

## MINUTES OF THE REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING 12/13/2022

Mayor Pro-Tem Jennifer Dunaway  
6:00 p.m.

### Pledge of Allegiance

Council Members: Doug Donner, Jennifer Dunaway, Shannon Schrader, Mike Gladhart, Mark Swayne and Josh Tilley

Staff: Clerk Treasurer-Donna Wilson, Building Official-Todd Perry, Public Works Supervisor-Shane Miller, Water/Wastewater Supervisor-Michael Martin, Fire Chief-Bart Jones and Police Chief-Vince Frazier

Absent: Mayor Sean Simmons and Administrator-Ryan Smathers

Guests: LJ Reece, Ceclia Morris, Brian Morris, Mary Stanley, Brenda Drobish, Helen Clark, Shelly Donner and Ann Lima

Media: Elizabeth Morgan and Nancy Butler

### MINUTES

Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes as written on November 22, 2022. Councilmember Tilley seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

### BILLS AND CLAIMS

Councilmember Donner made a MOTION to approve the regular bills plus the additional bills and the payroll dated December 3, 2022. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

The Minutes of the Regular Urban Forests of Orofino Meeting held 11/1/2022 were submitted to the Council for review.

### PETITIONS, APPLICATIONS, APPEALS AND COMMUNICATIONS

Mountain Bike Group Update – Brian Morris introduced himself and his wife CeeCee to the council. They had recently started a mountain bike club called Clearwater Mountain Biking and there is also a Facebook page called Clearwater Mountain Bike Club. Currently the club is at about 20 members. They have just officially become a club and have their 501c status. They are  
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also working with the Corps of Engineers and on partnership documents. Once that has been signed off by both groups, they will be officially a 501c. They will be able to have their memberships started with IMBA which is International Mountain Biking Association. At that point they will start taking donations and grant money to try to move forward on building some legit world class trails. It takes a lot of money and effort, so they are trying to move forward any way they can to help grow the sport in this area. Brian stated that he has been talking with a lot of the other groups around the area like Moscow, Lewiston, Weiser, and Boise and have gotten a lot of support from these groups. If they can get everyone together it could really help with vacationing and bringing more people to the area. Brian and CeeCee almost did not move to the area because of the lack of trail systems, but they saw an opportunity in Orofino and are taking it by the horns in hoping to grow it in this area. Mountain biking is one of the fastest growing sports in the country and the world right now. There is a lot of money in it and mountain bikers spend a lot of money, so it is good for the community all the way around. Brian spoke with Doug Adams who is on the board for Dworshak Recreation and has a leg up on some of the grants and donations. Come July 1<sup>st</sup>, they can put in for grants and have some significant funds to put towards it. Come spring Brian plans on moving forward once they have everything in place with the Corps of Engineers and going out and doing a lot of flagging around the Dworshak area around Merry's Bay. They will have to get an archeological study done and that can take some time, which means that it may be fall before they can put shovels in the dirt. At that point with a lot of support that they should have by that time, hopefully they will be able to knock out two to three more additional miles of trail quickly. Brian is planning on flagging a least five to six miles this year, so come next spring they would be able to move forward with those and have a lot of trails. If you look at map on the app Trailforks (used in the mountain biking community) there is a huge void in the State of Idaho with no trails and Orofino is in the middle of that. People coming from Boise, Coeur d'Alene and other areas are traveling straight past here as there is no reason to stop. Brian has spoken with many of those people and nobody has ever ridden here even though there are a few trails, but they are not really set up for mountain biking. Brian stated they are going to try to redo some of the existing trails. They have been working a lot in Cold Springs and have redone some of those trails, clean up and some reroutes. Brian has spoken with one of the ambassadors for Trailforks who helps design the maps, puts them onto the website is a local in Moscow and is planning on coming to Orofino to help Brian map out the trails to put them on their site. Councilmember Dunaway stated that she appreciates their enthusiasm and hard work that they have done. She knows it is often hard to get support for these types of things, but they have the council's support. Councilmember Donner inquired if they would be hooking on to the snowmobile trail system? There are several hundreds of miles out in the county. Brian stated that they are more of a single track on the mountain bike side of things. Those type of trails are great for gravel biking and the recreational usage, but more focused on the single track. They are going to use a lot of the existing old logging roads as access points to make single track off those. They are great and logged out on a lot of the trail sports as a gravel road destination. Councilmember Swayne inquired are some trails already designated a couple of miles? Brian stated there are already trails in this area. Merry's Bay being a single track and Cold Springs being another one. West Ridge and East Ridge are double track with a little bit of single track and Bruce's Eddy. All those for the most part are hiking trails. It takes a lot of work to make them into more of a mountain bike/hiking trails from the super tight switchbacks and just the way they are designed. It is hard

