

March 2, 2015
6:00 P.M.
Newport, Oregon

The City Council of the City of Newport met on the above date in the Council Chambers of the Newport City Hall. On roll call, Allen, Roumagoux, Swanson, Sawyer, Engler, Saelens, and Busby were present.

Staff present was Acting City Manager Smith, City Recorder Hawker, City Attorney Rich, Community Development Director Tokos, Public Works Director Gross, and Police Chief Miranda.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Council, staff, and the audience participated in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT CALENDAR

The consent calendar consisted of the following:

- A. Approval of the City Council minutes from the regular meeting, work session, and joint meeting of the City Council/Urban Renewal Agency/Audit Committee of February 17, 2015;
- B. Confirmation of Mayor's Appointment of Dietmar Goebel to the Budget Committee for a term expiring on December 31, 2017;
- C. Approval of Tourism Facility Grant Agreements for Pacific Communities Health Foundation, Newport Sea Lion Docks Foundation, and the Lincoln County Historical Society.

Allen recommended several changes to the minutes. Allen stated that Council had received a report on the work of the Sea Lion Docks Foundation, and Hawker noted that this was the final report from this grantee for the last grant cycle. Allen reported that his preference for the Budget Committee is a different candidate, but that he will support the ratification of Dietmar Goebel, and comment about the process later during this meeting.

MOTION was made by Swanson, seconded by Saelens, to approve the consent calendar with the changes to the minutes as noted by Allen. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

From Robertson Sherwood Architects - Update on Municipal Swimming Pool Project by Carl Sherwood and Scott Stolarczyk. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Gross introduced Carl Sherwood and Scott Stolarczyk. Sherwood and Stolarczyk made a PowerPoint presentation. It was reported that the pool will be an addition to the existing Recreation Center, and encompass part of the current courtyard and parking area. It was noted that an attempt is being made to minimize encroachment. The floor plan was

displayed, showing that the existing entrance will continue to be the primary access, although spectators will have an access point without going through the pool area and locker room. It was noted that the existing multi-purpose room will have pool access for birthday parties, swim meets, and other events, and that the locker rooms will be expanded, and will include one small, wet family changing room and one dry, family changing room. The pool will be an eight lane, 25-yard competitive pool with a diving board at the deep end. There will also be an activity pool with a zero-depth ramped entry, a toddler play area, shallow activity water, a current channel, and a deeper therapy area, along with a separate hot tub. Images of the site plan and facility were shown. Busby asked how many parking spots would be lost with the current design. He also asked why the hot tub is raised, and Sherwood reported that raising the hot tub is the easiest way to meet the accessibility requirement. Busby asked whether it is a good idea to use a metal sheeting roof as opposed to composition shingles. It was noted that the metal roof complements the existing metal roof of the Recreation Center, and that metal roofs have greater longevity. Allen asked whether the hot tub was included in the original design, and it was noted that it was. Allen, referencing the 1.5% for solar, asked about the amount of energy that the solar panels will produce. Sherwood reported that he is awaiting the final report on the energy savings. Allen asked whether any thought had been given to increasing the solar in the future. It was noted that this question will be part of the study, but that the goal is to ensure that the system could grow. Saelens thanked the citizens and work groups for working on this project. He added that at one point, there was a discussion regarding integrating thermal energy cells rather than solar cells. Sherwood reported that solar is more supportable. Sawyer thanked the architects for their work. He asked where swim meet vending would occur, and it was noted that the multi-purpose room would serve as the vending area.

