

**Mt. Shasta City Council Regular Meeting Minutes**

July 26, 2021

Mt. Shasta City Park Upper Lodge, 1315 Nixon Rd.

Mt. Shasta, CA

Approved as Submitted

“Our mission is to maintain the character of our “small town” community while striking an appropriate balance between economic development and preservation of our quality of life. We help create a dynamic and vital City by providing quality, cost-effective municipal services and by forming partnerships with residents and organizations in the constant pursuit of excellence.”

**STANDING AGENDA ITEMS**

**1. Call to Order and Flag Salute:** At the hour of 5:30 p.m. Mayor John Redmond called the meeting to order and led the audience in the flag salute.

**2. Roll Call:**

Council Members Present: Redmond, Collings, Clure, Stearns, Stackfleth

Council Members Absent: None

John Kenny, City Attorney – Report on closed session; no action taken.

**3. Public Comment:**

Johanna Altorfer – Letter read into the record by the Deputy City Clerk. Comments expressed concern about the substance of the minutes and a request that her public comments be amended. Suggestions for future Zoom or WebEx meetings, ‘meet and greets’ with Council and Commission.

Betty Kreeger – Comments about meeting sound, chlorination, community priorities, getting information to all residents.

Francis Mangels – Suggestion for City ordinance relating to fire breaks, flammable vegetation.

Shelley Cerasaro – Comments about chlorination. Read letter regarding train horns.

**4. Council and Staff Comments:**

Muriel Howarth Terrell, Finance Director – Comments regarding positive coliform test and direction from the State to chlorinate. Review of fire and police personnel working on the Dixie Fire, Code Enforcement Officer start date, Youth Conservation Corp work with the Public Works department, current recruitment efforts, American Rescue Plan money, solid waste and recycling issues, State mandates,

Jeffrey Collings, Mayor Pro Tem – Comments regarding railroad crossings and train horns.

John Stackfleth, Councilmember – Comments regarding expenditures, percentage of labor cost, grants.

Comments regarding increasing revenue for the City and the need for growth. Comments regarding Summit Disposal and solid waste fee increase, recycling.

**CITY COUNCIL BUSINESS**

**5. Consent Agenda:**

**COUNCIL ACTION:** Approved the following Consent Agenda items. All Resolutions and Ordinances on this agenda, or added hereto, shall be introduced or adopted, as applicable, by title only, and the full reading thereof is hereby waived.

- a. Approval of Minutes: July 12, 2021 Regular City Council Meeting
- b. Approval of Disbursements: Accounts Payable, 7/15/2021; Total Gross Payroll and Taxes: For Period Ending 7/11/2021
- c. Letters of Support: SB 619 and Budget Request for Local Assistance for Organic Waste Recycling Program Development and Implementation

- d. Resolution CCR-21-27 Adopting a List of Projects to be Funded by SB1
- e. Monthly Investment Report

COUNCIL ACTION: Approve consent agenda with amendment to minutes of July 12, 2021 as requested by Councilmember Stearns.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Redmond

SECOND: Stackfleth

AYES: Redmond, Collings, Stackfleth, Clure, Stearns

NOES: None

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**6. Discussion and Possible Action: Emergency Preparedness**

Matt Melo, Fire Chief – Review of various alert systems including sirens and why they aren't recommended.

Review of systematic evacuation processes implemented as needed. Review of map of fuel reduction projects, recommendation to clear rights-of-way for safe egress. Review of Mt. Shasta Fire Wildfire Safety Guide.

Clarifying questions from Council.

Matt Melo, Fire Chief – Comments regarding personal responsibility, the at-risk community, and misinformation on social media. Review of use of CodeRed for emergencies only.

Larry Turman, CALFIRE Battalion Chief – Review of fuel reduction project map, current, completed, and proposed projects. Review of contingency line constructed on the mountain during the Lava Fire. Thank you to the City for fire department response during the Bradley Fire.

Robert Gibson, Acting Chief of Police – Review of City response to the Lava Fire; process, emergency operations plan, evacuation plan. Review of mutual aid options, misinformation on social media, information sources.

Clarifying questions from Council.

Betty Kreeger – Comments thanking the fire department.

Shelley Cerasaro – Comments expressing concern over lack of updated information.