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to ride a bicycle on something that just goes straight up with switchbacks. Leave this for the hiking section and have a route for the mountain bikers to get around. Make it a little bit easier and hopefully bring in some more people to ride the trails. Councilmember Swayne also inquired how do you control or maintain people dumping garbage on them? Brian stated that is not a problem with mountain bikers. They do not usually have any trash throw out because they are riding and will usually have a camelback water bottle and that is pretty much what a rider has. As far as trail maintenance, once it has been built there is always trail maintenance, especially with all the trees. That is just part of it. Brian stated that every time he is out riding it is just something he does. Picking up branches, move trees and mark them on the GPS and come back with a chainsaw to cut them out of the way. The more people get involved the trail maintenance goes quickly. Councilmember Schrader inquired if they have approached the Tribe about putting some trails on their property that can lead right from the Riverside area to access the hillside across the river? Brian stated that he has looked at OnX map app that shows the different lands that everybody owns, and it seems that they all cross over different landowners. He has looked at some private land ownership on how they can try to make it work, in doing so you would have to cross over multiple people's property lines, and the way that Dworshak's land is set up surrounding the lake, there is a lot of access off of that. It is just easier to stay within those confines. Councilmember Swayne inquired if he had contacted any private landowners? Have you gotten any kind of a response? Positive or negative? Brian stated that he doesn't know any of the landowners, but has a few emails in to the Corps of Engineers asking them about easements because there are some old logging roads that go across some of the property lines. The Corps of Engineers are not giving much information until they are completely on board with them. Once the paperwork is complete, then they would approach the landowner requesting an easement. There is a possibility of some private lands and would like to build three or four miles. This way they could build as they wanted and wouldn't have to have archaeological studies done which would make things go a lot quicker. Brian states that if there was City land that doesn't require those studies if he could just have access. Brenda Drobish stated that since mountain biking is new to this area bringing in some professional mountain bikers and promoting it in the spring around April with a movie fundraiser showing some videos at the theater. Just to promote the sport and give some information. Ann Lima stated an interest in our youth as well. Having the youth being involved in mountain biking or biking in general. Councilmember Swayne inquired if the trails are restricted to just mountain bikes or any kind of bikes? Brian stated that they would want to design them for mountain biking, but they would be open to anybody, hikers and bikers.

Cancel Council Meeting for December 27, 2022 – Clerk Treasurer Wilson reported with Christmas falling on a Sunday and will be observed on the following Monday and some of the staff will be out for the holiday. Councilmember Donner made a MOTION to cancel the December 27, 2022 Council Meeting. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed with a roll call vote resulting in all ayes.

#### DEPARTMENTAL REPORTS

Administrator- Administrator Smathers was absent, no report.  
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Clerk/Treasurer-Clerk/Treasurer Wilson had no report.

Building Official-Building Official Perry reported the Planning & Zoning Commission is going to be holding a hearing for a special use for somebody wanting to stay long term in a camper. P&Z will make a recommendation to the council at the January 10<sup>th</sup> meeting. Building Official Perry had a meeting with Matt Perkins who works for the Idaho Department of Lands and is the urban forest coordinator. State of Idaho has a website for urban forest for tree inventory, which he demonstrated. They have a slot for Orofino if the City would like to participate on their website. The City can do their own tree inventory and update that. The website will be maintained by the State. Perry stated that he took this information back to the UFO Committee and they want to invite him back to do a presentation to the whole committee on January 10<sup>th</sup>. It sounded like everybody was excited about going with it. It is a tool that anybody could log in to the website and view our trees and a tree inventory with pictures of them and get information. UFO has been trying to do their own tree inventory through CPTPA.

Public Works-Public Works Supervisor Miller had no report.

