Ms. Gabert stated she would appreciate the opportunity to assist the city with the library.

*A consensus vote was taken to appoint Rebecca Gabert to the Scio Library Committee, passed 6/0.*

### **REGULAR SESSION:**

#### **1. Resolution No. 21-03 – A Resolution Correcting the Disbursement of Unanticipated Covid 19 Grant Funds – Presented by Ginger Allen, City Manager**

Ms. Allen stated that the allocation that was presented in the council packet has been corrected after the receipt of a call from the COVID grant oversight person. They asked for further revision to the resolution. Ms. Allen reviewed those changes. Ferguson asked what the money was being spent on. Allen stated that it was being spent on speed signs, and the majority of money spent is on technology.

*Councilor Ferguson moved to approve Resolution No. 21-03 as amended, Councilor Whalen seconded. Motion passed 6/0*

**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. Tom Gray – Jamie Cate – Facebook post. Small city allotment grant opportunity, to add \$100K to the RRG project. One thing held up was school board wanted to be the applicant so that they could control of the application. State requires the city to be the applicant, school district board is now on board, grant application will be completed. Asked for approval to piggy-back the SCA grant on the project. Would have engineer presentation before final approval.

As part of the federal government's new Stimulus package, the city will be receiving funds in the amount of \$204K. The city will receive it in two payments, \$102K in 2021 and \$102K in 2022 it can be used for a variety of things. The city will need to make decision on how it spends the funds during the budget process.

**CITY ATTORNEY'S REPORT:** Presented by Jeffrey Clayson – Mr. Clayson stated he has been working with Mr. Kennedy on putting together council/planning commission training. Mayor Weaver thank for work. Meeting Wednesday 9am.

## **ITEMS FROM THE COUNCIL:**

- Meyer: None
- Gray: None
- Eckhart: Has been working with several people around town to get started on Neighborhood watch. Allen stated that we need a date to schedule a meeting at the ZHall
- Nuber: None
- Ferguson: None
- Whalen: None
- Mayor Weaver: passed around copies of posts from social media. Michael Harr. Thefts – time to get neighborhood watch program going. (Martin kept packet of materials) Goal to have 100 people involved. Eckhart stated that you have to have people in each neighborhood, have to be nosy neighbors, turn things into the sheriff's office.

## **BUSINESS FROM THE PUBLIC:**

Andrea Gerspacher, NW Cherry Street, (503) 480-9883 – stated that items had been stolen from her home three times, most recently on Friday night, where their truck had been burglarized. She stated that the first incident which took place about 2 years ago, where she wanted to file charges was kind of swept under the carpet. They have cameras installed. Allen asked about the Case where Ms. Gerspacher had filed charges. Allen asked if it was it dismissed? Ms. Gershpaecher stated that the Sheriff's office investigated. Minors took beer, were caught on camera, footage given to sheriff's office. Kids apologized. Allen stated that she wanted to follow up on the case. Allen then asked about the burglary of the truck? Was it locked? Gerspacher stated that it was not. Weaver stated that he would be speaking with city manager and sheriff's office representative.

Nicholas Shrick, Rogers Mountain Loop, Baker city mayor filed lawsuit against Governor. Asked if the city would do the same. To keep the local business in business. They lose lots of money when this happens. Ms. Allen stated that this is being something that is discussed by small cities across Oregon. City is willing to listen, bring information back to this forum to make a decision. Small Cities meeting that is coming up this is one of the topics. It is a thing called "Home Rule" - this means that the local jurisdiction has the authority to rule its home. Letter sent by Yamhill County Board of Commissioners in April, to the governor stating that they were going to enforce home rule. This is the first the council has heard this information at a council meeting. Ferguson asked if Lebanon was part of the small cities' coalition. Allen stated that the small city coalition that the city participates with is Harrisburg, Halsey, Brownsville, Tangent, Mill City, Millersburg, Lyons. Ferguson can you take legal counsel to a small city coalition meeting? Ferguson asked Ms. Allen if she had heard from small business? Allen said that she has personally heard from 3 business owners.

Luke Zedwick, Cherry Street, asked as well what city could do enacting Home Rule. He is concerned about the government change of stance due to pressure. If support is needed.

Michael Harr, SE 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, research on neighborhood watch, disaster preparedness. Allen stated appreciate willingness to help. City has meeting with the Fire Department – part of Linn County’s Disaster Preparedness Plan. There will be open meetings in future for citizen input.

Katrina Clouse, West Scio Road, - National night out is part of the Neighborhood watch program. Lamb & Wool Fair – 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup>. Weaver asked if vendors who have been here year after year, are being let in at all. Clouse focus has been on the community non-profits who have not been able to do fundraisers.

Karen Borchard Isaac, Shimanek Bridge Drive – The non-profits were given first opportunity to participate and had to respond by a certain date. After that it was opened to others in the community and surrounding area with a date certain to respond, and the vender spots were opened up to past vendors. All available spaces are taken. There are several non-profits that will be selling food. Whalen asked if the sheep dog trials are happening. Borchard - They are being held separately on the weekend of May 15<sup>th</sup>. Lamb Fair needs help desperately.

Weaver stated that he thought it was time to bring back the portable speed sign. Weaver thanked the participants.

There were no additional comments

Mayor Weaver adjourned the meeting at 7:29 p.m.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 28, 2021 at 6:00 p.m.

Cathy Martin  
Administrative Assistant