Frances Mangels – Comments in opposition of sirens and in support of current system. Handed in public comment letter from Johanna Altorfer.

Beverly Harlan – Expressing gratitude for the fire department, comments regarding information and communication.

Anonymous – Comments in opposition to City sirens.

COUNCIL ACTION: No Council action.

**7. Discussion and Possible Action: Memorandum of Understanding Between the City of Mt. Shasta and Mt. Shasta Fire**

Muriel Howarth Terrell, Finance Director – Review of staff report, MOU. Comments regarding the development of an MOU, inappropriateness of MOU due to fire department not part of a bargaining unit.

Clarifying questions from Council.

Julie Titus – Questions regarding the fire department and why they aren't a part of a bargaining unit, fire department salaries.

Council discussion.

COUNCIL ACTION: Direct staff to come back with a proposed resolution indicating current terms and making recommendations.

MOTION TO APPROVE: Stearns

SECOND: Clure

AYES: Redmond, Stackfleth, Clure, Stearns

NOES: Collings

ABSENT: None

ABSTAIN: None

**8. Discussion and Possible Action: Fire Department Staffing, Funding, and Reorganization**

Muriel Howarth Terrell, Finance Director – Review of staff report. Department restructure, consolidation of

south county fire and other services, possible tax initiative, use of consultants for initiative and consolidation studies.

Clarifying questions from Council.

Bob Ashworth, Mt. Shasta Fire Protection District Board Chair – Questions regarding when the City intends to include the District in its discussions.

Council discussion.

Matt Melo, Fire Chief – Comments regarding retirement, cost-cutting, reorganization of the fire department, property insurance and the need to maintain a fire department. Comments regarding safety issues at the current fire station and the need for a new facility.

Council discussion.

Councilmember Clure made a motion to approve the lay-off of Chief Melo and provide a severance in the sum of \$75,000, subject to legal review. The motion was seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Collings.

Council discussion.

Voice Vote: 1-4-0-0, motion fails. (Aye: Redmond Nay: Clure, Collings, Stearns, Stackfleth)

**Meeting Recess: 8:07 p.m. – 8:15 p.m.**

**9. Discussion and Possible Action: How to Proceed with General Plan 2045**

Muriel Howarth Terrell, Finance Director – Review of staff report, history of General Plan 2045, process and progress, grant money awarded.

Clarifying questions from Council and discussion about workshops.

Betty Kreeger – Read a letter from Peggy Risch, comments in opposition to 2045 General Plan draft.

Daryl Kennedy – Comments on proposed Land Use Element, request for workshops to be held when working people can attend, request for additional advertising.

Beverly Harlan – Comments in agreement with Mr. Kennedy.

Council discussion, no action taken. Decision to wait until the new City Manager is hired before holding workshops.

**10. Designation of Voting Delegate and Alternate for the Annual Business Meeting Portion of the California League of Cities Annual Conference**

Kathy Joyce, Deputy City Clerk – Review of staff report.

Council discussion.

**COUNCIL ACTION:** Designate Councilmember Clure as Voting Delegate and Councilmember Stearns as Alternate.

**MOTION:** Stackfleth

**SECOND:** Redmond

**AYES:** Clure, Stackfleth, Stearns, Collings Redmond

**NOES:** None

**ABSENT:** None

**ABSTAIN:** None

**11. Future Agenda Items (Appearing on the agenda within 60-90 days):**

**COUNCIL ACTION:** Reviewed Items a through f. Items added to future agendas: SB 10 Opposition Letter, Resolution regarding Fire Department salaries.

- a. Discussion and Possible Action: Annexation of the Orchard and Crystal Geyser Properties – TBD
- b. Discussion and Possible Action: Consolidation of South County Services – TBD
- c. General Plan Workshops – TBD
- d. Discussion and Possible Action: Review of Chapter 13.95 Extraction and Exportation of Groundwater from the City of Mt. Shasta - TBD
- e. Discussion and Possible Action: Short-Term Rental Moratorium – TBD
- f. Establishing the Priorities of the City – TBD



**12. Adjourn:** There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

**Respectfully Submitted By:** Kathryn M. Joyce, Administrative Assistant/Deputy City Clerk