

## City of Oregon Planning Commission Meeting

The Planning Commission met Tuesday September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2020 at 5:30 pm via Zoom Meeting.

**Members Present:** Rachel Brunner, Randy Cropp, Jeff Hallock, Rick Ryland, Karly Spell, and Commissioner Kurt Wilson.

**Also Present:** Mayor Ken Williams, City Administrator Darin DeHaan, Street Superintendent Terry Plemmons, City Clerk Cheryl Hilton.

Rick Ryland called the meeting to order.

Public Hearing was rescheduled to the October meeting.

Kurt Wilson moved to approve the August 18<sup>th</sup>, 2020 minutes, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Darin DeHaan opened the discussion on ATV Operation within the City limits. He asked if ATV operation is something that the City should consider exploring and what type of ATV would be allowed. Possible vehicles to consider would be Side-by-Sides, UTV's, and golf carts. Quads would only be allowed for property owners to perform maintenance such as plowing snow. The ordinance would cover in depth some key concerns such as noise, speed, seatbelts, visibility, allowed streets, time of operation, and registration process. Kurt Wilson said he has safety concerns about some golf carts in town with handicap signs on them. Rick Ryland asked if lawn mowers would be exempt. Darin Dehaan said there has been no previous issue with lawn mowers and it goes back to farming laws. Mayor Ken Williams asked if the operator would have to hold a valid driver's license. Darin DeHaan said only fully licensed drivers would be allowed to operate the vehicles. He also said a lot of municipalities are looking into this type of ordinance. Restrictions may limit the amount of people who do this, as well as high level of fines for inappropriate use. Mayor Ken Williams said an annual registration fee of \$250.00 could go towards a walking path. Kurt Wilson said this will require a lot out of our police department. Randy Cropp has had contact with the Dixon Police Department. They have had zero issues other than the registration sticker being too small for the police officers to see. Rachel Brunner asked if only certain streets would be allowed for usage by these vehicles. Darin DeHaan said highways would be excluded and crossings would be specified. Allowable roads would be put into the ordinance.

Karly Spell moved to recommend the ATV Ordinance to the City Council, Seconded by Kurt Wilson.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Mayor Ken Williams started discussion on Trees and Shrubs in Parkway. He stated that the ordinance states that there is a 6" limit on the height of vegetation on the parkway and asked if shrubs should be struck from the ordinance. Rick Ryland asked if existing shrubs would need to be removed. Existing shrubs would be grandfathered in. He also asked about a homeowner who has moved but had applied for a variance that the City Council had approved. Darin DeHaan said the owners have been contacted. They will have to apply for a new variance.

Rachel Brunner moved to remove "shrubs" from Section 32-60-Trees and Shrubs in Parkway, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Mayor Ken Williams would like recommendations on how the Tree Replacement Program will work. The three-tier program consists of the City replacing sick or diseased trees and replacement of trees that have been previously removed from terraces. If a homeowner would like to have a tree replaced, the cost would be split 50/50 between the homeowner and the City. Commissioner Terry Schuster has previously asked if saplings could be purchased and be allowed to grow on City property. Rick Ryland asked what the difference would be between growing trees or buying trees from a nursery. He does not believe there will be any cost savings. Terry Plemmons said that growing trees will require a lot of time and maintenance. Rachel Brunner said a lot of work goes into saplings. She is more interested in asking a local nursery to possibly grow and maintain trees for the City, they already have the expertise. Terry Plemmons said the homeowner would be responsible for trees replaced in the terraces.

Rachel Brunner moved to recommend the Tree Replacement Program to City Council, Seconded by Karly Spell.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Kurt Wilson moved to adjourn the meeting, Seconded by Randy Cropp.

Motion carried. No Nays.

Adjourn: 6:10 PM

Cheryl Hilton, City Clerk