

March 3, 2014
6:03 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, Roumagoux, Saelens, Allen, Busby, Sawyer, and Swanson were present. Beemer was excused.

Staff present was City Manager Nebel, City Recorder Hawker, Community Development Director Tokos, Public Works Director Gross, and Police Lieutenant Malloy.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS, AND SPECIAL RECOGNITIONS

Mayor Roumagoux proclaimed March as American Red Cross Month in the City of Newport.

Mayor Roumagoux read a tribute to Don Mann, who recently retired as General Manager for the Port of Newport. Mann was not in attendance, but it was reported that this tribute will be presented to him at a Chamber of Commerce event in his honor.

Kevin Greenwood, Manager of the Port of Newport, and Don Mann's successor, was introduced to the City Council. Greenwood briefly updated Council on the Teevin Brothers log exporting project, and the Alcan log exporting proposal. Allen reported that a joint Task Force had been established between the city and port to discuss pedestrian safety issues. He noted that an additional meeting is needed to review ideas for alternate routes in the future. Greenwood reported that he has copies of the meeting minutes and his goal is to set a meeting within the next three to four weeks. Council welcomed him to Newport.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Hawker reported that the consent calendar consisted of the following items:

- A. Approval of City Council minutes from the work session, executive session, and regular meeting of February 3, 2014.

MOTION was made by Swanson, seconded by Busby, to approve the consent calendar as presented. Saelens recommended changes to the composting discussion. Swanson and Busby amended the motion and second to include the changes noted by Saelens. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Saelens added that this section of the minutes contained opinions that were based on being a solid waste professional.

COMMUNICATIONS

25th Anniversary of the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station by Dr. Gil Sylvia. Hawker read the title of the agenda item. Sylvia distributed a handout, and reported that the Coastal Oregon Marine Experiment Station (COMES) is the largest applied marine research organization in Oregon; the largest branch agricultural research station in Oregon; and the only branch devoted solely to marine issues. Sylvia made a PowerPoint presentation that included: COMES history; COMES Advisory Board; COMES Mission; COMES Research Program; COMES Newport faculty; COMES Astoria (runs Astoria Seafood Lab); COMES Signature Programs, including the Pacific Whiting Project, Molluscan Broodstock Program, Marine Mammal Institute, Surimi School, and the Salmon and Marine Fisheries Ecology Initiative; COMES - Economic and Social Benefits; OSU, COMES and the Oregon Coast: An Integrated Marine Science Education “Economic” Enterprise; Investment Strategy. He reported that the OSU Seafood Lab in Astoria will be celebrating its 75th anniversary next year, and the HMSC will be celebrating its 50th anniversary next year too. Sylvia noted that Marine Science Day will be held on April 12.

Allen added that a COMES open house will be held on April 11 at the Pacific Maritime and Heritage Museum.

Council thanked Sylvia for the presentation.

Visual Arts Center Re-Envisioning Report. Hawker read the title of the agenda item. Roumagoux recused herself because she has a direct conflict of interest due to her many years of association with the VAC including a financial interest from making money from the sale of art at the VAC, as well as her work in policy development. She left the room.

Nebel reported that Resolution No. 3650 was adopted by the Newport City Council on November 18, 2013 and provided that the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts (OCCA) develop financially sustainable options to ensure the long-term success of the Visual Arts Center. He added that since that time, OCCA conducted five community meetings to gather information, formulate a plan of action, and prepare a report that would be presented to the City Council tonight.

Rickbone reported that a lot has occurred in last 5.5 months, and out of the direction from Council in November came the opportunity for OCCA and the city to begin looking at re-envisioning the VAC. She stated that OCCA was asked to develop this plan and presentation. She added that she has been pleased that new City Manager has been to PAC and VAC and toured the facilities. Rickbone reminded Council about OCCA’s annual management report, and reviewed several items related to the VAC. She discussed OCCA’s financial contribution toward the PAC and VAC, the return on investment, and the economic impact of the arts.

