

MINUTES  
FAIRVIEW CITY COUNCIL WORKSESSION  
FAIRVIEW CITY HALL  
1300 NE VILLAGE STREET  
FAIRVIEW, OREGON 97024

---

October 11, 2005 – 6:00PM

I. CALL TO ORDER/ROLL CALL

Mayor Weatherby called the meeting to to order at 6:00PM.

PRESENT: Mayor Mike Weatherby  
Councilor Darrell Cornelius  
Councilor Barbara Jones  
Councilor Steve Owen  
Councilor James Raze  
Councilor Ken Quinby

STAFF PRESENT: Jan Wellman, City Administrator  
Pam Beery, City Attorney  
Tammy Shannon, IT Tech

CANDIDATES PRESENT: Stephen Wachner  
Larry Cooper

Councilor Barbara Jones made a declaration for the record that Stephen Wachner was her son-in-law and she assured both the Council and the citizens that she would remain impartial during the process and would place her vote for the person she felt most qualified to fill the position.

II. CITIZEN COMMUNICATIONS

Mayor Weatherby called for persons wishing to speak on non-agenda items. As there was no response, the session continued.

III. CITY COUNCIL INTERVIEWS

Each applicant was asked three standard questions by Mayor Weatherby, with follow up questions being offered by Council as time allowed. After the interview process, each applicant would be allowed to make a closing statement. Thirty minutes per applicant was allotted for the interview process.

Mayor Weatherby asked each candidate the following questions:

1. If appointed to Council, what would you consider your role and responsibilities to be to:
  - a. Fairview Citizens
  - b. Mayor and Council Members
  - c. City Staff

2. If a vote were taken on a matter that would affect you personally, in either a positive or negative manner, how would you deal with the situation?
3. What do you see as the role of the Council?

Candidate Stephen Wachner responded to the questions as follows:

1. If appointed to Council, Mr. Wachner stated that his responsibility would be to maintain and improve on current city services with an emphasis on education and police protection.
2. When asked how he would deal with a situation that would affect him personally, Mr. Wachner replied that he would base any decisions he made on how the decision would affect the city as a whole.
3. When asked what he viewed as the role of the Council, Mr. Wachner stated that Council's role was to set policy for the city.

Candidate Larry Cooper responded to the questions as follows:

1. If appointed to Council, Mr. Cooper stated that his responsibility would be to represent all citizens of Fairview and to work with each Council member to solve issues.
2. When asked how he would deal with a situation that would affect him personally, Mr. Cooper replied that he would exempt himself from voting on issues that would affect him personally.
3. When asked what he viewed as the role of the Council, Mr. Cooper stated that he felt that the Council served as the policy makers of the city.

Additionally, the following questions were asked of the candidates:

Councilor Jones asked what experience candidate Wachner had with municipal budgets. Mr. Wachner responded that he had examined the current budget and felt that he had a decent understanding of the revenues and expenditures represented in the budget.

Councilor Jones also asked whether or not each candidate would endorse a tax increase to, for example, obtain additional police officers or to improve roads. Mr. Wachner responded that he would endorse an increase in taxes only as a last resort. Mr. Cooper responded that a bond issue was something for the Council to consider for the purpose of obtaining adequate Public Safety coverage.

Additionally, Councilor Jones asked each candidate what he felt were major needs for the city. Mr. Wachner responded that he thought that the current fire service costs and the ability to attract business and industry to Fairview were major issues. Mr. Cooper

felt that Public Safety, Economic Development, and the ability to maintain the city parks were major issues for the city.

Councilor Owen asked each candidate for his opinion regarding a retail sales tax in Fairview. Mr. Wachner responded that it was a bad idea, as people would most likely choose to shop in other jurisdictions if a retail sales tax was imposed in Fairview. Mr. Cooper responded that, although a retail sales tax was an option, he did not believe it would be a good idea and that the chances of a retail sales tax in Fairview succeeding were slim to none.

