

CLARKSTON CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
June 8, 2015

COUNCIL:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Beadles	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Nash
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Provost	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Manchester
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Kolstad	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Blackmon

STAFF:

Chief Hastings Chief Cooper Clerk Storey City Attorney Grow PWD Martin

Chief Cooper made an announcement regarding the occupant load of the council room.

AGENDA CHANGES:

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to approve the minutes of the May 26, 2015, Regular Meeting. Motion carried.

COMMUNICATIONS:

A. From the Public: Councilmember Beadles moved to limit discussion on cannabis to 15 minutes per side. Second by Provost. Motion amended to restrict comment to residents of the city or organizations who represent residents of the city. Motion carried; 4-2, Nash and Kolstad opposed.

William Finch, 2041 Marilyn Way, said he should have the freedom to choose what he puts in his body. He said God created marijuana, so it is a good thing. He encouraged the council to reconsider their position.

Tom Martin, 421 11th Street, said he was injured several years ago and has developed a disabling and painful disease as a result. He said he is off all narcotics after beginning to use marijuana and his quality of life is improving, but now he is unable to purchase it in Clarkston. Kids have gotten marijuana for years and will continue to do so. He said Canna4Life checks ID every time a person enters the store and will not sell to minors. He asked the council who they trust more, the Lord or the liquor and pharmaceutical industry?

John Bernard, 1235 10th Street, said he is a stage 4 cancer survivor. Chemo has left him with severe side effects. He said medical cannabis does make a difference for him.

Steve Porter, 928 9TH Street, became a medical co-op grower several years ago, when his sister was very ill. He said using marijuana got her off pharmaceuticals and able to function. He asked the council to listen to these people and their votes.

Jennifer Enyeart, 1451 7th Street, is speaking on behalf of her husband. She said there seems to be a misconception that medical marijuana is easy to get. But though her husband qualifies he has been unable to get a medical card because his doctor is in Idaho. She said the only legal option for him is to grow his own, which is not feasible for him. With Canna4Life closed, their only option is to drive to Pullman.

Nick Swearingen, 1111 Sycamore, said he has a chronic immune condition. He said marijuana relieves the nausea. He commented that his grandmother wants to use a marijuana salve for pain relief, but there is no source here to purchase it. Buying in Pullman requires people to pass through Idaho, where it is illegal.

Sherri Greenup, 508 Sycamore, thanked the council members who had the courage to ban marijuana in the city. She said she believes having two marijuana businesses on Main Street would hurt business. She doesn't believe the cities will receive much tax money. She said in Colorado they are finding that for every dollar of tax money raised, it is costing \$10 in social services, police, and medical. Having a storefront normalizes the use of marijuana for the youth. She suggested that a store could be located in the County, which has not banned it. Greenup said she has done a lot of research on enforcing age laws and Asotin County was not stellar when it came to compliance checks. And compliance checks across the state have found violations.

Rhonda Granlund, 1213 Chestnut, believes the ban should be upheld. She said the business owner has shown he cannot be trusted by disregarding City laws and opening his store without a license. She referenced a book by William Bennett which claims more cases of driving under the influence, child neglect, and more babies being born under the influence. She said that today's marijuana is four times stronger than the marijuana of years ago. She believes it will cause more funds having to be spent on treatment, criminal conduct, unemployment and health care. She said the council has been elected to care for the residents of the community. It is not worth any amount of money that might be raised from the sale.

Jordan Thornton, 629 7th Street, said all his best friends are pot dealers, so as long as there is a ban, business is good.

Alice White, 742 13th Street, commented that not much has changed in the City. She said that when liquor stores changed from state operated to private business, they had to obtain a city business license. A state liquor license did not provide them with a license to business in the city. And this is no different. She encouraged the council to continue to uphold the law.

Nathan Betts, 2315 Rolling Hills Court, said he will not have a job if the ban continues and then he can go on unemployment.

B. From Mayor:

C. From Staff:

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

Finance: Councilmember Provost reported the bills were reviewed and approved for payment. Total expenditures for May 31, 2015 of \$554.58 and for June 8, 2015 of \$693,189.81. MOTION BY PROVOST/BEADLES to approve the bills. Motion carried.

Public Safety: Committee met June 2, 2015. Councilmember Beadles reported Chief Cooper discussed the mutual aid agreement with Asotin County Fire District. They are still working on a couple of language items. Chief Hastings presented the SRO agreement with the school district. It is on the agenda for approval. The police department will be providing informational fliers regarding the new fireworks regulations for the 4th of July. Electronic radar speed signs were discussed.

Public Works: Committee met on June 3. Councilmember Nash said PWD Martin explained the need for an easement for storm sewer that crosses Army Corp property. Council permission is being sought for the mayor to sign the easement agreement once it has legal approval. Martin is exploring the possibility of using street sweepings for landfill cover to save expense.

Admin Committee: Councilmember Manchester said committee met June 8. There is no business to report.

