

CITY OF McMinnville
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Held at the Kent L. Taylor Civic Hall on Gormley Plaza
McMinnville, Oregon

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 6:00 p.m.

Presiding: Kellie Menke, Council President

Recording Secretary: Melissa Bisset

Councilors:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused Absence</u>
	Remy Drabkin	Zack Geary
	Adam Garvin	Scott Hill
	Sal Peralta	
	Wendy Stassens	

Also present were City Attorney David Koch, Patrol Captain Rhonda Jaasko, Police Chief Matt Scales, Sergeant Steve McCartney, and members of the News Media – Dave Adams, KLYC Radio, and Jerry Eichten, McMinnville Community Media.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Menke called the meeting to order at 6:03 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.
2. DISCUSSION OF A POSSIBLE ALARM ORDINANCE.

Police Chief Scales presented. He shared that Sergeant Macartney researched and created the report as part of a supervision class that he took after his promotion to sergeant. Chief Scales thanked Sergeant McCartney for his work.

Police Chief Scales explained that the Police Department has been dealing with False alarms for many years. There have been discussions since early 2000 regarding a possible ordinance to address the issue of false alarm activations. He stated that there was some opposition to alarm ordinance from the alarm companies at that time. Many jurisdictions have ordinance related to permitting and false alarms. Chief Scales stated the ordinance should not be punitive. The program should be education, provide for outreach, and provides for the opportunity for voluntary compliance.

Sergeant Macartney did a two year data poll on alarm response activations. The data proved was from December 2016 through November 2018. He shared that there were 1,778 false alarm responses. 94 resulted in “no response” designations because of the multiple alarms on the same day and location. Only eight of the calls resulted in an actual crime event.

Sergeant Maccartney stated that not all alarms are equal. He explained that there is a difference between an intrusion alarm or premises unsecured and a

robbery alarm. During the 2016-2018 time period there were 148 robbery/hold-up false alarms. These types of alarms are different as they may result in an entire shift responding. Chief Scales stated that resources are being diverted during false alarms. He explained that an alarm response usually requires two officers and robbery or other special alarms (high risk or large facilities) require the use of additional response resources. He stated that the officers and public are being put at risk during these type of responses.

All available units usually respond to hold up alarms. This means there were approximately 592 officers responded to unnecessary emergency responses. Discussion ensued regarding liability of responding to false alarms. He shared national statistics on police emergency response collisions, line of duty deaths as a result of traffic collisions, and police injuries in emergency response collisions. Chief Scales estimated the cost of false alarm responses to be approximately \$1,321.25 per month or \$15,855.00 annually. He noted that the actual cost is likely greater as the estimate is based on salary alone and not the total cost of compensation.

Sergeant Macartney explained that the proposed alarm permit ordinance would provide for the gathering of contact information for business and residents with alarms. The goal is to have all alarm systems permitted. He explained that this is an attempt to mitigate and help citizens prevent false alarms as well as gain valuable contact information.

Chief Scales stated that initially it would be about education and prevention information. A false alarm education flyer will be issued at the time of permitting to provide alarm users valuable information in how they can take steps to voluntarily comply with the proposed alarm ordinance. He shared the suggested costs for the permits and penalties for failing to obtain permits.

Sergeant Macartney explained that the intent is not to be punitive. Failure to obtain/ renew the permit is correctible if the permit or renewal is obtained and proof is provided prior to the scheduled court appearance. The goal is to have more information so citizens may be served better.

Discussion ensued regarding municipal court fees.

City Attorney Koch explained that multiple citations could be issued.

Chief Scales stated that there is not a penalty associated with the first two false alarms. There would be fines for three or more false alarms in a year. If a user has five or more false alarms in any alarm permit year the cost would be \$160 for a Residential user or \$265 for a Commercial user.

Failure to take corrective measures is correctable (first violation) if the user in violation submits the following prior to the schedule initial court appearance: a plan which articulates how future false alarms will be prevented, and a complete inspection/ repair work order from an alarm business.

Councilor Drabkin felt that there may be too much of a grace period. Sergeant Macartney explained that he was careful in crafting the proposed ordinance to fit the City. He stated that the Police Department wants to do the right thing and assist citizen in their time of need. He took a slow pace sharing that he wants citizens understand the Police Department is there to serve them and they would like to provide citizens with every opportunity for voluntary compliance.

Discussion ensued regarding the cost of administering a permitting program and cost recovery. Chief Scales noted that the Planning Department has a program that can be used for the proposed permitting program.

Chief Scales stated that there were 34,000 calls for service last year. It was noted that false alarms are controllable calls.

Discussion ensued regarding communication with alarm companies. Police Sergeant Macartney stated that alarm systems have become much more affordable and accessible and anticipates there will continue to be an increase in false alarms. There will be proactive informational material provided at permitting and at the time of response to a false alarm. There are several businesses with chronic false alarms because of turnover and new employees not being trained on alarm systems. Most residences would not have two or more false alarms per year.

Chief Scales asked if Council would like to move forward with the proposed Alarm Ordinance.

Chief Scales stated the goal is to educate the community for several months. Sergeant Macartney explained that the proposed Ordinance would go into effect on January 1, 2020 for Commercial Business and July 1, 2020 for Residences.

Councilor Garvin suggested that the proposed Alarm Permit Ordinance be implemented with the Business Permit Ordinance that will be proposed later in the year.

Councilor Peralta shared that some of the research he read showed that there could be a 60-95 percent reduction in false alarms by implementing an ordinance.

Councilor Drabkin stated she was in support of the Ordinance in the timeframe for implantation. She was also interested in true cost recovery and tying the numbers to the penalties.

Councilor Stassens stated that she is in support of the proposed Ordinance and agrees with Councilor Garvin about creating efficiencies through adding it to the Business Permit Ordinance. Discussion ensued regarding fees in other organizations and what seemed to work best.

Councilor Drabkin stated that the number of false alarm calls is a significant amount. It was reiterated that false alarm calls are risk points for officers and that there may be complacency in responding because of the high number of false alarm responses.

Councilor Peralta felt that the proposed Ordinance was good as is.

Discussion ensued regarding the Police Department using discretion on penalties for false alarms.

Councilor Stassens noted that there are scenarios where it is not necessary to respond to the alarms and on-duty supervisors can approve no response.

Council President Menke thanked Chief Scales and Sergeant Macartney for their work.

3. ADJOURNMENT: Council President Menke adjourned the Work Session at 6:52 p.m.

s/s Melissa Bisset
Melissa Bisset, City Recorder

CITY OF McMinnville
MINUTES OF CITY COUNCIL MEETING
Held at the Kent L. Taylor Civic Hall on Gormley Plaza
McMinnville, Oregon

Tuesday, February 26, 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Presiding: Kellie Menke, Council President

Recording Secretary: Melissa Bisset

Councilors:	<u>Present</u>	<u>Excused Absence</u>
	Remy Drabkin	Zack Geary
	Adam Garvin	Scott Hill
	Sal Peralta	
	Wendy Stassens	

Also present were City Attorney David Koch, Patrol Captain Rhonda Jaasko, Police Chief Matt Scales, Sergeant Steve Macartney, and members of the News Media – Dave Adams, KLYC Radio, and Jerry Eichten, McMinnville Community Media.

1. CALL TO ORDER: Council President Menke called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and welcomed all in attendance.

2. PLEDGE

Councilor Drabkin led the Pledge of Allegiance.

3. INVITATION TO CITIZENS FOR PUBLIC COMMENT: Council President Menke invited the public to comment.

There were no public comments.

There was a Boy Scout Troop present. Council President Menke invited the Troop to introduce themselves and gave them City of McMinnville pins.

4. ADVICE/ INFORMATION ITEMS

4.a. Reports from Councilors on Committee & Board Assignments

Councilor Drabkin invited everyone to the upcoming McMinnville Affordable Housing Task Force meeting. They would be hearing an update on HB 595 and SB 2001 and the Statewide Housing Plan. The Housing Needs Analysis would also be discussed. There will be a meeting discussing a potential floating zone for the City. Councilor Drabkin commented on the overnight car camping program stating that while there are no current sites using the City partnerships, there are approximately six sites where people are being provided housing by friends or neighbors that would not have been

allowed if not for the Ordinance. They have sites in development and are working with a small handful of partners to get some sites operational.

Councilor Stassens that the there was a meeting with MURAC and a Citizen Advisory Committee regarding Third Street planning.

Councilor Garvin shared that there was a YCOM meeting and an Airport Commission Meeting is coming up. He noted that YCOM is working on how calls are billed.

Councilor Peralta stated that he had his first meeting as a representative on the Parkway Committee. He had testified on SB 595 which is a bill that would allow jurisdictions to apply 30 percent of their transient lodging tax towards affordable housing projects in the community. The testimony he provided was heavily reliant on Staff analysis. He thanked Planning Director Heather Richards and Senior Planner Tom Schauer for their work. He congratulated Councilor Drabkin for the six camping sites. Councilor Peralta shared that Planning Director Heather Richards was awarded the Wes Kvarsten Professional Service Award by the Mid-Willamette Valley Council of Governments (MWVCOG) for having a great 2018. The City of McMinnville along with Carlton, Lafayette, Yamhill County, and McMinnville Water and Light for the Yamhill Regional Water Authority won a regional cooperative award for the work done in 2011 to establish a regional water solution. He also noted that during Strategic Planning the economic health of regional employees was discussed and he had received a call from Cascade Steel asking for a letter of support to the legislature addressing Cascade Steel's importance of being a regional employer and a recycling entity.

4.b. Department Head Reports

Chief Scales shared that the part-time evidence technician was hired. They also recently swore in a lateral officer. He stated that they are almost finished with their reaccreditation. Downtown Safety Task Force post results survey are out. There have been approximately 60 comments so far and they are generally more positive.

Planning Director Richards shared that the Project Advisory Committee for the Housing Needs Analysis will be next week. She thanked the Council for their support and stated that the award from the MWVCOG is an award for everyone collectively as a team stating that it is a full holistic circle doing the work.

City Manager Towery stated that Dave Gehring has been a City Employee for 30 years. His last day is tomorrow and he will be missed. The McMinnville Economic Development Partnership has selected a replacement for Jody Christensen and a new executive director will be in place by March.

5. CONSENT AGENDA
- a. Consider OLCC request for a Winery 2nd location license from Giovingo Vineyards LLC at 2803 NE Orchard Avenue.

Council Peralta MOVED to adopt the consent agenda as presented;
SECONDED by Councilor Stassens. Motion PASSED unanimously.

6. RESOLUTION
- a. Consider Resolution No. 2019-15: A Resolution appointing a member to the Affordable Housing Task Force.

Planning Director Richards explained that the vacancy on the Affordable Housing Task Force was created when Meredith Nelson left to Eugene. Staff recommended the appoint of Shannon Carefoot from the Willamette Valley Medical Center who represents the hospital and the business community. Since the remainder of the term is less than a year they are recommending that the appointment last through December 31, 2022. Ms. Carefoot has experience from Habitat for Humanity as well as a long institutional experience in McMinnville. She is recommended by Chair and Vice Chair of the Task Force. Ms. Richards shared that there was a solicitation for applications when Meredith Nelson was appointed and that she was only able to attend one meeting before she relocated. Ms. Richards explained that the hospital has been vocal about losing employees and having difficulty recruiting employees due to housing situation in McMinnville. They felt that having a representative from the hospital would be a good representation of what the business community is experiencing in that regard.

Councilor Garvin MOVED to adopt Resolution No. 2019-15 appointing a member to the Affordable Housing Task Force; SECONDED by Councilor Stassens. Motion PASSED unanimously.

7. ADJOURNMENT: Council President Menke adjourned the Meeting at 7:24 p.m.

s/s Melissa Bisset
Melissa Bisset, City Recorder