Sandy Williams, president of OCCA, reported that the documents that Council has received are a work in progress and only in draft form. She stated that additional discussion may be needed. Williams stated that the News-Times reported that a “Friends of the VAC” foundation had been developed, and noted that while this is listed as recommendation number four, the report is inaccurate. She reported that five meetings had been held to brainstorm the preparation of the draft report. She noted that

participants met in committees to work on various tasks. She reviewed the numbers of volunteers and participants in the various meetings noting that hundreds of hours had been devoted to this process. She added that the recommendations and action plans are the result of strong grass roots action. She recognized the heads of the subcommittees and others, and asked that everyone in attendance in support of the VAC to stand. Most of the attendees in the room stood.

Rickbone noted that this community needs the arts so that there is balance and options for citizens and visitors. She reported that the VAC will celebrate its 30th anniversary on March 23, 2014, from 2:00 - 4:00 P.M. Rickbone stated that the VAC deserves as much consideration as any building in Newport, and she expressed hope that Council would not dismantle the VAC. She added that the VAC is a building to keep, preserve, and move forward with. She reported that OCCA is suggesting some next steps, and added that for budget purposes, OCCA proposes the continuation of the management agreement for FY14/15 as it exists now. She added that, in the mid-term, OCCA wants to collaborate with the city in looking at ways to support this building. Saelens asked Rickbone whether she had any problem with the recommendations proposed by the City Manager.

Nebel stated that it is his recommendation to divide the recommendations into two separate groups. He noted that the first group would relate to budgetary items as outlined in recommendation numbers 2, 6, and 8. He added that these recommendations will all have fiscal impacts for fiscal year 2014/2015. Nebel suggested that the budget for fiscal year 2014/2015 be prepared utilizing historic levels of city funding for the VAC, and that a separate cost center be created in the proposed budget for the VAC. He added that these recommendations are timely for the budget preparation schedule and make sense from a financial reporting standpoint for fiscal year 2014/2015.

Nebel also suggested that Council consider referring the other recommendations back to city administration for a report, by the first meeting in June 2014, on how to proceed with the remaining recommendations. He stated that the reason for this delay is based on his involvement in the budget preparation. He added that this schedule will give the OCCA some additional time to review the recommendations and the tasks that are outlined in preparation for later dialogue and negotiations with the city on how to move forward on any items that are agreed to. Nebel noted that he anticipates a report with an action plan for how the city and OCCA will work through the issues identified in this report. He added that it is his ultimate goal to have these negotiations completed on the non-budget issues by the end of December 2014. He stated that if Council would like to accelerate the process, it could appoint a work committee to work with representatives of the OCCA to initiate these discussions in an earlier time frame.

Allen noted that item one should not be kept open for discussion. He read item 1., "The City of Newport should continue to own the VAC at its current location." He noted that a lot of this discussion has been about monetary issues, and some on the building itself. He added that if Council proceeds, the VAC must stay at its current location given the amount of input provided over several meetings. He noted that a lot of why we are here is not monetary, but location. He suggested taking item one off the table, and continuing to work on the financial issues and other recommendations. He reiterated that he is not comfortable in proceeding without that provision in place.

Saelens agreed with Allen, noting that it quickly became clear that any thought of abandoning the current location of the VAC is not on the table. He stated that he thought item 7. is totally reasonable, and that sent a strong signal that the people are serious about putting together a plan that can shift what is viewed as a burden to the city. He added that item 13. is important as it had not really dawned on him that the arts community is not viewed the same, relative to the importance of the arts, in the economic development to the community.

Sawyer stated that great work done has been done on this issue. He noted that in the past, many city programs have not been broken down to the extent this has been done, and that this is a great model for the city to follow. Williams reported that the subcommittees met knowing that they are integrating with each other.

Busby stated that he hoped that the energy and enthusiasm could be maintained. He asked whether Rickbone would like the city to make a commitment tonight.

Nebel noted that if item 1. is off the table, it is important for staff to spend time on the issues that are still on the table.

