



ORLAND CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

Tuesday, April 2, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:01 PM.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:

Councilmembers Bruce T. Roundy, Jeffrey Tolley, Vice Mayor Matt Romano and Mayor Chris Dobbs

Councilmembers absent:

Councilmember John McDermott

Staff present:

City Manager Pete Carr; Director of Administrative Services Rebecca Webster; City Attorney Greg Einhorn; Police Chief Joe Vlach

CITIZEN COMMENTS ON CLOSED SESSION – NONE

MEETING ADJOURNED TO CLOSED SESSION AT 6:01 PM

CLOSED SESSION ENDED AT 6:24 PM

RECONVENED TO REGULAR SESSION - Called to order by Mayor Chris Dobbs at 6:31 PM.

REPORT FROM CLOSED SESSION – No reportable action.

CONSENT CALENDAR

- A. Warrant List (Payable Obligations)
- B. Approve City Council Minutes for March 19, 2024
- C. Receive and File Arts Commission Minutes from February 20, 2024
- D. Receive and File Planning Commission Minutes from January 18, 2024
- E. Utility Statement Folding Machine

ACTION: Councilmember Roundy moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolley, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

PRESENTATIONS - City Council Thank you from Orland Volunteer Fire Dept - David Kelly, Chief

Orland Volunteer Fire Department (OVFD) Chief David Kelly spoke briefly on the recent fire at Paigewood Apartments. Chief Kelly extended thanks to the Council for their unwavering support, crucial in purchasing essential equipment and trucks pivotal in extinguishing the recent fire. Chief Kelly underscored the symbiotic relationship between OVFD and the Council and shared his appreciation to the dedicated volunteers and Chief Chaney, whose collective efforts were instrumental in putting the fire out quickly.

Orland resident, Byron Denton expressed remarks supportive of OVFD and investing in good equipment.

ADMINISTRATIVE BUSINESS

A. Glenn County Senior Citizen Expo Donation

Mr. Carr shared that Glenn County is organizing an event on June 27th in Orland to showcase resources available for supporting the aging population. They are seeking sponsors and donations, including a funding donation from the City. Monica Rossman, Supervisor for Glenn County District 2, formally requested financial support from the City, specifically proposing a \$1500 donation to purchase senior-focused personal hygiene products for expo attendees.

Supervisor Monica Rossman highlighted the significant proportion of seniors comprising 24% of Glenn County's population and provided details about the upcoming inaugural senior expo. She mentioned donations from Walmart and participation of various companies catering to the elderly. Rossman emphasized that lunch will be provided and mentioned the giveaway bags containing everyday items aimed at enhancing seniors' daily lives. County staff members reiterated plans for the expo.

Mayor Dobbs inquired about the contents of the hygiene bags and cost per bag, as well as an estimated attendance number for the event. Supervisor Rossman clarified that the bags would contain not only hygiene products but also other useful everyday items. She expressed optimism for approximately 200 participants attending the event.

Councilmember Tolley inquired about the support from the Glenn County Board of Supervisors (BOS) for the event, and Supervisor Rossman mentioned ways the BOS contributes to senior citizens in the community. Additionally, Councilmember Tolley asked about in-kind donations for the expo, to which Supervisor Rossman mentioned that the Orland Police Department VIPS, Orland High School volunteers, Glenn County Search and Rescue, and Glenn County HHSA are donating their time to support the event.

Mayor Dobbs announced his intention to donate his next two paychecks from his City Council stipend to the event.

Councilmember Roundy expressed reservations about allocating taxpayer money to a first-time expo, citing concerns about setting a precedent for other groups seeking funding. However, he affirmed his personal commitment by stating he could personally donate. Councilmember Tolley expressed similar reservations about using taxpayer funds for the expo but emphasized the significance of the event in giving back to seniors in the community.

Vice Mayor Romano expressed support for the expo concept but voiced concerns about setting a precedent for supporting non-profit organizations with taxpayer funds, which is not typical for the City.

Mr. Denton expressed support for the expo event.

Economic Development Commissioner/Orland resident Ron Lane mentioned that food from the pantry and support from Medicare and Social Security are available to seniors.

Orland resident Susie Smith expressed dismay about Council recent discussion about the possibility of donating money for fireworks show.

Orland resident Earl Megginson spoke about resources for seniors and stated his opinion that the City is not the place to go for donations like this.

Orland resident Carolyn Denton pointed out that Council donates a lot of the Chamber and that churches give away food.

Orland Moose Lodge President/Orland resident Debbie Moutter emphasized her experience working with seniors and noted that many seniors are unaware of the available resources.

ACTION: Mayor Dobbs moved, seconded by Councilmember Romano, to donate \$1500.00 to the senior resource expo. Motion carried by a roll call vote 3-1.

Ayes: Councilmember Tolley, Vice Mayor Romano and Mayor Dobbs

Nays: Councilmember Roundy

Vice Mayor Romano spoke about how the City does not get state funds for social services, the County gets the funding. Mayor Dobbs shared that anyone interested in personally donating to the expo should reach out to City staff.

