

# Mt. Shasta City Council Regular City Council Meeting Minutes

Mt. Shasta Community Center, 629 Alder Street

Monday, March 24, 2014; 5:30 p.m.

Approved as Submitted on April 14, 2014

**“Our mission is to maintain the character and resources of our ‘small town’ community while striking an appropriate balance between economic development and preservation of our quality of life.”**

Page	Item
	<p>1. Call to Order and Flag Salute</p> <p>At the hour of 5:36 p.m., Mayor Stearns called the meeting to order and led the audience in the Pledge of Allegiance.</p>
	<p>2. Roll call</p> <p><b>Councilmembers Present:</b> Burns, Collings, and Mayor Stearns <b>Councilmembers Absent:</b> Harkness and Moore</p>
	<p>3. Overview of the Proposed Crystal Geyser Siskiyou County Project</p> <p>Mayor Stearns reviewed the protocol and agenda for the meeting.</p> <p>A. Environmental Aspects</p> <p>Judy Ye, EVP of Strategy and Marketing, Crystal Geyser, gave a brief overview of the Crystal Geyser company. She also reviewed the various products Crystal Geyser produces.</p> <p>Richard Weklych, EVP of Manufacturing and the lead for the Mt Shasta operations, gave an overview of the proposed Siskiyou County facility operations. Mr. Weklych stated their plan is to start with one line and eventually add a second line with a possibility of opening a third line in the future. Mr. Weklych discussed the time-line for the start of operations. He provided a layout of the proposed facility and reviewed their initial water use and wastewater capacity needs. He discussed the jobs and hiring process for the plant.</p> <p>Paul Rueter, City Engineer, PACE, gave an overview of their role in the EDA funded wastewater interceptor and wastewater treatment plant project and discussed briefly the proposed plans for the project, including a brief history and funding elements. Mr. Rueter stated they will be conducting an EIR for their portion of the project and that the scope of the EIR is currently in legal review.</p> <p>Drew Braugh, Conservation Director, Cal Trout, reviewed information on Cal Trout’s data, collected in 2009, on ground water and spring systems around Mt Shasta. He provided a booklet of the results of their data and ground water assessments and analysis. Mr. Braugh gave an overview of the springs,</p>

including their water production, elevation, and volume, in the region. He asked that Crystal Geysers institute adequate monitoring systems and work with the community on this point to attain baseline information for the establishment of ongoing monitoring.

Peter Rude, Civil Engineer, CH2MHILL, briefly reviewed their role with Crystal Geysers, and the proposed Siskiyou County plant. He provided information on the hydrogeology viewpoint and data received by the Dannon, Coca-Cola company, comparing it to the proposed Crystal Geysers project. Mr. Rude provided an overview and history of the springs/aquifer and monitoring in relation to the proposed Crystal Geysers plant. He further discussed the details of the DEX-6 well.

Martin Barackman, Hydrogeologist, CH2MHILL, reviewed the hydrogeological data and measurements of the effects of pumping on the ground water. Mr. Barackman discussed the basic elemental geologic formations surrounding the DEX-6 well and the Big Spring aquifer. He answered six main questions regarding the use of ground water with respect to the proposed bottling plant. Mr. Barackman concluded, with the data they have, there will not be a significant impact on the ground water resources as a result of the bottling plant pumping.

Heather Waldrop, Environmental Planner, CH2MHILL, provided an overview of the traffic and truck routes to and from the proposed Crystal Geysers plant. She discussed traffic volume, hours of traffic, and the I-5 interchange.

A letter from Lee Davidson, Hydrologist, was submitted and read into the record by the Deputy City Clerk.

Mayor Stearns called a brief recess of the meeting at 7:06 p.m. The meeting was called back to order at 7:27 p.m.

Written questions from the public were read and answered by the panel of presenters.

#### B. Economics of Project

Tonya Dowse, Executive Director, Siskiyou County Economic Development Council, provided background on the SCEDC.

Monte Mendenhall, SCEDC Councilmember, provided an overview of the economic status of the area as well as Siskiyou County and Mt Shasta's unemployment rates.

Eric Levesque, SCEDC Councilmember, commented on the economic effects for the community with respect to the proposed Siskiyou County Crystal Geysers project. He spoke in regards to the economic benefits of the Crystal Geysers project and new job creation.

Written questions from the public were read and answered by the panel of presenters.

