

**STAYTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**  
**TOWN HALL MEETING – SMH**  
**May 20, 2010**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Mayor Gerry Aboud**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Gerry Aboud

Councilor Frank, excused

Councilor Hemshorn

Councilor Loftus

Councilor Vigil

Council Walters

**STAFF:**

Don Eubank, City Administrator

Christine Shaffer, Finance Director

Dave Kinney, Public Works Director

Dan Fleishman, City Planner

Angeline Lehnert, Community Participant Coordinator

Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder

Introductions: Mayor Aboud introduced council members and city staff.

Volunteer Projects/Opportunities: Ms. Lehnert provided an overview of the various volunteer opportunities in the community that have taken place recently. Students from Stayton High School, Corban College and Regis High School painted the Westown Wall. The paint used was from the Marion County recycle program and did not cost the city any money. The final coat of paint will be applied during the upcoming I-Serve Volunteer Day in June. A grant from Americorp was used to plant 500 trees at the Stayton Riverfront Park, with the labor being provided by Regis High School students and North Santiam Water Control District.

The Stayton High School shop class is building benches for the community garden area. Other volunteer opportunities would be to remove blackberry vines, scotch broom and invasive ivy at the parks. The Police Department has a volunteer reserve program as well as administrative Award program will be started to recognize those citizens who have given to their community

Open Discussion: Dan Brummer, Stayton. He stated the Citizen Survey pointed out streets and sidewalks being a top priority for citizens and a bond issue might be the answer to see that it gets done.

Lee Hazelwood stated the Comprehensive Plan for the city is outdated and suggested it be revised.

Councilor Loftus asked how many folks supported the Urban Renewal District, and stated that with half of the town supporting it, it shows they are serious about revitalizing the downtown. The citizens that were in opposition did not vote down urban renewal they voted down the plan. It's a flawed plan and if the town is serious about urban development, a developer needs to be brought in and they can tell the city what is needed for urban development. That way you would be building a plan around an anchor.

Councilor Walters thanked all of those citizens in attendance for coming out and voicing their concerns to help make the city a better place. To entice new business you have to have the entire package. Good schools, access to utilities, support for school bonds, access to I-5 are all part of the components, he said.

Councilor Loftus stated he is very excited about summer just around the corner and a pedestrian bridge being constructed at Stayton Riverfront Park as you will be able to make a loop around town. Five new street lights will be put in the downtown area, and the community advocate award is a good idea to celebrate at the community night out.

Art Christensen, Stayton, stated that whether or not Urban Renewal passed, the city has a bigger problem in that the council seems to be split over most of the votes, and asked how the city could get back to being unified. It's not good to have the city be so divided it should be more uniform. Mayor Aboud stated he agreed with Mr. Christensen there are a lot of groups in the community that do good but they don't work together to get things done. Public awareness should be done by the City Council to raise awareness and show the positives of an annexation.

Phyllis Lierman, Stayton. She stated that if a bond measure is proposed you need to have a definite plan for the citizens to see where the money would be going. Stayton is not in bad shape it's just an older community.

Hank Porter stated utility cuts are a real problem as they seem to happen on new streets.

There being no further business the meeting was ended at 7:30 pm.

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder on this 7<sup>th</sup> day of June 2010.