

**CANBY CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
April 3, 2019**

PRESIDING: Mayor Brian Hodson.

COUNCIL PRESENT: Tracie Heidt, Greg Parker, Traci Hensley, Tim Dale, Shawn Varwig, and Sarah Spoon.

STAFF PRESENT: Rick Robinson, City Administrator; Joseph Lindsay, City Attorney; and Kim Scheafer, City Recorder.

OTHERS PRESENT: Kevin Starrett, Craig Morris, Sarah Rodriguez, Martin Lackner, John Jones, Karen Phillips, Mary Walsh, Kathleen Jeskey, Sarah Griener, Aric Goodman, Sarah Goodman Greiner, Crystal Perkins, Amira Stanley, Nicholas Wills, Julie Wills, Rayne Wills, Pat Shaur, David & Linda Tate, Katherine Christiansen, Bob Cambra, Abelle Roe, Brad Clark, Kay Hutchinson, Kristin Morris, Diana Cerasin, Mercedes Rhoden-Feely, Maryssa Yager, Fire Chief Jim Davis, Fire Division Chief Todd Gary, Terry Mize, Jim & Eileen Dale, Don Kingsborough, Carol Rosen, Chris Waffle, Salen Brown, Elichia Owens, Joel Ekdahl, Tyler Smith, Ray Keen, Sarah Morgan, Jerald Bagge, Elaina Philpot, Ash Helvey, Steph Wise, Emily Simmons, Matteo Paola, Joshua Schoen, Hannah, Cole & Claud Dacosi, Terri Coleman, Ryan Adams, Matt English, Anton Neuhold, Ashley Neuhold, Nicole Brewer, John Brewer, and Audra Miller.

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Hodson called the Regular Meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers followed by the opening ceremonies.

National Library Week Proclamation – Mayor Hodson read a proclamation proclaiming April 7-13, 2019 as National Library Week and presented it to Irene Green, Library Director.

Ms. Green announced people could get a \$1.00 off their library fines for every non-perishable item they brought to the library. There was a new cultural pass express that could be downloaded to mobile devices.

Grange Month Proclamation – Mayor Hodson read a proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2019 as Grange Month in Canby and presented it to Terry Mize

Maryssa Yager gave an update on the Warner Grange activities and how they were giving back to the community.

Window Safety Month Proclamation – Mayor Hodson read a proclamation proclaiming the month of April 2019 as Window Safety Month and presented it to Todd Gary, Canby Fire Battalion Chief.

Chief Gary said the Stop at 4 Campaign started in Molalla. He reviewed window safety.

COMMUNICATIONS: None.

CITIZEN INPUT & COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS: Bob Cambra, Canby resident, said they could allow anyone who was trying to be a productive member of the community to be minimalized or

marginalized. They should want to make everyone feel welcome and encouraged and should keep trying to accomplish that.

Linda Tate, Canby resident, said she had lived in Canby her whole life. As she was standing in line she saw an angry crowd. She asked for documentation from the Charter that empowered the mayor or anyone else to refuse recognition to any one specific group and a comprehensive list of proclamations since taking office.

Kathleen Jeskey, Canby resident, said she had watched the last meeting and how people spoke against a proclamation that had not been presented. They were speaking against members of the community and she did not think they should contribute to the discrimination. The proclamation came from a need to state the right to exist without persecution.

John Jones, Canby resident, was tolerant, informed, accepting, and loving and did not judge others by what they identified as but by what they offered humanity. He did not think people needed to force their narrow-mindedness on him or be told that he was trans-phobic. He had been accused of being racist, but had given 9 years of his life to defend the country. He would continue to defend every person in the country to make sure they were free.

Sarah Greiner, Canby resident, said she had heard this issue was divisive, however it set them up to see each other as different. It allowed them to make derogatory or prejudicial comments against one another and claim that it was a political issue. There was nothing wrong with transgender members of the community and she was disappointed to hear members of her community speak with such hate and call it concern. Acknowledging the dignity of transgender individuals could save lives.

