

**STAYTON CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
TOWN HALL FORUM – SMH
January 14, 2010**

INTRODUCTIONS

6:30 p.m.

Mayor Gerry Aboud

COUNCIL PRESENT:

Mayor Gerry Aboud
Councilor Frank
Councilor Hemshorn

Councilor Loftus
Councilor Vigil
Council Walters

STAFF:

Don Eubank, City Administrator
Christine Shaffer, Finance Director
Rich Sebens, Acting Chief of Police
Dave Kinney, Public Works Director
Louise Meyers, Library Director
Dan Fleishman, City Planner
Rebekah Meeks, Pool Manager
Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder

Mayor Aboud and Mr. Eubank introduced council members and city staff. Referring to the handouts that included the current Project Status Report, Mr. Kinney presented “2009 Year in Review” power point of projects for public works and city projects completed.

Questions/Comments from the audience: George Gerspacher asked what projects would impact both the City of Stayton and the City of Sublimity. Mr. Kinney stated the waste water treatment plant project would impact both communities currently. Would the city have the user capacity for a new industrial user? Mr. Kinney stated the new industrial user has to meet the water quality standards for the N. Santiam River.

John Brandt asked if purchasing the Longhorn Property was still a goal of the Council’s. Mayor Aboud stated the city is trying to find funding sources at this time for that goal.

Art Christensen stated that the City needs to have a more complete plan for Economic Development to bring money into the City.

James Wampler suggested that the City for go charging system development fees for a time in order to encourage new business/residential development. Mayor Aboud stated that jurisdictions in Oregon have tried the approach of no or low SDC charges and they did not see any real change in their growth.

Comments from City Councilors: Councilor Loftus encouraged citizens to get informed on both sides of the Urban Renewal issues before making a decision.

Councilor Walters encouraged citizens to get involved with the various boards and committees.

Councilor Vigil stated he was looking forward to the pedestrian bridge being placed and that he’s

excited about the future of Stayton.

Councilor Hemshorn stated that her review of the community survey showed that a lot of citizens concerns are the same as the Council's.

Councilor Frank gave kudos to those that helped to open the Santiam Senior Center.

Mayor Aboud stated that Ray Burstedt, President of Strategic Economic Development Corporation (SEDCOR) would be present at the January 19th City Council meeting to discuss Enterprise Zones.

Councilor Loftus stated that no one is developing in Stayton due to the high fees and prohibitive regulations.

Councilor Vigil stated if problems in the land use ordinance are recognized they can be discussed by the Planning Commission and City Council to address what is not working and how it can be changed.

From the audience a citizen pointed out that the bridge on N. Second Avenue by the SCTC office is very narrow and should be upgraded at some point.

Art Christensen suggested forming a committee, made up of local citizens to look at Economic Development in the community.

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

Respectfully submitted by Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder on this 1st February 2010