Gross reported that part of the parking management would involve careful booking of activities as it is not possible to provide enough parking on this site if every building is in full use. He noted that part of the parking demand analysis will address parking strategy. He stated that the engineering and design work will be done to maximize the number of spaces on site. He added that much discussion has been focused on the Senior Center and its need to have parking at specific times of the day. He noted that in planning, he has shoehorned parking spaces into every possible location on the site. He added that there are three primary parking locations, including the south side of City Hall which will change the entrance to the parking lot and create a safer egress from the lot. He reported that the north side of City Hall, where the Police Department parking is currently located, will be altered so that the parking lot exits onto Second Street. He noted that he tentatively plans to mark four spaces on the south side of Second Street as handicapped parking spaces. He stated that he plans to add more parking on the east side of Senior Center. He noted that while 26 - 29 spaces will be lost from the existing parking lot, there will be 30 plus spaces picked up with the reconfiguration of parking. He noted that there is currently parking on the east side of Tenth Street, and suggested moving the Tenth Street parking to the west side. He stated that he intends to prepare contract documents and go to bid on the parking in the near future. He added that parking and utilities need to be complete before construction on the pool begins. He stated that alternate parking will be needed for the next one and one-half years or so. Allen asked about space between the City Hall and the proposed parking on the south side of City Hall. Gross reported that the rain garden will be relocated. Sawyer asked whether a realignment could occur at Tenth

and Angle Streets to provide four to six additional parking spaces. Gross reported that the cost/benefit analysis for parking spaces would not pencil out for additional parking at Tenth and Angle Streets. Sawyer asked about a potential bottleneck in front of the Recreation Center when users are being dropped off. Busby asked whether the project is on budget and schedule and about the budget and schedule projections. Gross reported that the project is within budget, and that the architects are preparing an updated budget at this time. He stated that he is not concerned now, but added that when the bond was taken, there was no consideration given to parking. He added that there has been discussion regarding supplementing the parking financial requirements with money other than bond money. Gross stated that the schedule is on schedule, and that the construction documents will be completed in early May with bids received in mid-June to July. Engler asked whether there will be landscaping in the parking lot. Gross reported that on the south side of City Hall, there will be grass to the south and west of the parking lot and rain garden. He added that staff will try to salvage and relocate the landscaping materials that are in the current Police Department parking lot. He noted that a landscape architecture plan will be developed for the area around the pool. It was asked whether the landscaping will be bid as part of the project. Gross reported that all the parking improvements west of City Hall will be performed this summer. Engler asked whether public art will be incorporated. Busby noted that the Public Arts Committee, and the Percent for the Arts focus group, have been discussing the possibility of two pieces of public art. It was noted that the existing sculpture located in front of the Recreation Center will be kept, but may be relocated. Engler suggested that there could be a few more windows in the pool, and Sherwood noted that additional windows are partly a budget issue, but also a grade issue. He stated that glare on the water makes life guarding difficult. Engler asked about the acoustics. Sherwood reported that the deck roof will be a perforated acoustic. Allen asked where the money for the parking configuration is coming from since it is outside the bond measure, and how much is anticipated. Gross reported that \$145,000 is needed for the parking reconfiguration, and the source has yet to be determined. Allen asked whether the 210 parking spaces that would be available with the reconfiguration, plus the additional 40 spaces on Tenth Street, would be sufficient if there is a plan in place for scheduling events. Gross noted that this would be pretty close, but that a discussion needs to be held regarding parking philosophy. It was asked whether a portion of Tenth Street could be included in the bid, and Gross reported that it would be included as an added alternate. Busby asked about the possibility of completely closing Angle Street, and Gross reported that Fire Chief Murphy is concerned about fire access. It was suggested that closing Angle Street could be a future consideration. Sawyer asked whether there is a plan for benches in the parking area, and Gross reported that this matter has not been discussed. Sawyer asked about the Farmer's Market, and it was noted that possibly locating the Farmer's Market on City Hall property will depend on the parking demand analysis. Sawyer asked whether this information will be available on the city website, and Gross reported that it would be on the city website, the Public Works Department Facebook page, and MindMixer. He added that these sites will be kept active during the construction process. Engler asked whether users of the Recreation Center and pool could use the parking lot on Canyon Way utilizing a shuttle during large events. Gross noted that this could be discussed as part of the parking analysis. Engler asked when the parking philosophy will be discussed, and Gross reported that will occur soon. He added that there is a draft report that is being modified to include the additional parking

on Tenth Street. Busby reported that there is a rumor circulating that the pool budget has been reduced and there is only one pool. Allen suggested that when the parking framework is vetted, that the public be allowed to weigh in on this issue at a City Council meeting. Tokos noted that a schedule will be developed once the analysis is complete. He added that this is an appealable land use issue by the public. Allen suggested that prior to staff decision, that the City Council, Planning Commission, and public be involved. Saelens asked when the pool is expected to open, and it was noted that this should occur in August or September of 2016.

From the Bill Hall of the Lincoln Community Land Trust - Regarding a Revised Memorandum of Understanding. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that at the July 21, 2014 City Council meeting, the Council approved an agreement to jointly fund the Lincoln Community Land Trust to hire a full-time staff person with each entity contributing \$30,000 annually beginning July 1, 2014 and continuing through June 30, 2017. He added that the packet contains a copy of the minutes from the July 21, 2014 meeting along with the departmental recommendation at that time.

Smith reported that at the joint City Council/County Commission meeting held on January 21, 2015, County Commissioner, Bill Hall, informed the Council that efforts to retain a qualified employee for the Trust had not been successful and that the Trust was looking at providing that staffing on a contractual basis through an established community land trust organization. He noted that the Trust has entered into negotiations with Proud Ground which is an organization that serves low and moderate income first-time home buyers through education and counseling; post purchase support; affordable home buying opportunities; and asset management. He added that in Oregon, Proud Ground facilitates the sale of homes to individuals meeting income thresholds which allow the homes to be purchased \$60,000 to \$100,000 below market value. He stated that at the time the homeowners sell their homes, this same savings gets passed on to the prospective buyer, who must meet the eligibility requirements at that time.

Smith reported that he believes that contracting for services with an established organization makes a great deal of sense for the Lincoln Community Land Trust. He noted that this will allow the Trust to hit the ground running with an established organization that has a successful program in Portland. He added that it will also provide a greater depth of services for qualified families in Lincoln County.

Smith reported that the Lincoln Community Land Trust is one of several tools that can be used to provide affordable/workforce housing in the city and Lincoln County. He stated that the City Council has also discussed ways to partner with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity to provide affordable housing in the city, and that staff is exploring ways to partner with this organization as well.

Smith reported that since the memorandum of understanding specifically addressed the hiring of "a full-time staff person for the LCLT, the Lincoln Community Land Trust has drafted an amendment to that agreement allowing for an alternate way to meet the staffing needs of the Trust. He added that a memorandum of understanding will also be considered by the City of Lincoln City and Lincoln County in order to proceed.

Smith reported that during the course of this year and with a number of development trends occurring within Newport and Lincoln County, addressing the affordable housing issue is going to be a critical concern if the region is going to be attractive to expanding

the workforce on the coast. He stated that the Lincoln Community Land Trust is one of several tools that can be used to meet these needs.

Bill Hall, Lincoln County Commissioner, and member of the Lincoln Community Land Trust Board of Directors, addressed Council regarding the changes to the memorandum of understanding. Hall reported that the revised memorandum of understanding had been approved by Lincoln County and the City of Lincoln City.

Allen noted that the revised MOU replaces LCLT full-time staff with contractual staffing. Hall noted that the agreement is for 80 hours of Proud Ground services. Allen asked whether Proud Ground would be able to provide the services in that amount of time. Hall noted that the proposed contract is for a period of six months to determine whether the arrangement will work, and that it could be long-term or transitional. Allen asked whether Hall could provide the agreement, between LCLT and Proud Ground, to the staff. Allen asked about the possibility of budgetary self-sufficiency after three years noting that one of the director's responsibilities was to find a permanent revenue stream. He asked what, in the agreement with Proud Ground, would address the post-three-year revenue stream. Hall reported that the prime charge to Proud Ground is to develop funding sources, resources, and ground. He added that Proud Ground recognizes that it has a three-year window to realize financial self-sufficiency. It was noted that Proud Ground will try to create a revenue stream, housing, marketing, home buyers, etc. - the whole package of what a director would do. Allen asked whether there is a back-up plan after six months, and Hall noted that the main fall back would be to resume the search for a full-time staff person. Allen asked whether Proud Ground's work in a three county metropolitan area could be transferable to Lincoln County. Hall noted that he believes the work to be transferable, adding that the Proud Ground director and staff have been here and recognize the differences between urban and rural areas. He added that Proud Ground has the organizational capacity to learn and adapt. Tokos reported that Proud Ground brings a wealth of resources to the table, and the goal is to accelerate growth so that the LCLT is on more solid ground. Busby stated that regardless of who manages it, the city would be paying an organization to remove city assets. He added that each one of the families/individuals benefiting from the program would receive the value of \$50,000 in land and administrative costs. He noted that this is essentially spending \$250,000 for the benefit of six individuals, and that the money would be better spent on other housing issues. Sawyer noted that Proud Ground is a successful organization and that he is impressed with its work. He asked whether Hall had approached other Lincoln County cities about participating financially. Hall noted that this is in the work plan, and that he is hoping to approach them again as some have new leadership. He added that Lincoln County, and the cities of Newport and Lincoln City were targeted as those cities have the largest impact from the workforce housing shortage and have the greatest capacity for participation. Engler asked whether the formula that Busby referenced will be in the Proud Ground contract. Hall noted that this is how community land trusts are structured. Tokos reported that the LCLT is exploring whether Proud Ground has the organizational structure to support a CDBG application and administration. He added that this would bring in federal housing money to supplement the money of partners, and that those funds could be used as direct buyer grants. Engler noted that she hopes that Council can look at more options as time goes on. Hall stated that this is not the only answer, but one answer to the workforce housing issue. Allen reported that the MOU indicates that each entity will contribute \$30,000 annually for three years, and that this six-month agreement

is to be capped at \$25,000. He asked why each jurisdiction is being charged \$30,000 annually if Proud Ground is moving forward with \$50,000 annually. Tokos noted that if grants are available, the LCLT wants Proud Ground to be able to provide resources above and beyond the agreement. He added that as an organization, Proud Ground could use the money toward grant matches. Allen asked what would happen with the \$40,000 difference, and noted that using the \$40,000 for grants is outside the scope of services. Tokos reported that the City Council would have to authorize any CDBG grant applications. He noted that the LCLT is not asking for an increased contribution. Allen stated that he supported the MOU the last time with concerns; he is comfortable with Proud Ground; but not comfortable with the difference in what is being paid to Proud Ground and what the partners are paying the LCLT. Hall reported that he would confer with the LCLT Board of Directors and Proud Ground on this issue. Allen suggested having a cap in regardless. Swanson suggested postponing the vote on this issue as she has not had an opportunity to read the contract. Engler suggested trying the arrangement for six months and addressing Allen's issue on the surplus. Tokos noted that the LCLT can provide all partners with an accounting for each fiscal year, and if the funds are not expended, refunds could be issued on a proportional basis to partner organizations. Busby asked how many projects the city gives too much money to, adding that this issue is not ready. Swanson suggested revising the document. Saelens noted that it might be better to return with an update. Allen stated that he believes that issues have been raised that require clarity on the costs that Proud Ground will be charging. Swanson requested copies of the packet materials. It was the consensus of Council to bring this matter back for consideration at the March 16, 2015 meeting.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT

Report on the City's Local Improvement District Implementation Plan. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that Tokos was successful in getting funding to identify policy issues associated with Local Improvement Districts (LIDs). He stated that these issues include the development of strategies for implementing LIDs, plus the creation of a model code containing LID implementation strategies that the city can incorporate into its transportation and land use plans. He added that staff will also work to educate the public on the overall mechanics and benefits of using this financial tool to improve city infrastructure. He noted that LIDs are a method by which property owners can facilitate transportation or other infrastructure improvements benefitting their properties, which can be financed through an LID over a period of years, with the property owners being billed on a fixed scheduled through the term of the LID. He noted that the use of LIDs could be a significant tool in the city's efforts to upgrade and replace infrastructure in the future.

Smith reported that as part of this effort, the city will be asked to form an advisory committee with representatives from the city, local developers, elected and appointed government officials, citizen or neighborhood association members, business owners, Chamber of Commerce leaders, county staff, and others to work with the consultants to guide the policy development. He added that providing opportunities to utilize Local Improvement Districts was identified by the City Council as a goal for this current year.

Tokos reported that on June 14, 2014, the Newport City Council adopted Resolution No. 3678, seeking assistance from the TGM program to help the city take a fresh look at using

LIDs as a tool for financing some of its infrastructure needs. He added that the city was successful in getting the project funded; a consultant has been selected; and a statement of work has been prepared. He noted that the project will focus on (a) developing effective policy language for how the city can best utilize LIDs as a financing tool for funding planned transportation improvements; (b) preparing “model code” language to ensure the city’s LID financing strategies are properly integrated with the land use and transportation standards it uses to evaluate new development; (c) developing a framework for cost effective administration of an LID program; (d) conducting financial analysis of two “case study” candidate areas to position needed transportation improvements in those areas for future LID financing; and (e) developing informational materials that can be used for public education and outreach regarding the benefits, costs, and mechanics of forming an LID.

Tokos reported that a technical advisory committee will be formed to assist the consultants. He added that the committee will include representation from the city’s Finance and Public Works Departments, the Lincoln County Assessor’s Office, a developer/realtor, a Planning Commission member, and a citizen representative.

Tokos reported that an intergovernmental agreement between the City of Newport and TGM Program covering this statement of work will be presented for adoption at the Council’s April 6 meeting. He added that it will be formatted differently, but will cover the essential items. He stated that the schedule included with the statement of work assumed the project would kick-off in March, and it now looks like it is more likely to start in May, and will extend through February of 2016, but that the TGM Program requires that the project be completed no later than June 30, 2016.

Request for Funding by the Seal Rock Water District. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that the Seal Rock Water District is constructing an intertie with the city’s water system. He added that the District normally receives its water from the City of Toledo, and this intertie will allow the city to provide drinking water to the District in the event that the transmission line between Toledo and Seal Rock is disrupted. He noted that the connection allows the District to provide water to South Beach in the event the city experiences a failure in the transmission main that runs under Yaquina Bay. He stated that the District has had several discussions with Gross regarding possible city participation in a portion of this project. He reported that Gross recommends that the city consider participating in the costs up to \$74,588, contingent upon approval by the City Council, as part of the FY2015/2016 budget, for the installation of laterals off the main transmission line that provides water to existing customers in the city’s water service area, and for a new 12-inch water main stub into the airport property.

Smith reported that the District is requesting consideration of additional financial participation by the city for the construction of the 12-inch main through the city’s water service area. He noted that staff will be meeting later this month to obtain additional detail. He stated that to properly advise the District, staff wishes to have Council review the city’s participation in the cost for the water main laterals and 12-inch water main stub into the airport, and to provide guidance regarding any future financial participation.

Gross reported that the District started this project as part of a FEMA project, but that the bids came in higher than expected. He noted that the District approached the city requesting financial participation. He added that there is some benefit to the city, noting that the city was unable to provide water to the airport prior to this project, and that water to the airport is a benefit. He stated that the 12-inch line is for benefit of District, but that

there would be stubs at 66th and 68th Streets and into the airport. He added that he had agreed to participate to this extent. Busby noted that he believes the city would benefit from the 12-inch water line. Gross noted that the city does not have the financial capacity to share in the work until a new budget is adopted. Gross reported that the District has enough money to pay for the project, but they want the city to share in the cost. He added that the District has made a request to FEMA for additional funding. Gross stated that he does not feel comfortable committing city funds without guidance as there are other projects that the city needs, including areas with no fire service and failing systems. He reiterated that the stubs will be installed regardless of the city's participation. Gross noted that he had made a commitment based on approval of a future budget. Busby stated that he supports the project, and Swanson added that participation is a neighborly thing to do. Gross noted that it is a good regional project. Rich noted that the city has a number of projects with the District, and if this is a fundamentally good project from a legal standpoint, the city does not get much by stiffing the District. It was the consensus of Council to move forward with a \$75,000 participation in this project. Allen stated that he is not willing to be part of the majority consensus, as it is unknown whether the project will be approved at the Budget Committee level. Gross noted that he will inform the District that this contribution has to be approved as a part of the budgeting process, and that there is a potential risk that it may not be approved.

Schedule a Public Hearing on the City Council Goals for Fiscal Year 2015/2016.

Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that the Council met in an annual goal setting session on Monday, February 23, 2015 to hear reports from departments, advisory committees, and the public on possible goals for fiscal year 2015/2016. He stated that throughout the course of the day, members of the City Council identified various projects for potential Council goals for the next fiscal year. He noted that fourteen goals were prioritized by the City Council for inclusion in the fiscal year 2015/2016 goals. He added that Council also discussed the possibility of proceeding with some sort of community visioning process during this next fiscal year, and that Council requested a report on this matter from the City Manager at the April 6 City Council meeting.

MOTION was made by Allen, seconded by Engler, to accept the annual goal setting report for the 2015-16 fiscal year and schedule a public hearing for the March 16, 2015 City Council meeting prior to considering formal adoption of the goals. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Discussion regarding the Location and Agenda for the March 30, 2015 Town Hall Meeting.

Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that March contains a fifth Monday in which the city has traditionally held a town hall meeting. He stated that the last two town hall meetings were held in South Beach and at the northside fire station. He added that both of these meetings were well attended. He noted that Nebel has not had an opportunity to talk with staff about potential venues or content for the March 30 town hall meeting. He noted that with Nebel on vacation for the first half of March, and the rest of the month being consumed by budget, Nebel will not have a significant amount of time to devote to this meeting. He stated that Council can discuss possible meeting locations at the March 2 meeting which can be confirmed at the March 16 meeting. He added that as an alternative, Council could consider not holding a town hall meeting on March 30, 2015 given the substantial number of meetings that will occur through the budget process.

He asked for Council input on whether to hold the meeting, potential locations, and possible agenda items.

After a brief discussion, it was the consensus of Council that it not hold a town hall meeting on March 30, 2015.

On another issue, Rich reported that with City Council permission, he would not be in attendance at the March 16 meeting as he will be meeting his first grandchild for the first time.

LOCAL CONTRACT REVIEW BOARD MEETING

The City Council convened as the Local Contract Review Board at 8:13 P.M.

Authorization of Notice of Intent to Award the Construction of the 71st Street Pump Station and One Million Gallon Water Tank. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that on February 19, bids were opened for the construction of the NE 71st Street pump station and a one million gallon water storage tank. He noted that seven bids were received with the apparent low responsive bidder being Pacific Excavation Inc., with a base bid amount of \$1,320,815. He added that the new pump station will replace the aging Salmon Run pump station, which experienced issues in 2012 after high rainfall caused the station to slide downhill. He stated that the new station will be in a more stable area and have better fire flow capacity and redundancy. He added that the construction of the one million gallon storage tank will significantly increase drinking water, and fire flow volumes in the Agate Beach area, as currently there is inadequate fire flow for many of the properties located in Agate Beach. Allen noted that in looking at fiscal notes, it looks like the engineer's estimate is higher than what was allocated last year, and the low responsive bid amount is \$400,000 less than the engineers estimate. Gross explained that the savings is due to the tank being constructed on-site rather than fabricated and brought to the site.

MOTION was made by Allen, seconded by Busby, that the City of Newport Public Works Department be authorized to issue a Notice of Intent to Award the NE 71st Street pump station and one million gallon water storage tank project to Pacific Excavation, Inc. in the amount of \$1,320,815, and contingent upon no protest, authorize award, and direct the City Manager to execute the contract after seven days on behalf of the City of Newport. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Authorization of an Agreement for Engineer of Record for the Newport Municipal Airport. Hawker introduced the agenda item. Smith reported that City Council had received a new copy of this document. He noted that the city has completed a qualification-based request for proposals for engineer of record for the Newport Municipal Airport. He stated that the review scorers for this plan included Melissa Román, Lance Vanderbeck, and Nebel. He added that the city received proposals from three firms for engineer of record, and through the scoring process, the incumbent firm, Precision Approach Engineering, was deemed to be the strongest proposer for serving as engineer of record for airport. He noted that Precision Approach Engineering has done an excellent job in the major projects that have been accomplished at the airport over the past few years, and that it has provided excellent details in their plans and specifications, and have guided the projects very smoothly and professionally from conception to completion.

Busby asked whether someone from the Airport Committee was supposed to be involved in assessing these proposals.

MOTION was made by Engler, seconded by Busby, to accept the contract with Precision Approach Engineering as the Newport Municipal Airport's engineer of record and authorize the City Manager to execute this agreement. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

RETURN TO CITY COUNCIL MEETING

The City Council returned to its regular meeting at 8:22 P.M.