Julie Wills, Canby resident, said transgender families did not feel safe or welcomed in the community. She explained how her family had been treated on social media and how the police had done nothing about it. Her child had been bullied and was suicidal. They were being made targets of hatred and she did not feel safe letting her child play outside. The fight was real and her family was battling it every day. She thought if they could have proclamations for everything else, then they could have transgender visibility and honor their humanity.

Kevin Starrett, Canby resident, said people were saying there was an angry crowd. He didn't see that. They were talking about tolerance and accepting people. He thought the children who did not have issues with their sexuality should have rights as well. There needed to be protections from abuse in bathrooms, locker rooms, and showers.

Amira Stanley, Canby resident, said she had lived in Canby for two years. She volunteered with the LGBTQ youth in Clackamas County and was married to a transgender man. She thought with open hearts and minds and education and awareness, people could see the importance of transgender visibility. They did not know who was suffering silently, struggling inside, because they had no one to talk to. It was easy to say they welcomed all, but it took courage and vulnerability to go a step further.

Craig Morris, Canby resident, thanked the Mayor for the way he had been handling the craziness and personal attacks the last few weeks. His family had a child that was forced into the trans community at 2-3 years old through foster care. That child was now 18, but still struggling from that abuse. There were adults who were putting their own personal opinions on these children and it did affect them for life.

Crystal Perkins, Vancouver resident, was there on behalf of The Living Room youth organization. She

read some statements of the youth, who did not feel safe and had less trust in the community.

Aric Goodman, Canby resident, thought transgender recognition could save people's lives. They needed to embrace diversity and reject hatred and prejudice.

Katherine Christiansen, Canby resident, said the Mayor had her full support. He had met with the cub scouts earlier which showed how caring and involved he was in the community.

Sarah Rodriguez, Canby resident, said it was unfortunate the proclamation was not read. She wanted to know what was going to be done to bring the community back together. She asked if the Mayor was willing to make a proclamation that would bring the community together.

Abelle Roe, Canby resident, said she grew up in Canby and how she felt extremely alone and unseen. She was disappointed by the decision to reject the proclamation for transgender visibility. Young people in Canby struggled with mental health and suicide and transgender people were particularly vulnerable to suicidal thoughts, depression, and anxiety. A supportive environment could help prevent people from taking their lives. The transgender day would bring awareness, support, and love to those who desperately needed it.

Brad Clark, Canby resident, was thankful for the Library proclamation. There were comments made at the last meeting that did not represent him. He had worked with youth his whole life as well as those who were suicidal. He felt the wrong position was made, but appreciated all that the Council did.

Kay Hutchinson, Canby resident, was a high school student. She begged parents that if their child told them about who they were, to be as supportive as possible. She knew many youth who were terrified to come out to their parents. Everyone was human and deserved to love and be loved and to be who they were. They deserved to live in a community that accepted them.

Karen Phillips, Canby resident, said she had read on Facebook the posts the Mayor had shared thanking people for their kind words. Those notes of affirmation were important to the Mayor and it was the same for the transgender community.

Kristin Morris, Canby resident, said she felt compassion for both sides. She knew the Mayor to be a man of integrity and who always reached out to everyone. She supported the Mayor's decision. This had become the center focus and there were a lot of other things that needed to be addressed.

Diana Cerasin said she didn't live in Canby, but stated that people from all around were watching them. She was concerned about minors and the high rate of suicide. They were hearing from this community that they were not welcome and there was segregation because of fear.

Mercedes Rhoden-Feely said she was a City Councilor in Aurora and knew what it was like to sit in their shoes. People were being made to feel unsafe because of the positions they had taken. She thought there was a missed opportunity. A group of people came and asked the Council to see them as they felt invisible. The focus was on disagreements with their lifestyle and the community had lost sight of common humanity.