Community Development: No meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

A. Ordinance no. 1540, Sewer Pre-Treatment Update – 2nd Reading for Action

Ordinance No. 1540 was read by title. MOTION BY NASH/PROVOST to adopt ordinance No. 1540. Motion carried.

NEW BUSINESS:

A. Kristin Kemak, LC Valley Chamber, Presentation on Leadership Program

Kristin Kemak, Chamber Director, addressed the council regarding a new leadership program the Chamber is sponsoring. The idea is to develop leaders in the community. It is a nine month program which will begin in August with a two day retreat. They will meet once a month for a full day to learn about different elements such as health care, government, education, tourism etc.

Councilmember Nash asked about the schedule. Kemak said it meets one Friday per month for the

full day. Councilmember Provost asked who they are targeting for this program. Kemak said anyone 21 and over, including current community leaders and those who are up and coming.

B. Kristi Sharpe, EPIC update

Kristi Sharpe, 2420 Linda Lane introduced a subcommittee of EPIC youth. Alex Pangle, Chelsea Spinelli, Racheal Spinelli are members of the EPIC youth group. Chelsea said she attended an EPIC convention this year where they planned a community project. Alex said the community project is “Let’s Draw the Line” between youth and alcohol. They gave a slide presentation explaining the program and their slogans and goals. Goals included being above alcohol, marijuana and being bullied. They provided stickers to stores that sell alcohol warning them not to sell to minors. They said advertising increases the likelihood of youth drinking. They showed an ad that they produced that is being shown in theaters and on TV.

Councilmember Provost thanked them for their presentation and for having the courage to stand up for their beliefs and to make this presentation. Kristi said the group received a \$1,000 stipend to continue their work.

C. Ordinance no. 1541, Adopting Standards for Public Defender Services – 1st Reading

Ordinance No. 1541 was read by title.

D. Agreement with Clarkston School District, School Resource Officer

Chief Hastings explained that this is the same agreement with the school district that has been in place for twelve years. The cost has been updated to reflect current wages and benefits. Hastings said Officer Morbeck is the current SRO. MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to approve the contract with the school district. Mayor Warren asked if the DARE program will be returning. Chief Hastings said DARE was eliminated last year due to staffing issues. He said when we have the resources, it will be reviewed. Motion carried.

E. Proposed Easement with Army Corp for Existing Stormwater Infrastructure

PWD Martin explained that it was discovered that there is some stormwater infrastructure that drops over the bank from Beachview Blvd that serves two catch basins. In order to do needed repairs, the Corp of Engineers wants an easement for the infrastructure. The easement will be developed and brought back for council action.

F. Request to Direct Staff to Prepare an Ordinance to Repeal Ordinance #1532

Councilmember Kolstad made a motion to direct staff to prepare an ordinance to lift the ban on marijuana. He said based on the number of people who attended this meeting and previous meetings on this topic it indicates that is what the people want.

Councilmember Beadles said that with the legal actions that are currently pending involving Ordinance 1532, he believes changing anything at this point would be amiss.

Councilmember Nash asked exactly what was banned by #1532, recreational or all marijuana.

Chief Hastings explained that there are no legal medical dispensaries in the City at this time. New legislation will take effect at the end of July that will allow and regulate medical marijuana. Councilmember Beadles said Public Safety Committee will be addressing the medical marijuana issue.

Kolstad commented that a second is needed to the motion before discussion. He said if there is no second discussion should end. Nash said he just has a question about medical marijuana. Kolstad repeated that if there is no second there should be no discussion. There was no second. .

G. Addendum No. 1 and No. 2 to Architect Agreement and Hold Harmless Agreement

MOTION BY BEADLES/PROVOST to approve Addendum No. 1 and 2 and the Hold Harmless agreement with Brotnov. Beadles commented that this deals with the public safety remodel project and has been going on for about two years. Kolstad asked if this is the architect who is responsible for the problems we have had with the building. Beadles said that is not necessarily the case. Provost said these documents are needed so the attorneys can gather information to assist in resolving the lawsuits. Brotnov was not willing to cooperate without the hold harmless. Motion carried; 5-1; Kolstad opposed.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilmember Nash asked about SB 5052, which allows medical endorsements. Chief Hastings said it does not go into effect until the end of July. It will allow a retailer to receive a medical endorsement to sell medical product. It also changes the regulations for medical users who grow their own. It establishes registration lists for medical marijuana users.

Councilmember Kolstad thanked everyone who came out to speak. He noted that this is the first time in years he has seen challengers for every position up for election.

MEDIA QUESTIONS:

John Michael, a reporter from the Daily Fly, asked the each council member why they have chosen to vote the way they did on the marijuana ban.

ADJOURNMENT:

Meeting adjourned at 8:12 p.m.

Vickie Storey, City Clerk

Kathleen A. Warren, Mayor

Total Fund Expenditures, 5/31/15	Ck # 20150501-05, 08, 59225-27	\$554.58
Total Fund Expenditures, 6/08/15	Ck # 20150601, 59279-59354	\$409,181.09
Payroll, 5/31/15	Ck # 59229-78	\$284,008.72