

**PHILOMATH CITY COUNCIL  
MINUTES  
November 14, 2016**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The City Council of the City of Philomath was called to order on Monday, November 14, 2016, at 7:00 p.m. in the Philomath City Hall Council Chambers by Mayor Rocky Sloan.

**2. ROLL CALL**

Present:

Excused:

Mayor Rocky Sloan  
Councilor Doug Edmonds  
Councilor Charla Koeppel  
Councilor Candy Koetz  
Councilor Jason Leonard  
Councilor Sean Manning  
Councilor Eric Niemann

Staff Present:

City Manager Chris Workman  
City Attorney Jim Brewer  
Chief of Police Ken Rueben  
Finance Director Joan Swanson  
Public Works Director Kevin Fear  
City Recorder Ruth Post

**3. CONSENT AGENDA**

**3.1 City Council Minutes – October 24, 2016**

**MOTION:** Councilor Edmonds moved, Councilor Leonard second, to approve the consent agenda and the Council agenda for November 14, 2016, as presented. Motion APPROVED 7-0 (Yes: Edmonds, Koeppel, Koetz, Leonard, Manning, Niemann, and Sloan; No: None.)

**4. ITEMS REMOVED FROM CONSENT AGENDA**

**4.1** None.

**5. VISITORS/PETITIONS**

**5.1** None.

**6. PRESENTATIONS**

**6.1 Presentation of Annual Audit – Nick Miller, Pauly Rogers and Company, PC –** Mr. Miller reviewed the annual independent audit. He reported there were no issues and a clean audit was declared. He stated there were no corrections to be made. Councilor Edmonds questioned if the auditor had any ongoing concerns about fiscal sustainability. Mr. Miller described the liability swing created by PERS funding but stated this was beyond the City's control. Councilor Niemann questioned what the one accounting standard was that changed. Mr. Miller described GASB 72 regarding Fair Value Measurement and Application. Mayor Sloan questioned if there were concerns about cash carryover. Mr. Miller stated there was consistency in the fund balances. Ms. Swanson clarified that Mayor Sloan was probably referring to the General Fund which

1 ended with a cash carryover under \$88,000. She explained this carryover has trended  
2 downward for the past several years.  
3

4 **7. STAFF REPORTS**

5 **7.1 City Manager** – Mr. Workman congratulated Public Works Director Kevin Fear  
6 on his 10-year anniversary with the City. He also reported that the City received a small  
7 cities grant for \$50,000 for a street project repair; however, the project that was identified  
8 was more expensive than anticipated and would have also necessitated a sewer line  
9 project that negated the value of the grant. He stated the League of Oregon Cities is  
10 working with ODOT to increase that grant to \$100,000 in coming years, so it seemed  
11 more practical to decline the current grant and re-apply when it is increased. He reported  
12 on the status of the Scenic Byway designation for Highway 34 from Waldport to I-5 that  
13 could result in increased tourism opportunities. He stated that Lincoln County and the  
14 city of Waldport have both contributed funding to facilitate the application to the State.  
15

16 **7.2 Public Works Director** – Mr. Fear reported the lighting on the East Newton  
17 Creek bike path was turned on last Thursday. He thanked RG Smith Electric for donating  
18 time and discounted materials. He stated the next project for Public Works is rock in the  
19 highway medians. He reported the lights are set on both a timer and cell. Councilor  
20 Niemann questioned the activity on Main Street today. Mr. Fear explained rock was  
21 displaced in the manholes that needed to be cleaned up prior to next summer's Urban  
22 Renewal sewer line project.  
23

24 **7.3 City Recorder** – Ms. Post congratulated all who ran for office and noted that the  
25 election results will be certified later this month.  
26

27 **7.4 Finance Director** – Ms. Swanson encouraged any members of the Council with  
28 questions about the audit to contact her. She described the loss in the General Fund  
29 ending balance and the tight control over expenses still doesn't keep up with flat  
30 revenue. She stated that only growing the existing property tax base by 3% per year is  
31 not resulting in sufficient revenue. She also reported on the bond sale last week to fund  
32 the Urban Renewal sewer replacement project and to refinance the 2009 sewer bonds  
33 that resulted in a savings to the City of almost \$600,000. She stated that Standard &  
34 Poors gave the City an A-rating and the excellent working relationship between the  
35 Council and staff is part of that equation. Councilor Edmonds clarified that the funds from  
36 the bond sale are for a project that has already been planned and the already completed  
37 sewer lagoons but has no impact on the General Fund cash carryforward issue. Ms.  
38 Swanson explained the revenue sources from the Urban Renewal Agency and the rates  
39 paid in the Sewer Fund and confirmed that they are independent of the General Fund.  
40

