

**PHILOMATH COMMON COUNCIL**  
**MINUTES**  
**July 14, 2014**

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6 **1. CALL TO ORDER**

7 The common council of the City of Philomath was called to order on Monday, July 14,  
8 2014, at 7:00 p.m. in the Philomath City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Rocky Sloan.  
9

10 **Present:** Mayor Rocky Sloan, Councilors Angie Baca, Nolan Bartlow, Matt Bierek,  
11 Charla Koeppel, Jason Leonard, and Sean Manning.  
12

13 **Staff:** Chris Workman, City Manager; Jim Brewer, City Attorney; Ken Elwer, Police  
14 Chief; Joan Swanson, Finance Director; Kevin Fear, Public Works Director; and  
15 Ruth Post, City Recorder.  
16

17 **2. CONSENT AGENDA**

18 **2.1 City Council Minutes – June 23, 2014**

19 **2.2 Finance/Administration Committee Minutes -- April 30, 2014**  
20

21 Mayor Sloan corrected Agenda Item #2.1, Page 2, Line 5 to show that Sgt. Ray  
22 Sytsma's retirement was in June.  
23

24 **MOTION:** Councilor Manning moved, Councilor Baca second, to approve the  
25 consent agenda and the council agenda for July 14, 2014, as presented. Motion  
26 APPROVED 7-0 (Yes: Baca, Bartlow, Bierek, Koeppel, Leonard, Manning and  
27 Sloan; No: None.)  
28

29 **3. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

30 **3.1** None.  
31

32 **4. VISITORS/PETITIONS**

33 **4.1** None.  
34

35 **5. PRESENTATIONS**

36 **5.1 Municipal Court Annual Report** – The Honorable Larry J. Blake Jr. provided  
37 the Council with his annual report on operations of the Philomath Municipal  
38 Court. He noted he has been presiding in Philomath since 2001. He  
39 complimented the staff at the City that he works with, particularly Brianna  
40 Harwood, Joan Swanson, Chief Elwer and the Police Department. He explained  
41 that felonies go to Circuit Court and the Municipal Court deals with violations,  
42 misdemeanors, traffic citations, and code violations. He described the types of  
43 diversion programs he offers under certain circumstances. He stated he enjoys  
44 working with older and younger people and that his primary goal is to make sure  
45 that people stay safe. Judge Blake described challenges associated with  
46 processing DUI's and the different ways that people need to be dealt with. He  
47 stated the importance of having a local court to deal with local issues. He  
48 encouraged the Council to observe court sometime and to feel free to ask  
49 questions of him. He described the importance of people respecting his position  
50 even if they don't like his decisions.  
51

52 Chief Elwer stated his appreciation of the work that Judge Blake does. Councilor  
53 Manning stated her experience and appreciation of the work he does. Councilor

1 Leonard questioned if Judge Blake has seen a change in the behavior of young  
2 people during his years on the bench. Judge Blake described some of his  
3 methods of working with young people; and if there is a strong family support  
4 presence, he believes it's stayed about the same.  
5

6 Judge Blake described the schedule for court days and invited the Council  
7 members to come observe court if they can.  
8

9 **6. STAFF REPORTS**

10 **6.1 City Manager** – Mr. Workman provided an update on the park shelter. He stated  
11 that the second coat of interior paint needs to be applied plus some touch-up  
12 work. He explained that the monies budgeted for the shelter for this year have  
13 been expended, so the outside portion of the structure is on hold pending  
14 additional funding sources. He stated the interior will be completed to be usable.  
15 He reported on his attendance at the Oregon City County Managers Association  
16 conference last week.  
17

18 **6.2 Public Works Director** – Mr. Fear reported that South 11th Street will be chip  
19 sealed tomorrow from the library to the parking area at Marys River Park. He also  
20 reported that 455 of the transmitters have been installed on the water meters,  
21 with another 1,200 still to be installed. He reported the bid should be let soon for  
22 the rip rap project at the lagoons so it can be completed in August and  
23 September. He stated that after a short break for Frolic preparations the work is  
24 resuming on the Newton Creek Park restoration project. He stated that the  
25 individuals who were interviewed for the recent Gazette-Times newspaper story  
26 about the project did not contact either City Hall or the Public Works Department  
27 regarding their concerns. He stated that no calls have been received at either  
28 City Hall or Public Works regarding the restoration project. He described one  
29 contact that a member of his staff had while working on the project and the calls  
30 he received from DEQ and DSL in which they had no negative comments. Mayor  
31 Sloan stated that he did not receive any contacts from citizens regarding the  
32 project prior to it being reported in the newspaper. Mr. Fear stated there are  
33 additional trees in the park area that appear to be rotten and they are trying to  
34 find the fragile balance between what's best for the health of the trees and plants  
35 in that area. He described compliments that his staff received from passers-by  
36 during the day today while they were working on it.  
37