B. Draft Revised Groundwater Sustainability Plan Review

Mr. Carr spoke briefly about the California Sustainable Groundwater Management Act (SGMA) which was enacted in 2014 to establish local agencies responsible for managing groundwater resources.

Mr. Carr shared that the draft Groundwater Sustainability plan produced in 2021 was found lacking by the City Council due to concerns about insufficient protection for local well levels and weaknesses in addressing land subsidence.

The revised plan aims to better protect domestic and municipal drinking water wells, with revised measurable objectives and minimum thresholds triggering demand management actions. The GGA is implementing management actions such as recharge sites and annexation of groundwater-irrigated acreage into the Orland-Artois Water District. Mr. Roundy and City Manager Carr suggested that the revised draft GSP adequately addresses these concerns.

Councilmember Roundy acknowledged the longstanding nature of the plan's development and shared that while he opposed the initial plan, he now supports the updated version.

Vice Mayor Romano inquired about the actions and restrictions at 75 feet, to which Councilmember Roundy responded that the Department of Water Resources (DWR) would review and either approve or deny them, with further details to be provided in the next phase of the process.

Mr. Denton questioned the choice of crops for Glenn County.

Ms. Smith emphasized the significance of educating everyone about water issues.

ACTION: Vice Mayor Romano moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolley, to authorize Orland's representative for the GGA board to accept the revised draft plan. Motion carried by a voice vote 4-0.

C. Review Quarterly Report: City Fiscal Year Projects

Mr. Carr provided the list of projects and their percentage completion as of March 31st, with no new items added or priority shifts noted.

Mr. Denton pointed out the value of the improvements at the wastewater treatment ponds.

D. Fiscal Year 2024-2025 Budget Discussion #1: Assumptions, Capital Improvement Planning, Staffing

Mr. Carr presented the initial segment of the draft proposed budget for the upcoming fiscal year 2024-2025 (FY25), commencing on July 1.

Mr. Carr outlined key assumptions for the fiscal year 2024-2025 (FY25), including expectations of modest economic growth, increases in property and sales tax revenues, completion of new apartment complexes and CHIP housing projects, rising insurance and service costs, and the conclusion of ARPA-funded and Department of Water Resources (DWR) water projects.

Mr. Carr discussed capital projects including infrastructure improvements.

Mr. Carr explained that City Hall will maintain current staffing levels but may utilize seasonal/intern assistance and outsource some grant-related functions. The Police and Fire Departments will also maintain current staffing levels, with the grant-funded SRO position continuing. Public Works will transfer one mechanic position to the Fire Department.

Mayor Dobbs inquired about negotiations with the County regarding animal control. Mr. Carr reported that the City and County had their initial meeting last week, and they are currently reviewing spreadsheets and information. Mayor Dobbs requested an update as soon as further information becomes available.

Councilmembers did not propose any recommended changes to the presented information or plans.

Ms. Smith questioned the animal control agreement.

E. Proposed City Manager Employment Agreement

City Attorney Greg Einhorn provided background information on the City Manager Employment Agreement, which is set to expire on May 24, 2024. Negotiations for a successor agreement have been ongoing between the Council and the City Manager, facilitated through the City Attorney. Mr. Einhorn briefly outlined the terms of the proposed 3-year City Manager Employment Agreement.

The Council conveyed that they have deliberated on the matter in closed session and expressed their confidence and satisfaction with the proposed City Manager Employment Agreement. The Council expressed their appreciation for the direction in which the City is progressing and conveyed their confidence in Mr. Carr's leadership.

Mr. Denton expressed his gratitude for Mr. Carr's contributions to the City of Orland and expressed confidence in the future of Orland.

Mr. Lane extended his gratitude to Mr. Carr for his dedication to the City of Orland and asserted that Mr. Carr is one of the best things to have happened to the city.

ACTION: Councilmember Roundy moved, seconded by Councilmember Tolley, to approve the proposed successor agreement. Motion carried by a roll call vote 4-0.

Ayes: Councilmembers Roundy, Tolley, Vice Mayor Romano and Mayor Dobbs

Nays: None

ORAL AND WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS

PUBLIC COMMENTS: None

CITY COUNCIL COMMUNICATIONS AND REPORTS

Councilmember Tolley:

- Attended the Planning Commission Meeting March 21st;
- Spoke about Federal funding: Community Development Block Grant.

Vice Mayor Romano:

- Attended the Transportation and Transit meeting March 21st and talked about the need for more Para transport volunteers;

Councilmember Roundy:

- Shared he is for the senior expo and glad it passed;
- The Art gallery and Art Commission is honoring the docents that volunteer every week April 3rd and the next art show will be April 5th;
- Shared that 4th of July fireworks Committee will meet and plan for 2025;
- Will be attending the Groundwater Sustainability meeting April 8th.

Mayor Dobbs:

- Will be attending the fire department meeting April 8th.

MEETING ADJOURNED AT 8:37 PM

Jennifer Schmitke, City Clerk

Chris Dobbs, Mayor