

**FINANCE/ADMINISTRATION COMMITTEE
MINUTES**

April 29, 2015

Meeting called to order on April 29, 2015, at 7:00 p.m. in the Philomath City Council Chambers by Chair Jason Leonard.

I. ROLL CALL

Present: Councilors Jason Leonard, and Angie Baca.

Staff: Joan Swanson, Finance Director; and Ruth Post, City Recorder.

II. MINUTES

MOTION: Councilor Baca moved, Councilor Leonard second, to approve the minutes of January 21, 2015, as presented. Motion APPROVED 2-0.

III. PRESENTATIONS FROM SOCIAL SERVICE AGENCIES

Bob Lowen, Chair, We Care, explained their program to provide grant funds to pay expenses like rent and utilities for people in need. He stated that approximately \$7,000 was distributed to Philomath residents last year. He explained that utilities are important and summarized the system used to avoid people having their water shutoff. He stated their priorities are families with kids, the disabled and those just coming off the HUD list. He stated there were 33 households from Philomath assisted last year. He added that they have capped their assistance at \$400 per grant. They are finding the need to raise threshold but need more funds to do that.

Sarah Woosley, PYAC, summarized the services and the activities that PYAC provides to youth in the community. She explained their scholarship program and the kids they provided assistance to.

Van Hunsaker, President, Philomath Community Services (PCS), summarized the services provided by PCS. He stated they are currently serving 197 Philomath families in one or more of their programs.

Lynn Youngs, Director of Development, ABC House, described the great working relationship they have with the Philomath Police Department in assisting with potential child abuse cases. She summarized the services they provided to 15 Philomath children last year. She described services to address possible abuse situations and counseling services. She described training provided to try to create more adult awareness at the schools.

Carly Fonk, Coordinator, Senior Meals Program, explained that she goes to people's homes to sign them up for senior meals and that hot meals are provided Monday through Friday and cold meals for the weekend. She stated that their delivery volunteers make follow-up reports if they see a need for additional help for a client and Senior Meals tries to find resources to provide that assistance. She explained the importance of the seniors being able to stay in their homes. She stated that Philomath has seen an increase in requests for services and they expect to serve up to 23 people this year, which constitutes over 8,000 meals. She stated that the aging population along with the lack of a full grocery store in town are reasons for the increase. She described the cost per meals and the suggested donation amounts. She described ways that people hear about or get referred to them.

Laurie Lehman, Strengthening Rural Families, provided a summary of their parenting education services provided throughout Benton County and all of the rural communities. She described

their coordination with LBCC, PYAC, the library and the schools. She described the Seed to Supper Program presented by OSU Extension Service and the Tasting Tables program.

IV. SOCIAL SERVICE FUNDING ALLOCATION DISCUSSION

Ms. Swanson briefly explained the City's social service agency policy which requires a portion of state shared revenues be allocated for social service agency grants. She also explained the allocations in the water and sewer funds to provide assistance with utility bills.

MOTION: Councilor Baca moved, Councilor Leonard second, the Committee recommend to the City Council the following donations: Fish Emergency Services \$3,000 and We Care \$3,000 from the water and sewer funds. Motion Approved 2-0.

The Committee considered the amounts requested by each social service agency compared to the available funds. There was discussion about the impacts the different agencies have on the community.

MOTION: Councilor Baca moved, Councilor Leonard second, the Committee recommend to the City Council the following donations: PYAC, \$6,400; Philomath Community Services, \$5,000; ABC House, \$2,750; Senior Meals Program, \$1,000, and Strengthening Rural Families, \$1,250 for a total of \$16,400 in social service donations. Motion Approved 2-0.

V. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Recorded by: Ruth Post, City Recorder