



**CITY OF PRINEVILLE**  
**Regular Meeting Brief**  
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<http://cityofprineville.com/meetings/>

City Council Meeting Brief  
March 12, 2024

**Council Members Present:**

Marv Sumner  
Jason Beebe  
Gail Merritt

Steve Uffelman  
Scott Smith  
Shane Howard  
Janet Hutchison

**Council Members Absent**

None.

**Additions to the Agenda**

None.

**Consent Agenda**

1. Regular Meeting Brief March 12-2024

**Councilor Howard made a motion to approve consent agenda as presented. Motion seconded. No discussion on motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**Visitors, Appearances and Requests**

No one came forward.

**Council Presentations**

None.

**Council Business**

2. **Consideration of a Proclamation – International Dark Skies Night – Sponsor Councilor Sumner**

Councilor Sumner provided background information on the proclamation request.

Councilor Uffelman announced that the concrete pad has been installed at Barnes Butte Recreation Area (BBRA) and that assembly of the telescope is intended to be completed soon. The telescope will be donated to the City.

Councilor Sumner stated that there will be a presentation at COIC on this as well.

No further discussion.

**Councilor Uffelman made a motion to accept the proclamation. No discussion on motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**3. Consideration of a Proclamation – Vietnamese Remembrance Day – Sponsor Mayor Beebe**

Mayor Beebe explained that he is sponsoring this proclamation and has sponsored the Vietnamese proclamations in the past.

There were no discussions.

**Councilor Merritt made a motion to accept the proclamation. Motion seconded. No discussion on motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

**4. Review of Planning Commission Recommendation for Zone & Comprehensive Plan Maps Update – Josh Smith**

Josh Smith, Planning Director said there is not a power point presentation since all of the information is in the packet. This is meant to reconcile the Comprehensive Plan map with the Zoning map. There was no opposition received, though several people showed up for the public hearing in favor of this, especially since it could affect some lending options with the differences between the two maps.

There were discussions regarding commercial and outlying commercial and that there are no differences between the two.

Mayor Beebe stated he doesn't want to review it since he believes this is why we have a Planning Commission.

Council agreed not to review.

Mr. Smith explained that an ordinance will come to Council at the next meeting for its first presentation.

**Staff Reports and Requests:**

**5. City Manager's Report– Steve Forrester**

Steve Forrester, City Manager went through highlights for each department.

Mr. Forrester added that Bureau of Reclamation (BOR) has instructed Ochoco Irrigation District (OID) to release water from both Ochoco and Prineville reservoirs as the snow pack is over average. Both reservoirs are expected to be completely full.

Caroline Ervin, Director of Strategy and Economic Development reported that the city is going to receive an additional \$3M in grant funding that has been announced in the last few weeks. We have \$2M that is coming in from the state legislature which is to support new housing starts and support infrastructure for water and wastewater services. We also have \$1M coming in from congressionally directed spending dollars thanks to Senators Merkley and Wyden who were instrumental in that.

Discussions continued regarding the irrigation pipe going through BBRA and that the request for bids are expected to go out in May. Grading work will be done along the canal during the summer in anticipation of switching to the new pipe after irrigation season. This project would not have been possible without the partnerships the city has formed in the community. The pipe will be running adjacent to the new road for the Combs Flat Road extension project.

There were no further questions or comments.

#### **6. City Water Supply History and Future Position Presentation – Casey Kaiser / Adam Sussman (GSI)**

Casey Kaiser, Public Works Director went through a power point presentation stating he wanted to take a little time to go through with summer coming up. Mr. Kaiser explained that there are two types of water: physical and paper.

Mr. Kaiser said that we are in a unique position compared to other cities in the west.

Mr. Kaiser continued with the current city water system and went through water, water rights and mitigation credits and highlighted some of the strategic decisions made over the years to help us get here.

The presentation continued with an introduction to the Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) facility and how it works. The water demand cycle, the water demand with the ASR program, and the many advantages of the ASR.

Adam Sussman, GSI came forward and provided background on the state of the city's water rights and supply in 2005 versus present and the remarkable position of the city for the future. The city has gone from a loss of 30% water pumping loss to under 5%.

Mr. Sussman went through a summary of the water rights acquired, how and where they were acquired.

Mr. Kaiser continued with water rights and permits the city has versus the current and future demands.

Discussions continued regarding our conservation efforts, upgrading the system and fixing leaks. Implementation of a regular water line replacement routine and achieving the replacement of the last known wooden pipes in town. The city also provides water conservation items to customers such as leak detection tablets and efficient shower heads. The city didn't rely on any one thing to get us to this position and the telemetry system also contributing to conserving.

There were no further discussions.

### **7. Railroad Capital Improvement Projects Presentation – Matt Wiederholt**

Matt Wiederholt, Railroad Manager provided an update highlighting that they have replaced 26 switches and implemented a bridge maintenance program that includes an annual inspection by an engineer. Mr. Wiederholt now has about 12 years of documentation. Every two years the bridge goes through “knock” inspections and every five years undergoes and ultrasound testing and drone inspection which started about two years ago.

Mr. Wiederholt continued with pictures of the bridge projects and industry recruitment efforts for the railroad.

The new locomotive is still in Coos Bay and waiting on mechanical inspection. Coos Bay also just lost two bridges so they are looking at about 1.5 months before we see it.

There was no further discussion.

### **Committee Reports**

Council Smith reported that he participated in an interview panel last Friday for ODOT since Gary Farnsworth has retired. Councilor Smith talked about some of the candidates and added that they are down to two now who are Bob Townsend and Tiffany Johnson who is currently an Amazon Manager.

### **Ordinances:**

None.

### **Resolutions**

None.

### **Visitors, Appearances and Requests:**

No one came forward.

**Adjourn**

**Councilor Hutchison made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion seconded. No discussion on motion. All in favor, motion carried.**

Meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

**Motions and Outcomes:**

Motion:	Outcome	Beebe	Howard	Hutchison	Merritt	Smith	Sumner	Uffelmann
Consent Agenda as presented	PASSED	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Motion to Accept the International Dark Skies Night Proclamation	PASSED	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Motion to Accept the Vietnamese Remembrance Day	PASSED	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y
Adjourn Meeting	PASSED	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y	Y

Public Records Disclosure

Under the Oregon public records law, all meeting information, agenda packets, ordinances, resolutions, audio and meeting briefs are available at the following URL:

<https://www.cityofprineville.com/meetings> .