C. Community Impacts and Contributions

Judy Ye, EVP of Strategy and Marketing, Crystal Geyser, shared some upcoming events planned by Crystal Geyser. She indicated they have become a member of the Mt Shasta Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Ye spoke to future facility plans.

Written questions from the public were read and answered by the panel of presenters.

D. Closing Comments

No closing comments were presented.

E. Public Comment

Mayor Stearns opened Public Comment and outlined the process to be taken. He indicated each individual will have two minutes to speak.

- **Rose Taylor:** Encouraged the City Council and Crystal Geyser representatives to watch the PBS documentary called Blue Gold. Ms. Taylor spoke to her concerns regarding the effects of extracting water resources.
- **David Casebeer:** Read a letter to the editor that ran in the local newspaper regarding the Crystal Geyser plant project.
- **Doug Blackwell:** Indicated he spoke with Mr. Knight of Cal Trout. He opines Cal Trout has offered to test the water at Big Springs to confirm there are no negative effects from Crystal Geysers water extraction. He suggested there be a dialogue between Cal Trout and Crystal Geyser regarding testing.
- **John Livingston:** Stated he is from Redding and is the Executive Director for the Sierra Club, representing more than 700 members between Redding and the Oregon border. Mr. Livingston reported the Sierra Club is against the Crystal Geyser plant.
- **Jill Gardner:** Spoke to her concerns regarding Crystal Geyser taking responsibility for damage that may be done to community water resources.
- **Diane Lowe:** Stated she is disappointed so many questions have not been answered tonight. Ms. Lowe indicated she is also disappointed in the SCEDC report.
- **Gary Woods:** Reported he graduated from high school here, but there weren't any jobs to come back to when he graduated from college. He has since retired and moved back and is encouraged about the additional jobs Crystal Geyser operations will bring to the area.
- **Molly Brown:** Asked how the regulations will be enforced? Ms. Brown wants to know what the legal recourse will be if the information given regarding Crystal Geyser operations is not accurate.
- **Dan Faber:** Inquired about the City or County negotiating with Crystal Geyser to repave the roads at the Abrams Lake exit and interchange

area. Mr. Faber also wanted to know what type of fuel would be used in the trucks.

- **Melinda Willey:** Quoted information from Osaka webpage, which outlined several areas of concern with respect to compliance to a higher standard. Ms. Willey called for Crystal Geysers to complete an independent EIR.
- **Jennifer Matthews:** Stated her disappointment with Crystal Geysers for not committing to voluntarily proving they care about our community by making further efforts toward an EIR.
- **Raven Stevens:** Questioned when an EIR would be required, if not in a heavy industrial zone. Asked to view the 1996 hydrology report completed by CH2MHILL and the current hydrology reports. Indicated she will meet with both Ms. Ye and Mr. Weklych to review the mitigations that have not been completed.
- **Vickie Gold:** Spoke to her concerns regarding the water resource and the standing issue of an EIR, and traffic of both staff and trucks.
- **Caleen Sisk:** Chief of the Winnemum Wintu Tribe. The Winnemum Wintu is a historic tribe to the mountain and watershed. Ms. Sisk indicated their spring is now dry. She voiced her concern over extracting water from the volcano. Ms. Sisk reported there is not enough information regarding the effects to the mountain/volcano.
- **Louisa Navejas:** Member of the Winnemum Wintu Tribe. She stated her tribe has water rights under the UN Drip, a United Nations Declaration of Indigenous Peoples, of which both the United States and Japan signed. Ms. Navejas indicated the springs of the mountain are sacred sites at which her people still hold as part of their tradition.
- **Mark Miyoshi:** Member of the Winnemum Wintu Tribe. Stated his concern regarding the use permit under which Crystal Geysers would operate, which still allows for the use of the leech fields on the property. Mr. Miyoshi would like the County and City to include the testing of the leech fields as part of the EIR.
- **Gentle Thunder:** Stated she is here tonight seeking understanding. Ms. Thunder indicated that while she appreciates the information shared to date, she feels there is more to be gained and shared by having the full picture and all of the information.
- **John Kennedy, Jr.:** Read from a letter his father had written in favor of Crystal Geysers and economic benefits to be gained. Mr. Kennedy, Sr. is concerned about the current economic status of our community.
- **Daniel Axelrod:** Stated there needs to be expert opinions and advice on the water extraction issue, not just from the hydrologists hired by Crystal Geysers. Mr. Axelrod spoke to the ongoing monitoring aspects.
- **Dennis King:** Spoke to the Constitution and the rights of the individual residents.
- **Angelina Cook:** Stated her concern about the democratic process. Ms. Cook opined we need to be viewing our water resource as the most important resource, especially with the current drought conditions.
- **Dale LaForest:** He is representing the citizen group Mt Shasta Tomorrow. Mr. LaForest commented there is a serious issue with Crystal Geysers' use and the County's General Plan, which does not