38 **6.3 City Recorder** – Ms. Post reported that Mayor Sloan has filed his prospective  
39 candidate forms and is approved to gather signatures.  
40

41 **6.4 Finance Director** – No report.  
42

43 **6.5 Police Chief** – Chief Elwer reported on recent community events such as the car  
44 show and Frolic. He complimented Public Works and Officer Mark Koeppe and  
45 his family for all of their work preceding and during these events. He stated there  
46 were no major issues this year and noted that The Meet-n-Place closed at 7:00  
47 p.m. this year and that appears to have helped reduce alcohol issues. He  
48 reported that oral boards are this week for the officer recruitment. He reported  
49 that the robbery earlier this year has been solved and the physical evidence has  
50 been tied to an individual who is already in custody on other major charges.  
51

52 **6.6 City Attorney** – No report.  
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1 **7. COUNCIL REPORTS**

2 **7.1** Mayor Sloan complimented City Manager Chris Workman and Councilor Charla  
3 Koeppé for the volunteer hours they put in during the Frolic.

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5 **8. NEW BUSINESS**

6 **8.1 LOC 2015 Legislative Priorities** – Mr. Workman reviewed the four priorities  
7 being recommended by staff. He explained the context of the issues raised by  
8 LOC and the prioritization of them. Mayor Sloan and Councilor Baca both  
9 supported the mental health issues.

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11 **MOTION:** Councilor Koeppé moved, Councilor Leonard second to direct staff to  
12 submit the proposed ballot to the LOC Policy Committee. Motion APPROVED 7-  
13 0 (Yes: Baca, Bartlow, Bierek, Koeppé, Leonard, Manning and Sloan; No –  
14 None.)

15  
16 **8.2 Social Service Agency Funding Allocations** – Ms. Swanson explained the  
17 City’s program to provide funding assistance to local agencies that provide  
18 valuable resources to the community. She explained the reduction in state  
19 revenue sharing which is the source of the funds the City allocates as prescribed  
20 in the City’s Social Service policy. Mayor Sloan questioned why the senior  
21 citizens group did not request funding. Ms. Swanson stated they have disbanded.  
22 There was brief discussion about the addition of ABC House to the funding list  
23 and the importance of their mission.

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25 **MOTION:** Councilor Manning moved, Councilor Baca second the City Council  
26 approve Social Service contributions for fiscal year 2014-15 to the following  
27 agencies: PYAC \$6,000; Philomath Community Services \$4,750; Senior Meals  
28 \$750; Strengthening Rural Families \$1,000; and ABC House \$2,000 for a total of  
29 \$14,500. And further moved the City Council approve contributions from the  
30 Water and Sewer funds for fiscal year 2014-15 to the following agencies: FISH  
31 Emergency Services \$3,000 and We Care \$3,000. Motion APPROVED 7-0 (Yes:  
32 Baca, Bartlow, Bierek, Koeppé, Leonard, Manning and Sloan; No – None.)  
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34 **9. ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS**

35 **9.1 Resolution 14-13 – Affirming the need for a Reserve Fund** – Ms. Swanson  
36 explained the city’s two reserve funds and their functions and the requirement by  
37 the state to renew the intention to use reserve funds every 10 years. She added  
38 that using these funds over the past 20 years has successfully resulted in major  
39 projects such as the new police building being paid for without asking the voters  
40 for more money. Councilor Bierek stated this is a very fiscally sound method of  
41 paying for projects and has saved citizens a lot of money.

42  
43 **MOTION:** Councilor Koeppé moved, Councilor Bierek second the City Council  
44 adopt Resolution 14-13 affirming the need for the Land, Building and Equipment  
45 Fund. Motion APPROVED 7-0 (Yes: Baca, Bartlow, Bierek, Koeppé, Leonard,  
46 Manning and Sloan; No – None.)  
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48 **10. INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

49 **10.1 Website Report for June 2014** – No comments.

50 **10.2 Philomath Connection ridership for June 2014** – No comments.

51 **10.3 FY 2013-14 Fourth Quarter Budget Update** – No comments.

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**ADJOURNMENT**

**10.1 Adjournment** –Seeing no further business, Mayor Sloan adjourned the meeting at 7:45 p.m.

SIGNED:  
Rocky Sloan, Mayor

ATTEST:  
Ruth Post, MMC, City Recorder