REPORT FROM THE MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL

Roumagoux reported that she attended the Seafood and Wine Festival on February 19, and that it was well attended.

Roumagoux reported that she met with Fred Abousleman, the new director of the Oregon Cascades West Council of Governments, and his assistant, Lydia George, on February 23. She added that Sawyer and Nebel also attended this meeting at which Abousleman reported that his goal is to improve Lincoln County in a robust manner.

Roumagoux reported that she participated in a radio show on February 25 regarding the recent goal setting session.

Roumagoux reported that she attended the YBEF meeting on February 25, but due to lack of a quorum, there was informal sharing.

Roumagoux reported that on February 26, she, Swanson, and Hawker participated in City Day at the Capitol. She noted that this session was valuable, and included a presentation on the LOC's legislative agenda. She added that in the afternoon, participants were bused to the capitol to visit with legislators, and the evening included a reception at which Governor Brown was in attendance. She noted that she invited the Governor to visit Newport.

Allen noted that for City Day at the Capitol, city staff had provided white papers to the legislators. He asked that those, along with the booklet provided by the LOC, be shared with the City Council. He added that he met with legislators in the morning regarding ocean policy related issues. He noted that approximately 180 people attended this event.

Allen reported that an Audit Committee meeting will be held tomorrow to interview the top respondents to the RFP for auditing services.

Allen reported that he had attended the City Council goal setting session last week.

Allen stated that he and Rich discussed the process for appointing Budget Committee and Planning Commission members. He noted that both are statutorily based and have certain requirements for appointment. He suggested that for the future, given the importance and direct contact with both committees, Council could utilize a more specific code provision for appointments to the Planning Commission and Budget Committee which would require an amendment to the Municipal Code. He added that if this was done, the appointments to the Budget Committee and Planning Commission would be City Council decisions rather than ratification of a Mayoral appointment. He asked whether Council was interested in pursuing this approach. Busby, Swanson, Saelens, and Engler expressed satisfaction with the current approach of ratification. Sawyer noted that he is not happy with the term "ratification." Allen noted that this is about the group process and

working together as a group, and suggested that it could be better as a group decision. Rich stated that the City Charter trumps state statutes in his opinion, but as a process issue, he is hesitant to get involved unless directed by the City Council. Allen stated that he wanted a sense from the City Council, but that he is comfortable with the process. Saelens noted that each Councilor has the right to tell the Mayor what they think, and that if the Mayor got a clear message that the majority of the Council was opposed to an appointment, she would probably change the appointment. Engler asked whether deliberation could occur after interviews, and Allen noted that it might be more beneficial and productive to reach a consensus on Planning Commission and Budget Committee appointments after the interviews.

Busby reported that the Fire Department awards dinner is scheduled on Saturday evening.

Busby reported that the Public Arts Committee met recently and has three new members.

Busby reported that he attended a recent Port of Newport Commission meeting. He noted that the Port will be completing the international terminal project within the next few weeks and is looking for customers. He added that the Teevin Brothers log exporting operation is on an indefinite hold.

Busby asked about the next step in establishing a new urban renewal district. Tokos reported that the next Council agenda will include a resolution initiating the process of establishing an urban renewal district, and another resolution that would establish the committee to look at issues associated with establishing the district.

Roumagoux reported that she received a handwritten card from Senator Merkley noting that he is optimistic about the outcome of the Coast Guard helicopter issue.

Swanson reported that she attended City Day at the Capitol, and found it very informative and useful.

Swanson reported that she participated in the Audit Committee scoring of the RFP's for auditing services.

Saelens reported that the last Wayfinding Committee meeting was cancelled, and noted that the Committee could take a break.

Sawyer reported that he will be unable to attend the City Council orientation session on March 20.

Sawyer reported that he attended the COG meeting with the new director and assistant. He noted that the COG might be interested in engaging Chase Park Grants.

Smith reported that Miranda will be Acting City Manager on March 5 - 8 as he will be out of town.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 8:47 P.M.

Margaret M. Hawker, City Recorder

Sandra N. Roumagoux, Mayor