Police-Police Chief Frazier reported that the last couple of weeks have been a lot of community relations. For the month of November they had approximately 200 calls for service. The Police Department has been working on Christmas 911. The team had put a float together for the lighted parade and with the counties assistance with some traffic control with no injuries. They took 1<sup>st</sup> Place for the parade. Chief Frazier stated they joined forces with the boys and girls basketball teams and they helped again with the fundraising at their game. It was positively received and those proceeds will go towards Christmas 911. They have about 30 families and about 57 kids that they're projecting to be able to supply a Christmas dinner to and some of the needs and wants for the kids in each one of those families. This is something that Jeff Wilson had originally put on. Chief Frazier stated that he had been a part of for about a year before he got here, but not quite from the ground floor. He thinks it is moving positive and it's really nice to see the City of Orofino and the local community around the holidays pulling together and taking care of our own. It is only being done because of that. Chief Frazier reported that they are staying busy with the weather. Update on Sergeant Deitrick's truck in regards to the damage from the tree. They are battling with the insurance company that is not cooperating. It has been turned in to ICRMP who will be fighting that battle for us. They are supposed to send another adjuster up because they do not like what the previous adjuster did. Hopefully we'll move forward with that soon. They have been in contact with the body shop to get it in. Chief Frazier is hoping it will be in before the end of December to have the work started. Councilmember Dunaway inquired on how the new signs worked out? Chief Frazier stated the signs were positive. With putting them up sooner he only had to clear a couple of vehicles off the streets to get the parade going. It was a good investment. He is planning on purchasing more signs for Lumberjack Days and the car show as the budget allows.

Water/Wastewater - Water/Wastewater Supervisor Martin asked the council if any of them were familiar with something called PFAS? PFAS is a synthetically human made chemical. It is called the forever chemical because it never degrades in nature. A lot is being found in human blood,  
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tissues and in our food supplies. PFAS is usually used in items like stain resistant carpet, nonstick frying pans and certain food cans. They're finding that there are a lot of health effects because of these chemicals that were man made. A lot of them have been discontinued, but there is still more out there. There are about 9000 total. EPA is going to come and put on a limitation of how much PFAS can be in the drinking water or water supplies for human health. Idaho Rural and National Water Association have teamed up with a law firm in New York City. It isn't for punitive damages, for cost recover. If EPA starts putting out a limitation, and we are above that limitation there will need to be added treatment or added costs to our citizens because of this global manufacturer. They will be going after that manufacturer to pay for our recovery costs. They aren't going after the companies that use the product because it is not their fault. It is the global manufacturing that made these. They want him to register with this law firm and do a retainer at no cost to the City. If the City is not on the registration rolls when it goes through the City will not be able to get the cost recovery. Supervisor Martin reported that PFAS testing has been done in the river already. He volunteered last year and there was none detected. National Guard did their own through the government and had none detected. More than likely we are never going to see anything in this area. This is just insurance if there is a huge cost to the City somebody else will pay for it. His question to the council is are they ok with him moving forward and registering the City? The law firm has already been vetted through National Water Association and Idaho Rural Water Association. They are the ones pushing all the cities to sign up. The councilmembers all agreed for Supervisor Martin to move forward with the registration.

Fire-Fire Chief Jones reported that the Fire Department started off December with 14 rescue calls and 10 fire calls. Chief Jones stated that Building Official Perry brought up earlier in the day that during Christmas there tend to be more fires. People burn stuff they shouldn't, poor maintenance on their chimneys and overload circuits when it gets cold. The command staff will be interviewing a possible new cadet. The new extrication tools will be coming by the end of the week. They will be able to simplify the process for the firefighters.

#### COUNCIL COMMENT

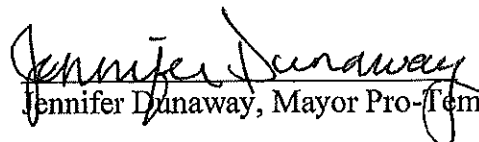
Councilmember Donner thanked the staff for the Christmas party. It was a nice change.

#### ADJOURNMENT

At 6:30 p.m., Councilmember Schrader made a MOTION to adjourn. Councilmember Swayne seconded the motion and it passed unanimously.

ATTEST:

  
 Donna M Wilson, City Clerk Treasurer

  
 Jennifer Dunaway, Mayor Pro-Tem

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