	<p>allow heavy industrial uses on the Crystal Geyser property. He provided a diagram and written materials outlining this restriction and briefly reviewed it for the record.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b><u>Ron Hammar:</u></b> Shared his observations regarding the various relationships between the community, the City Council, and Crystal Geyser. If these groups worked together, this may be a beneficial project. Mr. Hammar suggested there be a Citizen’s Advisory Committee to assist with the flow of information regarding concerns and dissemination of information.</li> <li>• <b><u>Bayla Greenspoon:</u></b> Spoke on behalf of the Gateway Neighborhood Association. Ms. Greenspoon suggested Crystal Geyser create a fund designated for damages to the local community, such as issues with their wells.</li> <li>• <b><u>Peggy Rich:</u></b> Stated she appreciated all the input and intelligence in the room. She expressed her concerns about the Crystal Geyser operations and asked the City Council to establish enforceable standards for the extraction of water.</li> <li>• <b><u>Maggie Shepherd:</u></b> is a registered nurse with a background in public health. Ms. Shepherd stated her concerns over the industry use of chemicals and the use of plastics, including their long term adverse impact to the health of the community.</li> <li>• <b><u>Doug Cole:</u></b> Resident and business owner here in Mt Shasta. He indicated his support for the Crystal Geyser project. Mr. Cole submitted a petition showing the support from other Mt Shasta residents and business owners. He further indicated they support a broad and diverse, sustainable economic infrastructure other than relying solely on tourism, and support positive employment opportunities.</li> <li>• <b><u>Dawn Snure:</u></b> Shared her support for the Crystal Geyser project.</li> <li>• <b><u>Ruth Pettinghouse:</u></b> Moved here for the water and nature. She stated her concern over the State and local government to manage the water resources.</li> <li>• <b><u>David Wallace:</u></b> Stated his appreciation for the information and commented on the need for an EIR to be conducted. Mr. Wallace spoke to his support for creative jobs through environmentally conscience avenues.</li> </ul> <p>Mayor Stearns thanked the public and the speakers for their participation.</p>
	<p>4. Approval of Minutes: Minutes of March 06, 2014 Special City Council Meeting  Minutes of March 10, 2014 Regular City Council Meeting</p> <p>Mayor Stearns carried the minutes over to the next Regular City Council meeting of April 14, 2014, due to meeting time constraints.</p>
	<p>5. Brown Act Committee Minutes/Meetings: None</p>
	<p>6. Upcoming Future Agenda Items:</p> <p>a. Centennial Park property update from City Attorney</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>b. Undergrounding of electrical utility on Alma Street by Public Works Director</li> <li>c. Extension of Sanitation Services Agreement or RFP for Sanitation for the City of Mt. Shasta agreement. Current agreement ends March 31, 2014.</li> <li>d. Award Contracts for State mandated waste water treatment improvements Engineering and Environmental Contracts.</li> <li>e. Downtown to City Park Trail Plan Update</li> <li>f. Update regarding Short-term Vacation Rentals</li> <li>g. Strategic Planning Session</li> <li>h. Contributions to Siskiyou County Economic Development Council</li> <li>i. Review of Ordinance #275 with the intent to add language allowing the inclusion of downtown property owners to be eligible to sit on the DEAC</li> <li>j. Potential Annexation of Orchard Property</li> <li>k. Water System Update</li> <li>l. Downtown Recycling</li> <li>m. Waste Water Treatment Plant Reconstruction Update</li> <li>n. Presentation RE: 100 Mile Mountain Biking Trail Project</li> </ul>
	<p>7. Public Comment:</p> <p>Public Comment was taken up earlier in the meeting; no further Public Comment was heard.</p>
	<p>8. Adjourn</p> <p>There being no further business before the Council, the meeting was adjourned at the hour of 10:34 p.m. to the next Regular City Council Meeting to be held on Monday, April 14, 2014 at 5:30 p.m.</p>

Respectfully Submitted,  
*Tammy Laphorne*  
 Tammy Laphorne,  
 Deputy City Clerk