Deanna Trail reported that she selected this area based on many factors, but one was the cultural arts. She recommended that Council and VAC continue to look for answers and to maintain open minds on how the visual arts can be supported in this community.

MOTION was made by Saelens, seconded by Sawyer, that the City Manager prepare the proposed budget for the fiscal year beginning July 1, 2014 and ending June 30, 2015 based on historic levels of funding for the Visual Arts Center, at the present location, and separate the expenses for the maintenance and operation of this facility, that are paid for by the city, into a separate cost center to reflect city expenditures for this facility as well as any revenues that are related to the operation of the facility. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Allen reiterated that there needs to be clarity in the second motion that item 1. will not be considered, noting that the issue is settled into the future.

Rickbone asked whether she should return another evening to discuss the PAC. Nebel noted that if the recommended motion passes, with the issue relative to the location, the budget will be based on recommendations in the second motion. He added that he plans to meet with OCCA to discuss different approaches. He added that OCCA should plan to present its' annual report.

MOTION was made by Allen, seconded by Saelens, that the report from the Oregon Coast Council for the Arts on the Visual Arts Center be referred to the city administration with a report being requested from the City Manager, by the City Council, by the first meeting in June 2014, which will define a process to be utilized to evaluate the remaining recommendations that were identified as part of the OCCA report, except for recommendation 1. which the city supports, which reads, "The City of Newport should continue to own the Visual Arts Center at its current location," with the intent that a final joint report would be provided back to the City Council by December of 2014, on the long-term plans for the Visual Arts Center. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

Consideration of Curbside Compostables Collection Program. Hawker read the title of the agenda item. Nebel reported that at the first meeting in April of 2013, the City Council discussed the possibility of recycling food waste and yard and woody debris in the city. He stated that Council delegated Allen and Saelens to work with Thompson's Sanitary Service to explore a further reduction of waste entering the landfills from the city. He added that over the next 11 months, Allen and Saelens worked closely with Thompson's Sanitary Service to evaluate options for diverting food, brush, and yard waste from the landfills as part of the city's solid waste management system. Nebel reported that in early May, a tour of the Pacific Region Compost Facility was conducted, and following that tour, Thompson's Sanitary Service retained Harlan Business Consultants to design the parameters of a curbside compostables collection system. He added that Dr. Estle Harlan has provided services to this working group in evaluating the feasibility and cost of implementing this type of service for the city. Nebel stated that on November 18, 2013, the working group provided a report to Council reviewing the status of this effort. He added that there was also a discussion at the joint meeting with the Lincoln County Commissioners regarding the compostable component of the residential solid waste collection system. He noted that due to the county's smaller population in Thompson's service area, the county has indicated that it will wait until the city makes a decision before evaluating whether to add the compostable service for its residents served by Thompson's Sanitary Service. Nebel reported that on February 3, 2014, the City Council held a work session with Thompson's Sanitary Service to discuss how this program will work in the city and what the cost would be to customers utilizing the service.

Nebel reported that in evaluating this proposal, there are a number of things that the City Council needs to keep in mind. He stated that the development of a program to reduce the amount of waste going into landfills is a goal of the City Council. He added that Chapter 7.05.005(1) and (4) of the Newport Municipal Code includes the following provisions: (1) Reduce the amount of solid waste generated; and (4) Resource recovery material where possible. He added that implementing a curbside compostables collection program is consistent with these goals.

Nebel reported that on February 18, 2014, the City Council held a public forum/hearing to obtain input on the possible implementation of a curbside compostable collection program. He added that following a presentation by Thompson's Sanitary Service, 20 people spoke with 14 expressing support for the program, and six expressing opposition to the program as presented. Nebel noted that Council extended the time for public comments through Tuesday, February 25, 2014 to allow for additional input, and the city has had comments beyond that period of time. He stated that he has included the initial letters received prior to the forum/hearing, as well as the materials received at the forum/hearing, and the communication received following the forum/hearing as part of this packet for Council review. Nebel reported that the majority of comments the city received following the public forum/hearing have been in opposition to a mandatory curbside compostables collection program. He stated that the most repeated concern came from property owners who indicated that they do not generate much garbage. He added that other common concerns were related to the effect of wind on the current containers; the space needed for a third large container;

individuals who indicate they have no yard debris to justify a large container; and people who currently actively compost their food and yard waste. He noted that there were a number of comments that expressed concern about this being a no bid contract and that the primary benefit of the program would be for the hauler.