Councilor Owen asked candidate Wachner what he felt was the biggest challenge facing the city. Mr. Wachner responded that the biggest challenge facing Fairview was being able to maintain both the current level of services and city livability issues.

Mayor Weatherby asked candidate Wachner if he would be in favor of additional taxes to support Public Safety. Mr. Wachner responded that he would need to look at a variety of issues and get more information regarding police services before making a decision to support an increase in taxes.

Mayor Weatherby also asked whether or not each candidate supported forming a separate fire district encompassing the cities of Fairview, Troutdale, and Wood Village. Mr. Wachner responded that he felt it might be a good idea as the costs associated with continuing to partner with Gresham Fire & Emergency Services had dramatically increased. Councilor Cooper felt that it made more sense to work a deal with the city of Gresham, rather than form and maintain a separate fire district, which would require a lot of money.

Additionally, Mayor Weatherby asked each candidate his opinion regarding a potential gambling casino in the city of Wood Village. Mr. Wachner responded that he was personally against casinos and that plenty of opportunities for gambling already existed. Mr. Cooper responded that he would have to examine the way the city of Wood Village planned on mitigating the impact of a casino on Fairview.

Councilor Raze inquired as to how each candidate felt about additional residential growth in Fairview, including apartments, mobile home parks, and upper end units. Mr. Wachner responded that he favored upper end and multi-family units but did not favor low-grade apartments. Mr. Cooper responded that growth was good as long as it was done right and that it would depend on the type of dwellings being proposed.

Councilor Raze also asked what the term Economic Development meant to candidate Wachner. Mr. Wachner responded that

Economic Development meant the ability to bring in business and broaden the tax base for services in Fairview.

Additionally, Councilor Raze asked, if not appointed to the vacant council position, would either of the candidates consider volunteering for another type of committee work. Mr. Wachner responded that he would like to volunteer to be on the Planning Commission so that he could be involved with how the city determines the final phases of development within Fairview. Mr. Cooper responded that with a 35-year history of community service, he would enjoy volunteering in other ways.

Councilor Quinby asked, if appointed to Council, would either candidate consider running for election the following fall. Both Mr. Wachner and Mr. Cooper responded that they would plan on running for election when the present term expired.

Councilor Quinby also asked each candidate what unique perspective he might bring to the Council. Mr. Wachner responded that he expected to bring a different perspective to the Council. Mr. Cooper responded that as he had a working relationship with many agencies in the area, he could use those relationships to benefit the city of Fairview.

Additionally, Councilor Quinby asked each candidate about his opinions regarding the subject of eminent domain. Mr. Wachner responded that he would have to make determinations on a case-by-case basis. Mr. Cooper responded that if a case could be made for the public good, using eminent domain might be acceptable but that he was against using it for the purpose of giving property to private developers.

Councilor Cornelius asked whether or not, as Councilor Jones' son-in-law, candidate Wachner would allow his relationship with Ms. Jones to affect his decision making role on the Council. Mr. Wachner responded that he planned on listening to everyone's input and was quite capable of making his own decisions regarding matters brought before council.

Councilor Cornelius asked whether or not, from his prior service on the Council, candidate Cooper would do anything differently. Mr. Cooper responded by saying he would like to get more involved with the various committees.

Councilor Cornelius also asked candidate Cooper about specific issues the Council should focus on in the future. Councilor Cooper responded that Public Safety and increasing citizen involvement were big issues to be addressed.

Candidate Wachner summarized by saying that he hoped Council would pick the best available candidate for the open position.

Candidate Cooper summarized by thanking the council for the opportunity to interview for the position.

Each candidate was thanked for showing interest in the vacant Council position.

Mayor Weatherby adjourned the work session at 6:55pm.

---

Mayor Mike Weatherby

---

Dated:

---

Jan Wellman, City Recorder

---

Dated: