

MINUTES OF COUNCIL MEETING  
FOR THE CITY OF MAYWOOD PARK  
17 AUGUST 2020 7:00-8:00 PM

- COUNCIL MEETING -

In Attendance: Mayor Matthew Castor, Council President Art Winslow, Councilor Jim Akers, Councilor Michelle Montross, Councilor Chris Williams

Absent:

Staff Present: City Recorder Rene' Sanders, Treasurer Wendy Irwin

Residents present: Lt. Matt Jordan, Sgt. Doug Asboe, Cpt Steve Bevens, Kim Hutchinson, George D, marianne, nimsk, Dan Chavez, Miriam Berman, Robert Burrow

The City Council Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

**PRESENTATION**

Mayor Castor introduced the members of the Multnomah County Sheriff's Department. Lt. Matt Jordan thanked everyone for their patience during this time after the death of George Floyd. The Multnomah County Justice Center has been forced to be staffed 24 hours per day due to vandalism and fire. The main objective is to protect the justice center, it's employees, staff, and those in custody. This has created quite a conflict for the Sheriff's Department.

In Maywood Park, there were 56 calls for service in the month of July, including 19 premise checks, 11 suspicious subjects or vehicles, 5 traffic stops, 1 traffic crash, one theft, one attempted suicide, one stolen car. There were 45 calls in June. The years' average is 45 calls for services in July. Average amount of time per call is about 15 minutes. Emergency response time is 9 minutes and non-emergency is about 8 minutes. The previous month was 14 minutes, and average is about 11 minutes to respond. There were 37 self-initiated responses and 19 dispatched calls. Last month there were 31 dispatched calls and 14 self-initiated calls. Average time spent on a call was 28 minutes, last month was 14 minutes. Yearly average for time spent on a call is about 20 minutes. Lt. Jordan asked if there were any questions.

Mayor Castor asked how staffing that many hours around the clock has impacted the financial burden of the department? Lt. Jordan mentioned that the financial impact for resources, overtime, and equipment has been extensive. Cpt. Bevens responded that the budget isn't looking good. Because of COVID, the overtime is beyond anything that they have seen. Mayor Castor recalled that there was a call last year to cut a few million dollars from the budget. He wondered if contracts needed to be adjusted. Cpt. Bevens replied that with the schools being closed, they have been able to use their school resource officers for patrol and for civil units. Also, they are not getting many new applicants. They will do everything that they can to give us the level of service that we want. Mayor Castor mentioned that Maywood Park has always received exemplary service, and that we want to continue the strong relationship between our residents and the sheriff's department.

Lt. Jordan finished his report stating that the total time spent on calls in MP was 25 hours and 50 minutes.

Mayor Castor mentioned the graffiti with the date 09/09/2020. He knew that Lt. Jordan did some checking to see if anyone knew of anything having to do with that date, but there's no information at this time. He has provided the information to the Oregon Mayors' Association. Mayor Castor reported that we've had a significant amount of tagging with that date in the community. As we get closer to the date, we may look at additional sheriff patrols

and step up Parkwatch patrols. Lt. Jordan agreed. Mayor Castor asked if there was anything else on the stats. Lt. Jordan said that there was not.

Sgt Asboe reported on the HOPE Team, what they do, and presented an overview of the homeless community. The HOPE Team is comprised of three deputies that work with a lot of non-sworn community partners. They identify locations where the homeless are living, engage with them, educate them as to what services are available, and help them navigate the system to hopefully improve their situation. Accessibility and accountability are their goals. They try to make as many services accessible to people as they can, but also hold them accountable to make sure they're attending meetings and going where they need to go. The goal is to return them to a housed community environment. They also try to deal with the security concerns of the housed community. They've had over 1,000 contacts with the houseless community. This may be one or two contacts with some of the same people. COVID has limited the amount of shelter space in the Portland area, so finding housing can be problematic. They've been waiting over 6 months to get one person into a shelter. There's no good fix for the housing crisis, or for the homeless crisis. There are 160-180 chronically homeless people who've been homeless for a lengthy time. With joblessness due to COVID, there will probably be a lot more folks that will become homeless or are one bad day away from becoming homeless. With restaurants closing down, it became a lot more difficult for the houseless to get access to food and water. The HOPE Team started going out for private donations of food. They handed out about 300 meals. They also provide survival supplies to people. Sgt. Asboe concluded by saying that he would love to give a full-length presentation in the future when we can meet in person.

Mayor Castor asked Sgt. Asboe about the biggest challenge. Sgt. Asboe replied that people living outside the city have a challenge to get to meetings in downtown Portland. The east side of the County has become a black hole for homeless services. They are working on getting some service coordinators assigned to their team.

Mayor Castor read Kim Hutchinson's question,

"Kim Hutchinson 07:29 PM What percentage of your time and resources are spent on the chronically homeless? Are you seeing a low or high success percentage with the others in terms of getting them back into society?"

Sgt. Asboe replied that percentages are hard to estimate. A majority of the homeless they deal with are chronically homeless, or have been homeless for more than 3 years. The newly houseless have just recently come from houses and jobs, and seem to be the easier ones to work with. The greatest majority of their time is spent working with the chronically houseless.

Mayor Castor asked what it looks like for those who've been chronically houseless. Sgt. Asboe replied that it takes lots and lots of contacts. If he's got someone on a housing list, it could take two years for housing to come available. The HOPE Team continues to contact them to keep helping with mental health, addiction issues, etc. while waiting for housing. They try to eliminate the barriers to housing and employment.

Mayor Castor asked how they keep someone's spirits up for two years. Sgt. Asboe replied that they do so by making multiple contacts so they never feel we've forgotten them. Mayor Castor asked that with the housing shortage, how many beds or units are we deficient. Sgt. Asboe replied that he had no idea, but it's substantial. There are about 160 individuals who are unsheltered in east Multnomah County. Some choose to remain unsheltered while looking for long term housing. A number of folks are escaping downtown with the protesting and demonstrations.

Mayor Castor asked what's the division between getting reports on people vs. the group that you're making the rounds to engage on a regular basis. Sgt. Asboe replied that they will continue to make the rounds, but are always

available to engage new people. The process is driven by reports from the community to help reach out to people. Other houseless community members will tell them about new people as well.

Mayor Castor reported that there is a comment from Kim, that he will paraphrase: What is the best way that we as ordinary citizens can help? Sgt. Asboe replied that we should keep them informed if we see things when you're out and about. It may take the HOPE Team several times in reaching out to people to get them help. One of the biggest things folks can do is keep in mind that these people are houseless for different reasons. The mental health system has not been very successful, and there's no fallback for that. They just got a couple moved to Texas to be with family. The husband had a health issue and wasn't able to work anymore. They lived in their truck at a truck stop for six months before they could get funding, and get them moved. Most of the houseless in the community at one time were housed in the community. They are not transplants from somewhere else.

Mayor Castor asked what does HOPE stand for. Sgt. Asboe replied, Homeless Outreach and Programs Engagement Team. Mayor Castor asked how Sgt. Asboe got into the unit. Sgt. Asboe said that he started in January. It's a volunteer unit. He grew up with a brother with mental health issues, and eventually addiction issues, so he is familiar with the issues that create problems for houseless people.

Mayor Castor asked if there was one thing to leave the residents with, what would that be. Sgt. Asboe said to remember that folks that are houseless are still members of our community and to treat them as such. Talking to others about what they do in the community is helpful.

Councilor Akers wondered about the houseless population that want to remain houseless. He asked if they have stayed in East County, or moved out farther east toward the Sandy delta. Sgt. Asboe replied that there is a small portion of the houseless community that chooses to be that way. They have gotten some of the people into housing. The people who don't desire help are rarely seen or heard from, because they avoid people.

Mayor Castor asked if there were other questions. There were none. He thanked the Sheriff's officers for their participation.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

None

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Mayor Castor asked the council to review the minutes from the August 03, 2020, City Council meeting. Mayor Castor then asked the council if they had any changes in the minutes of the Council Meeting. There were none. Mayor Castor called for a motion to approve the August 03, 2020, City Council meeting minutes. Council President Winslow made the motion, which was seconded by Councilor Montross. Mayor Castor voted aye, Council President Winslow voted aye, Councilor Akers voted aye, Councilor Montross voted aye, Councilor Williams voted aye.

