

**MINUTES
FAIRVIEW CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
FAIRVIEW CITY HALL
1300 NE VILLAGE STREET
FAIRVIEW, OREGON 97024**

June 16, 2004 -- 5:30pm

**I. CALL TO ORDER/
ROLL CALL**

Mayor Weatherby called the meeting to order at 5:35pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Weatherby
Councilor Sherry Lillard (arrived 6:15pm)
Councilor Steve Owen
Councilor James Raze
Councilor Larry Cooper

ABSENT: Councilor Jim Trees
Councilor Darrell Cornelius

STAFF PRESENT: Mary Jo Briggs, City Administrator
Bob Cochran, Public Works Director
Caren Huson, City Recorder

II. FIRE SERVICES

Mary Jo Briggs, City Administrator, reported that the City of Gresham voted to place a measure on the ballot for fire services to be provided to their citizens through Fire District 10. The City currently contracts with the City of Gresham for fire services, so if we wanted to also go with Fire District 10, we would have to have information into the Tax Supervisory and Conservation Commission by August 7, 2004. The Mayors of Fairview, Troutdale and Wood Village agreed earlier in the day that all three cities must bring this topic to conclusion by July 15th.

Administrator Briggs stated that should Fairview wish to place a measure on the ballot in November 2004, it would cost about \$3300. The Council should keep in mind that the study that was performed for the three cities was a study by one man and before we place our trust in that study, the three cities should give the study to another fire group or someone for validation, which would probably cost about \$5,000.

The question was raised by the three cities whether or not Gresham could simply cut off fire service to us, and the legal opinion was yes. Also asked was whether there could be a two-tiered tax rate for fire service, and the legal opinion was yes.

Bob Cochran, Public Works Director, reported that the Tualatin Valley Fire Department Chief had attended the Mayors meeting earlier in the day and reviewed their volunteer firefighter program. Most of their volunteers are a result of annexations from previous fire departments and they do not currently recruit and use volunteers. Tualatin Valley spends \$300,000 a year on the volunteer firefighter program, and in addition, were not interested in serving the three cities. The Tualatin Fire Chief stated that he thought that two lives had been saved by having police officers carry defibrillators.

Administrator Briggs stated that Fire District 10 receives \$500,000 from their constituency and they pay that to Gresham for fire service. Councilor Owen asked how someone got on the Board of the Fire District. Mike McKeel, Fire District 10 Board Member, responded that they are elected, and provided information on Fire District 10, stating that they own three facilities and four engines.

Mayor Weatherby stated that two options had been agreed upon by the three Mayors: Option 2 and Option 6. Mayor Weatherby added that this was a complex issue and that he did not personally see how Fairview would be ready to make a decision by the first Council meeting in July. Mayor Weatherby commented that he would prefer to wait and see how the Gresham citizens vote in November before Fairview places anything on a ballot.

Discussion ensued regarding police being the first responder for emergency medical services. Councilor Lillard joined the meeting at 6:15pm.

Mr. McKeel stated that training budgets were high for volunteer firefighters; you train them and they work for you a couple years for free, but then they get a paying job somewhere else. The Corbett Fire Chief had commented that it was difficult to depend on volunteers. Mr. McKeel commented that the biggest issues for Fire District 10 are to develop a budget and a possible reconstitution of their Board.

Councilor Cooper mentioned that he did not see how the Council could have anything ready for a November ballot, so he would prefer to wait and see what happens with the Gresham vote; however, in the meantime, the three cities need to continue to review options. Councilor Cooper added that he could not see the three cities starting their own fire department. Councilor Raze commented that at some point the three cities may have to look at consolidating and perhaps become just one city.

Council consensus was to wait until March 2005 to place a measure on the ballot, if necessary; more thorough research and investigation

needed to be performed on available options.

Mayor Weatherby stated that during the July 21st Council workshop, a discussion will occur on Council performance. Mayor Weatherby commented that the Council meeting of June 2nd was a fiasco and the Council owed more to the citizens in how they treat each other. Mayor Weatherby added that from now on, he will only allow 3 minutes for any public testimony; if an item is not a public hearing and someone is waving their hand in the back of the Council Chamber, he would decide when to recognize them and whether to allow them to speak.

III. ADJOURNMENT

Councilor Owen moved and Councilor Cooper seconded the motion to adjourn. Mayor Weatherby adjourned the meeting at 6:50pm.

AYES: 5
NOES: 0
ABSTAINED: 0

Mayor Mike Weatherby

Dated:

Caren C. Huson Quiniones
City Recorder