

MINUTES

**CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS, CITY HALL
29592 ELLENSBURG AVE
GOLD BEACH OR 97444
THURSDAY, JANUARY 8, 2009,
SPECIAL MEETING @ 12:15 P.M.**

CALLED TO ORDER BY MAYOR WERNICKE AT 12:15 P.M.

THE PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

ROLL CALL:

	<u>PRESENT</u>	<u>ABSENT</u>
Mayor James Wernicke	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Position #1 Sue Johnson	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Position #2 Larry Brennan	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Position #3 Peter Peterson	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Position #4 John Truesdell	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
Council Position #5 David Alexander	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>
City Administrator Don Flynn	<u> X </u>	<u> </u>

SPECIAL ORDERS OF BUSINESS:

Before the interviews, Alexander voiced his conflict of interest since his wife is one of the applicants and offered to leave the meeting if the council preferred. The council voiced their opinion that it was fine for him to be present, it is a public meeting. Alexander then left the council table and sat in the audience.

INTERVIEW 2 APPLICANTS FOR THE PLANNING COMMISSION VACANCY

12:15 **Toni Foss**, applicant for the seat opened with the election of John Truesdell to the council, was interviewed first. Foss gave a brief background of her experience. She has served as presidents of the Friends of the Library and delivers Meals on Wheels on Fridays. She has not had planning experience and is interested in beautification of Gold Beach. Business experience includes retail sales and public relations for a large department store chain in Southern California. Attended college for two years, majoring in art.

Truesdell gave a brief synopsis of the duties of the planning commission members.

12:30 **Linda Alexander** - under questioning, the council learned that Alexander has vast experience in blue prints and figuring elevations and converting maps to computerized datum. Lots of Internet experience. She would strive to identify

with the public and see what the peoples' first impression is when they drive into the city.

Truesdell gave a brief synopsis of the duties of the planning commission members.

Brennan voiced concern that by having Alexander on the planning commission and her husband being on the council, it might present the perception of a conflict of interest. That would not be the perception the council would want the public to have.

Johnson stated that in the past a councilor's husband was appointed to the planning commission and there was never a problem. The perception of that was it was good they were both interested in serving the city. Johnson also stated there is no legal conflict of interest, as financial gain is one of the criteria and there would be no financial gain for either the councilor or Alexander.

Peterson agreed that it was the public perception, not the actual conflict of interest that concerned him.

Johnson said she thinks the council's job is to fill the committees with the most qualified person.

A brief discussion followed.

MOTION:-> Peterson moved that Toni Foss be appointed to the planning commission, second by Brennan. Johnson, Brennan, Peterson and Truesdell voted "AYE". Alexander didn't vote as he had excused himself prior to the interviews. VOTE 4 AYES

The council asked Alexander to explain to Linda Alexander that it was nothing personal, just the perceptual conflict of interest. They would love to have her on the city beautification committee when it is formed.

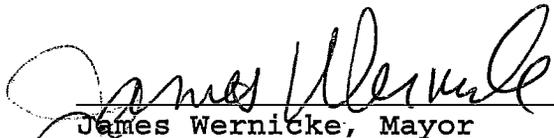
Truesdell was questioned as to what happened to the beautification committee that the planning commission was going to appoint.

Truesdell stated the ball had been dropped and he would approach the commission at their next meeting regarding giving the project to the city.

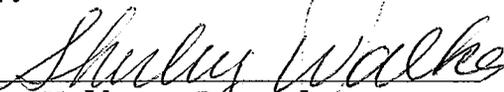
ADJOURNED AT 1:03 p.m. :

The location of the hearing/meeting is accessible to the disabled. Advance notice is requested if special accommodations are needed. Call (541) 247-7029 so that appropriate assistance can be provided. The City of Gold Beach is an affirmative action EEOE and complies with section 504 of the rehab act of 1973. Complaints of Discrimination should be sent to: USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Washington, D.C. 20250-9419

Passed by the Gold Beach City Council on January 12, 2009.


James Wernicke, Mayor

ATTEST:


Shirley Walker, Recorder