**CITY OF JOHN DAY**

**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES SEPTEMBER 10, 2024**

**COUCILORS PRESENT:**

**COUNCILORS ABSENT**

David Holland, Councilor

Chris Labhart, Councilor

Eric Bush, Councilor

Edwin Newby, Councilor

Ron Phillips, Councilor

Sherrie Rininger, Council President

**STAFF PRESENT:**

Melissa Bethel, City Manager

Nick Ducote, Contract Grant writer & administrator

**Agenda Item No. 1—Call Meeting to Order**

The City Council meeting was called to order at 6:30 pm.

**Agenda Item No. 2—Pledge of Allegiance**

The City Council stood for the Pledge of Allegiance.

**Agenda Item No. 3—Roll Call and Attendance**

All councilors were present.

**Agenda Item No. 4—Amend or Accept Regular Agenda**

***Councilor Labhart moved to accept the agenda as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilor Bush and passed unanimously.***

**Agenda Item No. 5—Public Comments**

Travis Piercy: Piercy has been an employee for the City of John Day for the last 5 years and handed in his two-week notice.

**Agenda Item No. 6—Consent Agenda**

Items on the consent agenda for approval:

1. Accounts Payable through August 31, 2024
2. Minutes for August 13, 2024

Councilor Labhart reminded Council that legal fees are up to $63,000 with only a $90,000 budget.

***Councilor Bush moved to approve the consent agenda as published. The motion was seconded by Councilor Newby and passed unanimously.***

**Agenda Item No. 7—Ducote Consulting Update on Grants/Projects**

Ducote gave some updates regarding the Wastewater Project. All of the environmental hurdles have been cleared. The City has received Release of Funds for USDA and Business Oregon which means construction and equipment procurement can begin as soon as the engineering is ready for those steps.

**Agenda Item No. 8—League of Oregon Cities 2025-26 Legislative Priorities (pick top 5 issues)**

Council picked Infrastructure Finding, Employment Lands Readiness & Availability, Restoration of Recreational Immunity, 2025 Transportation Package and Operator-in-Training Apprenticeships.

**Agenda Item No. 9—City Manager Comments**

1. **Camping Ordinance Update, set date for next workshop**

Council came to a consensus to have the Townhall on October 15th at 6:30pm.

**Agenda Item No. 10—Mayor and Council Comments**

Councilor Holland addressed issues he had regarding comments made at the Public Forum about him.

**Adjourn:**

There being no further business before council, Councilor Newby moved to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilor Phillips and passed unanimously.

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Melissa Bethel, CM