

**CITY OF MERRILL  
SPECIAL BUSINESS MEETING  
(ORS 192.640(3))  
Thursday, May 19, 2022 5:00 P.M.**

**MEETING CALLED TO ORDER:**

Mayor Carlson called the Thursday, May 19, 2022, Special Business Meeting to order at 5:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL:**

Roll call was taken with the following members of Council and others being present: Councilor Johnson, Councilor Carleton, Councilor Baley, Councilor McCollam (5:12 p.m.), Mayor Carlson, and City Recorder Hernandez. Others present: Kallie Gatliff.

**FLAG SALUTE:**

The Flag Salute immediately followed with Mayor Carlson requesting Councilor Carleton to take the lead.

**MAYOR STATEMENT:**

Mayor Carlson asked that everyone please turn cell phones on silence. All meetings are recorded. When addressing the City Council, please speak clearly and state your name.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

Mayor Pro-Tem Carleton stated the public is invited to provide their comments and opinions to the City Council at this time on issues of concern. Non-emergency issues brought up in this form will not be considered tonight other than in this preliminary discussion, but if found warranted, may be considered at a future meeting of the city council. Public comment is limited to five minutes per person.

No public present.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- Discuss Police Organization Including the Possibility of Deferring to County and State Resources on Criminal Matters: The City of Merrill has been discussing Police Organization for months. Mayor Carlson highlighted that personnel and organization issues are two separate discussions and must remain as such. Mayor Carlson sought the opinion of City Council to deferring to Klamath County and State of Oregon on criminal matters. Councilor Carleton questioned whether the City of Merrill has a choice. Mayor Carlson affirmed; however, short-term and long-term is intangible. The City of Merrill has a Police Budget. Resolution to police matters should be months, not years. The City of Malin is interested in contracting per Marshal Broussard. Councilor Johnson inquired to the contract hourly rate. Mayor Carlson stated \$100.00 per hour but stated possible flexibility operationally. Councilor McCollam opined Klamath County and State of Oregon handling criminal matters. Councilor Baley stated Klamath County will not respond. Councilor McCollam stated paying Klamath County taxes, and in the event of an incident, the expectation is for Klamath County to respond. Councilor Johnson favored Klamath County and State of Oregon as well. Councilor Baley stated Klamath County responds to 911 calls. Mayor Carlson stated the City of Malin Police Department has been excellent and has responded to multiple 911 dispatches. Councilor Johnson stated the same for Klamath County Police Department. Councilor Carleton inquired to there being any other choice than to rely upon Klamath County until all other matters have been resolved in the short-term. Mayor Carlson affirmed short-term. Mayor Carlson stated if the spirit of the City Council desires Police Commissioner Baley and Mayor Carlson to drive towards civil enforcement organization and proceed in that direction. Councilor Carleton gaged the community whom would prefer a local Police Department. Historically there have been difficulties hiring the right personality for the community. Mayor Carlson stated Dave Henslee has voiced interest in “some role” within City of Merrill, which is speculation.

Councilor McCollam stated committing to a new Police Department staff. Councilor Johnson reiterated transferring criminal matters to Klamath County and State of Oregon short-term. City Council authorized Police Commissioner Baley and Mayor Carlson to pursue a Civil Enforcement Organization. Police Commissioner Baley and Mayor Carlson shall approach Malin Police Department, Klamath County Police Department, and State of Oregon to explain the City of Merrill's situation. Councilor McCollam stated Marshal Broussard has emphasized to call the Malin Police Department for assistance when needed. The City of Merrill is proposing \$20,000.00 for contracting services. Mayor Carlson proposed shifting City Council to Wednesdays to send a representative to Malin City Council Meetings as the meetings are also on Tuesday's. City Recorder Hernandez inquired whether the change would be temporary or permanent. Mayor Carlson stated permanent. City Recorder Hernandez stated the need for Resolution amendment. The consensus of City Council is to amend City Council meetings to the 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month at 5:30 p.m. beginning July 2022.

**PUBLIC COMMENT:**

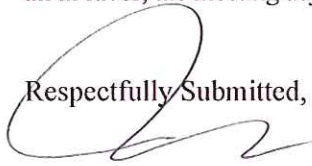
The public is invited to provide their comment and opinion to the City Council at this time on issues of their concern. Non-emergency issues brought up in this forum will not be considered tonight other than in this preliminary discussion, but if found to be warranted, may be considered at a future meeting of the City Council. Public comment is limited to 5 minutes per person.

No public present.

**ADJOURN MEETING:**

Councilor Johnson made a motion to adjourn the May 19, 2022 Meeting. Councilor Carleton 2<sup>nd</sup> the motion. With all in favor, the meeting adjourned at 5:26 p.m.

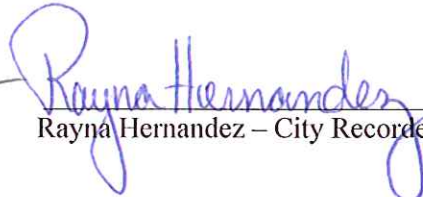
Respectfully Submitted,



Bill Carlson - Mayor

14 Jun 22

Date



Rayna Hernandez - City Recorder

6.14.2022

Date

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