Elichia Owens said she lived in Clackamas County and was a Board Member of The Living Room. There were youth who lived in this community who did not feel safe coming here tonight. She read a statement from a student. The student thought transgender day was meant to recognize their struggles

and celebrate their journeys and accomplishments and acknowledge their existence. The Mayor and Council needed to represent all the people in the community

Salen Brown, Canby resident, said she was nervous to come tonight. She graduated from Canby High School last year and gender neutral bathrooms and locker rooms existed and were available with approval. Transgender people did not want to participate in predatory behavior; they wanted to exist in peace and safety.

Martin Lackner said he had been coming to the Council Chambers for a decade. There were parallels made in the social media that this fight was similar to that of Vietnam veterans getting recognition for their service. He thought that should not be stated again in the future. They were all in one of the safest places right now. The Mayor and Council were elected to represent this community and they needed to establish a productive dialogue and work together.

Mayor Hodson thought this was a welcoming community. It was a situation that had become an unfortunate fight in City Hall, email, and social media. It was a dialogue that needed to occur and he was prepared to take those steps. The hurtful things that had been said and written were appalling. He was hopeful moving forward that the dialogue could occur, but it could not be done in anger behind a keyboard and screen.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS: None.

COUNCILOR COMMENTS & LIAISON REPORTS: Councilor Spoon did not attend the Canby Area Transit Advisory Committee meeting. CTV5 had their first producers meeting.

Councilor Varwig said he was ill and unable to attend the Canby Fire District meeting. The Library Board would be presenting the State of the Library at the next Council meeting.

Councilor Dale said interviews had taken place for the Canby Utility Board vacancy. David Horrax would be appointed at the next meeting. He announced the upper Molalla River would be designated as a federal wild and scenic river.

Councilor Hensley thanked everyone that attended the meeting and the combat veterans for their service.

Councilor Parker said the free community bike rides would be taking place on Tuesdays. The Clackamas County Event Center had meetings last week to review the master plan. The Heritage and Landmark Commission held a public hearing last week regarding a historic building. He attended the Chamber Forum where an update on economic development was given by staff. As a straight white male he didn't think he had the right to tell someone that they should feel safe, they should tell him. He thought things would get better, but they all had to work together to do so.

Councilor Heidt thanked the Mayor for presiding so gracefully over the meeting tonight and she thanked everyone who came to speak. It was an important night for Canby.

CONSENT AGENDA: **Councilor Dale moved to adopt the minutes of the March 20, 2019 City Council Regular Meeting. Motion was seconded by Councilor Hensley and passed 6-0.

RESOLUTIONS & ORDINANCES: Ordinance 1505 – Mr. Robinson said the Consumer Price Index for the Portland area had been discontinued and staff recommended using the Consumer Price Index for Pacific cities instead.

****Councilor Hensley moved to adopt Ordinance 1505, AN ORDINANCE AMENDING THE CANBY MUNICIPAL CODE (CMC) CHAPTER 3.35 PARK MAINTENANCE PROGRAM SECTIONS 3.35.050 (B) AND 3.35.090 (E) ANNUAL ADJUSTMENT. Motion was seconded by Councilor Varwig and passed 6-0 by roll call vote.**

NEW BUSINESS: Approval of City Administrator Hiring Standards, Criteria and Policy Directives –

****Councilor Hensley moved to approve the City Administrator Hiring Standards, Criteria and Policy Directives for the City Administrator recruitment. Motion was seconded by Councilor Heidt and passed 6-0.**

CITY ADMINISTRATOR’S BUSINESS & STAFF REPORTS: None.

CITIZEN INPUT: None.

ACTION REVIEW:

1. Approved the Consent Agenda.
2. Adopted Ordinance 1505.

****Councilor Dale moved to go into Executive Session pursuant to ORS 192.660(2)(e) Real Property. Motion was seconded by Councilor Hensley and passed 6-0.**

Mayor Hodson read the Executive Session format.

Mayor Hodson recessed the Regular Meeting at 8:45 p.m. Mayor Hodson reconvened the meeting at 9:30 p.m. and immediately adjourned.

Kimberly Scheafer, MMC
City Recorder

Brian Hodson
Mayor

Assisted with Preparation of Minutes - Susan Wood