Nebel reported that in reviewing the various comments that were made regarding the program, many people were not opposed to a compostables program, but thought there should be an opt out provision for people with minimal waste. He stated that in response to a number of these concerns, Thompson's Sanitary Service indicated that a possible service that could be offered that would include the use of a 20-gallon cart for solid waste, with separate containers for recycling and mixed compostables, at the slightly reduced rate of \$25.74 monthly. He added that Thompson's Sanitary Service would also offer a smaller gallon roll cart for mixed compostables of 65 gallons, however there would not be a reduction in rate for this smaller container, but that it would require less space for people with limited storage areas.

Nebel reported that there were discussions regarding the City of Salem/Marion County program which offers a very restrictive opt out. He stated that if a customer is using a 20-gallon roll cart for weekly service for solid waste, they are allowed to opt out of the separate compostables service. He noted that this would handle the typical single senior citizen or individuals that have very minimal refuse. He added that in discussing this option with Thompson's Sanitary Service, it might be necessary to raise the rate in future years if a substantial number of people take this option. Nebel reported that in Salem, three percent of customers use this limited opt out provision. He noted that after further review, Thompson's Sanitary Service has indicated, based on public comment, to offer this limited opt out service as part of the proposed curbside compostables collection program. He stated that condominiums and apartment complexes are not impacted by having individual containers for garbage.

Nebel reported that there have been some comments relating to the solid waste franchise agreement between the city and Thompson's Sanitary Service. He added that for Council review, he has included information in the packet from Thompson's Sanitary Service and Harlan Business Consultants that addresses a number of the questions or concerns that were raised in the communications that have been included in the packet.

Nebel reported that in relationship to the cost of this program, Dr. Harlan has developed costs based on other similar sized programs in Oregon. He stated that Thompson's Sanitary Service has evaluated the costs for providing this service from an operational standpoint. He added that Thompson's Sanitary Service's internal evaluation supports the conclusions that Dr. Harlan has developed. Nebel noted, that the majority of the cost of this program deals with the purchase of bins, equipment, staffing, trucking compostables to the site, as well as a tipping fees at the site. He stated that tipping fees for the compostables delivered to the Pacific Regional Composting Facility are similar to the tipping fees for the use of the landfills. He noted that once the materials are brought to the Pacific Regional Composting Facility, the disposition of the compost is out of the hauler's hands. He stated that there were a number of comments indicating that there is value to the finished compost, which is true, but unlike recycling where revenues from the sale of recycled products directly offset a portion of the collection costs, there is no revenue to the contractor for the compostable materials.

Nebel reported that the City Council has several options which they may wish to pursue on this program, including: (1) the Council may elect to go forward with the

program as originally outlined by Thompson's Sanitary Services, which would be a universal program at the additional cost of \$6.59 per month; (2) a second option is that Council may opt not to go forward with a curbside compostables program at this time; (3) and the third option that Council may proceed with the curbside compostables collection program with a limited exception for those customers who would utilize a 20-gallon garbage container with the possibility that the cost of \$6.59 may need to be adjusted depending on the number of residents that opt out of the utilization of a small combined garbage container.

Nebel reported that this new option would address the concerns of many people that have a very minimal amount of garbage. He added that it may also address some of the expressed by people that have extensive composting efforts already going on in their yard and have very little solid waste. He noted that it would likely not address the majority of the customers in the city that would be utilizing the three bin system (non-compostable garbage, compostable material, and recycling) although if waste is reduced they may be able to downsize their garbage containers or avoid charges for extra bags of garbage. He stated that these programs have worked in other parts of the state and would be consistent with the City Council's overall goal of reducing the amount of material ending up in landfills.