### **TREASURER'S REPORT**

City Treasurer Irwin presented the July 2020 Treasurer's Report for the first month of our fiscal year, July 1 through July 31. On the statement of assets, liabilities, & fund balance, pages 3-4 of the report, the total of cash assets is \$428,400.11. On pages 5-7 of the report the fiscal year to date actual vs budget amounts are shown. Treasurer Irwin noted that we paid \$14,000 for the speed bumps on Mason, so that's one of the biggest expenses for July. Ms. Irwin continued the July 2020 Treasurer's Report, stating that the last 3 pages are the checks and deposits for each cash account. She asked if there were any questions. There were none.

Ms. Irwin called for motion to approve the July 2020 Treasurer's Report with total cash balance of \$428,400.11. Councilor Akers made the motion, which was seconded by Councilor Montross. Mayor Castor voted aye, Council President Winslow voted aye, Councilor Akers voted aye, Councilor Montross voted aye, Councilor Williams voted aye.

### **WASTEWATER**

Mayor Castor reported that Christine Reynolds had sent over a green book for financing and promised a bond council engagement letter and scope of work. He asked Council President Winslow if he had received anything relating to the bond. Council President Winslow had not. Mayor Castor asked him to follow up with her. Mayor Castor reported that Treasurer Irwin filled out the CARE funding spreadsheet that we needed to get back to City of Portland. We've submitted that. Other east county cities have submitted theirs, too. We also projected upcoming expenses. We are waiting on Portland to see when and how funds may be distributed.

### **GRAFFITI**

Mayor Castor noted that the graffiti that has popped up around the City has been reported. Councilor Montross is working with ODOT and county to get it cleaned up. He will talk to the Sheriff's Department about increasing patrols on and around 09/09/2020. He'd also like to step up Parkwatch patrols around that date as well.

### **BUILDING PERMITS**

Mayor Castor reported on building permitting. He received an update from Andy Peterson from Bureau of Development Services. They are still waiting on an approved draft IGA to share with us. They hope to have the draft over to us by the end of next week. Councilor Akers asked if the City of Portland would be following our zoning standards. Mayor Castor reported that that's where the IGA comes to play. We'll be asking them to adhere to our ordinances and land use requirements. Councilor Akers mentioned setbacks, ADUs, fence lines as some of the standards unique to Maywood Park. Mayor Castor reported that those will adhere to our ordinances. Councilor Akers asked about electrical and plumbing standards, and noted that we don't have any electrical standards. Mayor Castor reported that that's why we're getting a draft from them, and we'll ensure that the language is all written into the IGA.

### **CERT**

Council President Winslow reported that he spoke with Councilor Montross on where we are with what has been ordered and what needs to be ordered in the future for CERT. Councilor Montross will have more information. Mayor Castor said that he was glad to see that some of the FEMA items were reimbursable, so we'll have some of that money coming back to the community.

### **IMPROVEMENT OF RIGHT OF WAY/ROADS**

Councilor Akers reported that City Recorder Sanders had updated the form, Application for Funds to Improve Right-of-Way, for the easement grant to specify that the work must be approved first. Mayor Castor believes that we should go ahead and process the pending application for grant money.

### **PARKWATCH**

Councilor Montross reported on Parkwatch, that the Reynolds are patrolling near dusk, the Montross' are patrolling in the late night or early morning. We need more people to step up and do Parkwatch especially with the rioting and graffiti that we are currently experiencing. On Saturday, they noticed about 5 groups of questionable people. Mayor Castor reported that some newer residents don't know what Parkwatch is. He wondered if it might be good to organize a Zoom Parkwatch meeting in the next week or two to educate people about what the program. Sheriffs Jordan and Bevens are willing to join us and to train people how to be good observers and recorders of information.

## **ELECTRICAL**

Councilor Montross reported that Alameda came out and updated the outlet boxes so that they are more difficult to break in to. There was a safety and liability issue with people breaking into the boxes.

## **STOP SIGNS**

Councilor Montross reported that she met with Eric Johnson from Multnomah County. They marked spots for signs at 99<sup>th</sup> and Failing. The signs will be in by the end of the week. The word “Stop” and the little road stop flaps will take longer. There are also other signs that are in disarray or can’t be seen. The date August 31 was set as a “trim or be trimmed” deadline for speed limit, parking, and other signs that can’t be seen due to overgrowth of trees or bushes. Mayor Castor reported that Dave Thompson from the County is willing to send out letters regarding trimming. Councilor Montross said that there’s not a lot of them, but she may take him up on that. She also reported that they may pressure wash some of the signs in December, then we can evaluate to see if and how many new signs we may need.