41 **7.5 Chief of Police** – Chief Rueben reported on the Police Committee meeting held  
42 last week and on the review of the Officer Involved Shooting Investigation Policy. He  
43 explained the partnership with Linn County for the major crimes team and currently there  
44 are differences in policy between the two counties. He stated there are differences in  
45 evidence handling particularly for videos and processing issues involving the District  
46 Attorney's office that need to reach agreement. Councilor Edmonds stated the Police  
47 Committee meeting was informative and complimented the work performed by the local  
48 department.  
49

50 **7.6 City Attorney** – Mr. Brewer provided an update on the SB1573 lawsuit and  
51 explained that the dates have been set to for oral arguments in January.  
52

1 **8. COUNCIL REPORTS**

2 **8.1 Councilor Niemann** – Councilor Niemann reported on the huge turnout for  
3 Trunk or Treat on Halloween and thanked the Police and Public Works Departments for  
4 their efforts. He thanked everyone who participated in the election last week and  
5 extended thanks to veterans in recognition of Veterans Day last Friday. He also reported  
6 on the food drive by the Cub Scouts last weekend. He thanked the community for their  
7 generosity.

8  
9 **8.2 Councilor Manning** – Councilor Manning echoed Councilor Edmond’s  
10 sentiments regarding the Police Department and stated she feels extremely safe in  
11 Philomath. She reported on comments received about the election and the city of  
12 Philomath’s participation in the lawsuit defending the community’s right to vote on  
13 annexations.

14  
15 **8.3 Mayor Sloan** – Mayor Sloan also thanked the Police Department for always  
16 responding to calls. He described other agencies that do not respond to property crimes.  
17 Chief Rueben described the impact property crimes have on people’s day-to-day lives  
18 and the importance the department places on responding to them. He stated it is  
19 refreshing that people are comfortable enough with the department to call and file  
20 reports. There was brief discussion regarding theft of signs during the election.

21  
22 **9. RESOLUTIONS/ORDINANCES**

23 **9.1 Ordinance #815 Amending the Philomath Comprehensive Plan and Zone**  
24 **Map – PC 16-09 Taylor Property Rezone – First Reading** – Mr. Brewer read the  
25 ordinance twice by title.

26  
27 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yes: Edmonds, Koepp, Koetz, Leonard, Manning, Niemann and  
28 Sloan. No: None. Absent: None. Ordinance APPROVED unanimously at first reading.  
29 Effective date: December 14, 2016.

30  
31 Mr. Brewer summarized appeal rights to the Land Use Board of Appeals.

32  
33 **9.2 Ordinance #816 Amending the Philomath Comprehensive Plan and Zone**  
34 **Map – PC16-08 Nichols Property Rezone – First Reading** – Mr. Brewer read the  
35 ordinance twice by title.

36  
37 **ROLL CALL VOTE:** Yes: Edmonds, Koepp, Koetz, Leonard, Manning, Niemann, and  
38 Sloan. No: None. Absent: None. Ordinance APPROVED unanimously at first reading.  
39 Effective date: 20 days after the owner files a legal description of the property with the  
40 City Recorder.

41  
42 Mr. Brewer summarized appeal rights to the Land Use Board of Appeals.

43  
44 **10. INFORMATION/CORRESPONDENCE**

45 **10.1 City website report – October 2016** – No comment.

46 **10.2 Philomath Connection ridership – October 2016** – No comment.

47 **10.3 Thank you letter from PYAC** – No comment.

1 11. **ADJOURNMENT**  
2 **11.1 Adjournment** – Seeing no further business, Mayor Sloan adjourned the meeting  
3 at 7:48 p.m.  
4

5 SIGNED:  
6 Rocky Sloan, Mayor

ATTEST:  
Ruth Post, MMC, City Recorder