Nebel added that household garbage services are not required in the city, noting that if someone chooses to opt out of the curbside collection they can legally dispose of any waste at one of the area transfer stations. He stated that people do have a choice of not participating in any of the curbside programs.

Nebel recommended that Council approve the following motion: that the City of Newport approve Resolution No. 3665, which authorizes the establishment of a curbside compostables collection program in accordance with section 9 of the Solid Waste Franchise Agreement with Thompson's Sanitary Service with a limited opt out for customers electing to use a 20-gallon weekly roll cart for household garbage with the rates being increased by \$6.59 per month on all other customers upon initiation of the service, and establishing a monthly rate for the 20-gallon roll cart at \$19.15 per month for those opting out of the curbside compostables collection program and \$25.74 for those utilizing the compost rollout carts.

Allen suggested not taking action until Beemer is in attendance as the opt out provision was not on the table two weeks ago.

Saelens stated that given how long the process has gone on, he realized that the Council has not deliberated the merits of the program. He agreed that it is important to delay the issue until Beemer can participate. He stated that when giving an opinion as a solid waste professional, he will preface those remarks as "coming from a solid waste professional." He added that when making comments as a City Councilor, he will note that. He stated that speaking as a Councilor, he still believes it is important to have deliberation tonight and to let Nebel know what items Council wants to see in the revised resolution when it is presented for a final vote in two weeks.

Sawyer noted that when the process first started, his first concern was for people who did not generate a lot of compostables and could not afford the service. He thanked Thompson's for the opt out provision. He stated that he is bothered by the survey, and suggested that the city develop another short survey that could be sent with water bills. He also recommended reviewing what other communities this size are doing with this issue. He added that he is also concerned about the tippage fee.

Busby agreed with delaying the process. He stated that he is not ready to make a decision on this issue tonight. He added that he believes he has been deliberately misled in some areas and it creates skepticism in other areas. He recommended the city complete an audit on Thompson's Sanitary Service before proceeding with the new request. He noted that Thompson's has a seven-year rolling contract with the city.

Swanson stated that she thinks Council has enough material to move forward.

Allen reported that Thompson's Sanitary Service is required to provide financials from their accountant by April 1 of each year, and that it seems like that is the way the audit issue should be addressed. He added that the seven-year rolling contract period has been in place for some time. He stated that the April 1 deadline has been a workable model for rate reviews.

Roumagoux agreed with Swanson that the City Council tends to delay things. She suggested making a decision on the recommended action.

Saelens asked whether Council needs to make recommendations regarding the draft resolution. Allen noted that if the issue is delayed until March 17, Council could give Nebel direction for the final draft of the resolution.

Roumagoux called for public comment.

Marletta Noe stated that she is pleased that there is an opt out provision.

Nyla Jebousek objected to limiting the opt out provision to customers using only a 20-gallon roll cart.

Ellen Bristow noted that she completed the public comment form because she thought a decision was going to be made tonight, and noted that if there is still time to comment, she will comment later.

Jebousek reported that she has "on-call" service with Thompson's Sanitary Service, rather than a regularly scheduled service.

Busby expressed concern regarding the opt out provision being limited to a 20-gallon container. Harlan reported that this mirrors the Salem/Marion County experience, and it is purposeful to encourage waste reduction. She stated that if a customer can utilize the recycling, and is composting, they can get by with a 20-gallon cart. Busby asked why the customer cannot make that decision, and Harlan replied that this is meant to encourage as many folks as possible to take advantage of the program. Thompson noted that there was a lot of discussion about universal service, which is not mandatory, as a way to spread costs and make the program successful from a recovery standpoint. He added that the process of sizing cans is done intentionally to ensure that the program is successful from a cost recovery standpoint, and to spread costs as broadly as possible.