## **MISCELLANEOUS**

Councilor Montross reported that ODOT is still working on the sprinklers. They’ve been working on the graffiti, too. She also addressed the garbage issue on the bike path. Mayor Castor asked if there are any sections of chain link that they need to be repaired. Councilor Montross reported that there’s one under the overpass. She is going to ask them to use wrought iron or put boulders there. Mayor Castor reported that ODOT had said it would be our responsibility if we want wrought iron or boulders.

Councilor Montross reported that Valley View has started the tree trimming. The water fountain spigot is back on the fountain, but a sign is posted stating that the water is off due to COVID.

Councilor Akers mentioned patching holes in the roads. Councilor Montross reported that the pothole at 102<sup>nd</sup> and Maywood is getting worse, and noted another small spot on 96<sup>th</sup> and Skidmore. She and Councilor Akers will repair these on Saturday. If there are others, let them know and they’ll try to patch them too.

Mayor Castor asked if there was any more discussion or information at the Abney residence at 96<sup>th</sup> and Skidmore. He had talked to them, and they are not opposed to taking the tree down, but would prefer it be a last resort. Mayor Castor said that’s a different issue, but in order to repair the road, we may have to remove the tree. Jeff mentioned the possibility of digging a dry well. Mayor Castor reported that he’d looked into it, but it’s not the cheapest solution.

## **COUNCILOR WILLIAMS**

Councilor Williams reported that he is moving, so he is resigning from the Council. He sold his house. Council President Winslow asked when he is moving. Councilor Williams replied that September 14 is pack up day. Mayor Castor thanked Chris for everything he’s given to this city, not just during time on Council, but throughout his life.

## **SWEARING IN**

Councilor Montross reported that resident Mike Reynolds has graciously offered to complete Councilor Williams term. City Attorney Jeff Steffen swore in Mike Reynolds.

Councilor Akers mentioned that Councilor Reynolds will need a name plaque. Councilor Montross said that she would work on it.

Mayor Castor referred to the City Charter that if someone cannot complete their term as Councilor, the Council appoints someone to complete the term. Mayor Castor thanked Councilor Reynolds for accepting the position.

## CERT

Councilor Montross asked for anybody interested in being part of the CERT team to email her with their contact information. However, we can't do training right now due to COVID. They purchased the generator for emergencies for the CERT department. Mayor Castor mentioned that maybe we could piggy back on the Parkwatch Zoom meeting with information on the CERT team, what it means, and what it involves.

Councilor Montross asked if we could do handouts or email people when we do the Zoom meetings. City Recorder Sanders said that we could email any information that she wished in advance of the meetings.

## ORMS

City Recorder Sanders reported on progress toward electronic record-keeping. She reinforced the importance of transitioning to electronics records. She then asked if everyone had reviewed the contract and IGA with the State of Oregon and Chavez Consulting, and if anyone had questions. Mayor Castor reported that he had not seen anything of concern, and asked if other Council members had any issues. City Recorder Sanders mentioned that we would need Resolutions to make the move to electronic records, to contract with ORMS, and to enter into an IGA with the State of Oregon and with the State's contractor, Chavez Consulting. She said that she can have the Resolutions ready for the next meeting on September 21<sup>st</sup>.

Councilor Akers had not finished reading the contract and IGA yet. Mayor Castor asked Ms. Sanders to prepare the Resolutions, and asked Councilor Akers if he could read through the rest of the documents before the next meeting. If there were any concerns, they would not have to take a vote at the meeting. Councilor Akers agreed.

## NEW BUSINESS AND PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Castor asked if there was anything else. There was not. He asked if there were any comments. There were none.

**Mayor Castor requested a motion to adjourn. The motion was made by Councilor Akers and seconded by Councilor Montross. Mayor Castor voted aye, Council President Winslow voted aye, Councilor Akers voted aye, Councilor Montross voted aye, Councilor Williams voted aye.**

**Meeting was adjourned at 8:42 pm.**