A brief discussion ensued regarding the on-call service utilized by Jebousek.

Sawyer asked Thompson whether they have talked with Dahl Disposal and North Lincoln Sanitary Service regarding whether those companies plan to offer the service.

Busby spoke to Thompson's "12% profits," asked whether, going forward it is Thompson's intent to continue the compostables service without adding this percentage to the \$6.59 for the monthly service. Thompson noted that is true from the price standpoint that customer pays this amount in the bill. Thompson added that he completely supports another audit if the city wishes to conduct one.

Allen noted that for the next meeting, there will be issues that Council would like Nebel to look into more closely. He suggested examining why the opt out provision only applies to the 20-gallon cart.

Nebel asked that Council let him know the specific questions they want answered.

Jebousek clarified the on-call service that she has from Thompson's Sanitary Service. She stated that she is the only person in the city who has this service, and this service may be something that Council might want to consider.

Marletta Noe stated that the seven-year rolling contract is outrageous.

Ursula Marinelli voiced support for the curbside composting proposal.

Roumagoux asked for direction from Council.

Allen stated that he feels strongly about waiting until March 17 to make a decision on this issue. He added that the resolution is a good start, but benchmarks need to be included to determine whether the program is working in two or three years. He added that he would like clarification and a report back to Council regarding why the 20-gallon cart opt out is the only size cart that would make the program successful. He noted that he would like Harlan to provide information regarding what percentage of people in Salem/Marion County, using the 35-gallon carts, actually opted out of the program.

Sawyer asked whether the cost to customers will remain at \$6.59 monthly if 50% - 80% of the customers opt out.

Saelens noted that Council needs to provide specifics to the City Manager for inclusion in the next version of the resolution.

Swanson suggested providing the City Manager with questions, and holding a work session next week to further discuss the matter prior to being asked to take action at the March 17 meeting.

Busby stated that he thinks it is important to have transparency throughout the process. He added it is also important that the resolution be specific and clear and cover everything including tests or a control period and cost control measures.

Allen recommended having legal counsel review any resolution that will adjust the contract with Thompson's Sanitary Service.

Nebel asked that specific questions and concerns be submitted to him by Wednesday at 5:00 P.M. so that he has a chance to respond to them.

It was the consensus of Council that a work session on this issue would be beneficial. It was agreed that a work session be held on Tuesday, March 11, at noon.

MOTION was made by Allen, seconded by Swanson, to defer taking any action on the resolution this evening, and place the matter on the agenda of the March 17, 2014 regular City Council meeting, and direct the City Council to submit questions to the City Manager by 5:00 P.M., on Wednesday, March 5, 2014, so that the City Manager can have a response at the work session to be held on Tuesday, March 11, 2014. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Tourism Facilities Grant Program. Nebel reported that at the February 18, 2014, City Council meeting, the Council reappropriated \$100,000 of the funds that had originally been designated for an events center. He added that \$900,000 of these funds have been previously committed for projects. He noted that during the last budget cycle, these funds had not been appropriated as part of the approved budget, but with the budget amendment approved by the City Council at the February 18, 2014 meeting, the funds are back in place. Nebel reported that he had included a copy of the Tourism/Facilities Grant Program as originally designed, including the application, and a listing of the members of the Tourism/Facilities Grant Review Task Force in the packet. He stated that if approved by City Council, staff will update these documents to reflect a deadline of Friday, May 16, 2014 at 5:00 P.M. for applications and indicate that

\$100,000 is available for this program. He added that it is the intent to keep the original rules intact for this final round of funding. Nebel stated that Council will also want to determine whether they want to reappoint the original members of the task force or make changes. He added that there is currently one vacancy on the seven-member task force. Nebel recommended that the Mayor review the composition of the Tourism/Facilities Grant Task Force members and make reappointments, or appoint a new task force, for confirmation by the City Council at the April 7, 2014 meeting.

MOTION was made by Swanson, seconded by Sawyer, that the Tourism/Facilities Grant Program be reinitiated for a final round of tourism/facilities grants, with applications being due Friday, May 16, 2014, at 5:00 P.M. in the City Manager's office, with a total of \$100,000 to be available for tourism infrastructure projects that will bring tourism to the City of Newport. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

Scheduling Public Comments on the 2014-2015 Goals for the City of Newport. Nebel reported that the City Council held its annual goal setting session on Monday, February 24, 2014. He noted that the proposed goals for fiscal year 2014/2015 are included in the packet, adding that these goals will guide the development of the proposed budget for the next fiscal year. He suggested that to obtain additional public comment on the proposed goals, Council schedule a public forum on the proposed goals for the fiscal year 2014/2015 at the March 17, 2014 City Council meeting, with written comments being accepted from the public through March 11, 2014. He added that comments can be directed to the Peggy Hawker, City Recorder, at p.hawker@newportoregon.gov. He stated that comments received by this date will be incorporated for Council review at that meeting. Nebel added that these comments will also be forwarded to Budget Committee who will be meeting in an informal session on Wednesday, March 12, 2014.

Allen reported that there is a vacancy on the Budget Committee, and Nebel noted that there may be one application for that vacancy.

MOTION was made by Swanson, seconded by Saelens, that the City Council accept the 2014/2015 proposed goal report as drafted by the City Manager, and schedule a public comment session on the proposed goals, for the regular City Council meeting to be held on Monday, March 17, 2014, with written comments due to the City Recorder's office by Tuesday, March 11, 2014, for inclusion in the published agenda packet for the March 17, 2014 City Council meeting, and that public comments can be made at the March 17, 2014, City Council meeting. The motion carried unanimously in a voice vote.

REPORT FROM MAYOR AND COUNCIL

Roumagoux reported that she participated on a panel for the Atta-Cub Scholarships.

Roumagoux reported that she had met with Ruth Metz, the consultant working on the strategic plan and facilities review for the Library.

Roumagoux reported that she attended a recent Chamber of Commerce Board meeting

Roumagoux reported that she and Nebel attended a recent YBEF meeting.

Allen reported that he was unable to attend the recent Retirement Board of Trustees meeting, but that he will leave the information from that meeting on the desk in the Council office.

Allen reported that the Audit Committee will be meeting later this week. Nebel confirmed that the meeting will be held Thursday afternoon. Allen noted that the Committee will develop a presentation on the audit which will be made to Council at its March 17 meeting. He added that Nebel will have a report and recommendations on issues that Council should be dealing with.

Busby reported that the firefighter's award banquet will be held on Saturday night.

Swanson reported that she was unable to attend the recent Senior Citizens Advisory Committee meeting due to a scheduling conflict with the Council goal setting session.

Swanson reported that the Library strategic plan and facility analysis is ongoing. She thanked staff for allowing this issue to be the agenda item for the March Town Hall meeting.

Saelens reported that the business license working group met and is moving forward.

Saelens stated that he plans to attend upcoming meetings of the Bicycle/Pedestrian Advisory Committee, the Wayfinding Committee, and the Parks and Recreation Advisory Committee.

Busby reported that the business license working group would probably be asking for public input on business license issues in approximately a month.

Sawyer reported that he attended a recent meeting of the Destination Newport Committee at which the Committee interviewed applicants to fill Committee vacancies. He noted that the Parks and Recreation Department staff requested a grant for the bike race in South Beach. Sawyer displayed a sample of some of the work the Committee has been involved with.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Nyla Jebousek reported an ivy infestation of trees on the slope next to Big Creek Road. She asked that the city do something to mitigate the infestation. Saelens noted that he and Jebousek have discussed this issue in the past, and that he will bring the issue up at several joint meetings that are planned. Allen noted that Jebousek had brought this issue up at the Infrastructure Task Force meetings, and she was encouraged to bring the matter to Council.

ADJOURNMENT

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:03 P.M.

Margaret M. Hawker, City Recorder

Sandra N. Roumagoux, Mayor