

City of Durham
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
January 28, 2020

A. OPEN REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING. Mayor Schirado opened the meeting at 7:30 PM at Durham City Hall.

B. ROLL CALL. *Councilors Present:* Gery Schirado, Chris Hadfield, and Keith Jehnke. Councilor Chuck Van Meter arrived late.
Councilors Absent: Leslie Gifford.
Staff Present: Linda Tate, City Administrator.
Public Present: Cheri Frazell, Durham resident.

C. ELECTION OF MAYOR AND COUNCIL PRESIDENT. The councilors voted for the position of Mayor and Council President for 2020 using paper ballots. Tate collected and tallied the votes. The councilors elected Gery Schirado to serve as Mayor and Chris Hadfield to serve as Council President for 2020.

D. COUNCIL MINUTES. Councilor Hadfield moved to approve the minutes from the November 26, 2019 meeting. Mayor Schirado seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

MO 012820-1

E. CALENDAR OF MEETINGS. Mayor Schirado read the Calendar of Meetings.
Tuesday, February 25, 2020, regular meeting of the City Council at 7:30 at Durham City Hall. City Hall will be closed **Monday, February 17th, 2020** for Presidents Day.

F. PUBLIC FORUM. None.

G. PLANNING COMMISSION UPDATE. Councilor Hadfield asked about the Comprehensive Plan discussion and the phrase “pare down and beef up,” to which Linda explained the context of the comment as paring down the old plan and beefing up the legalistic outline that was prepared.

H. APPLICANT FOR VACANCY ON PLANNING COMMISSION. Mayor Schirado said that based on his conversation with Susan Deeming, he would recommend her for the vacancy on the Planning Commission. Councilor Hadfield moved to appoint Susan Deeming to the Planning Commission. Councilor Jehnke seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

I. APPLICANT FOR VACANCY ON BUDGET COMMITTEE. Mayor Schirado said Cheri Frazell is well qualified for the position on the Budget Committee. Frazell explained that she has been with the Fish & Wildlife Service for 15 years and is currently their Deputy Chief of Financial Operations. Councilor Hadfield moved to appoint Cheri Frazell to the Budget Committee. Councilor Jehnke seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (3-0).

MO 012820-3

J. DISCUSSION ON TREE ORDINANCE. Councilor Hadfield said that it seems everyone is waiting for someone to come up with a specific proposal for the Tree Ordinance. Mayor Schirado said it could be beneficial to give the three new people on the Planning Commission time to familiarize themselves with the current Ordinance and process. He said he let them know that trees are a high priority and that it would be an ongoing issue. Tate asked if the Council would like her to bump the discussion down a few months and Mayor Schirado said yes, but to keep it visible. Councilor Jehnke asked Tate how she thinks the Ordinance could be

streamlined or clarified. Tate said the main issue that comes up is the interpretation of the phrase “economically beneficial.” She also added that some points of the Ordinance do not mesh with the Development Code. Councilor Hadfield asked if they are waiting for the Planning Commission to make changes in the Ordinance. Mayor Schirado replied that the Tree Ordinance should have input from the Planning Commission but the Council is who changes it. Councilor Hadfield asked if the Planning Commission was involved the last time they updated the Ordinance and Councilor Van Meter said they were.

K. ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT. Tate went over the draft Comprehensive Plan. Councilor Hadfield asked if what they had was a revision of the old Plan or a new draft. Tate said it is a revision and what they have is the current draft that the Planning Commission has been working on. Councilor Hadfield asked about the requirement of having Planning Commissioners’ professional background publicized. Tate said it is a City policy that there cannot be too many people of the same profession on the Planning Commission and because it is the City’s Citizen Involvement Committee. Councilor Hadfield asked if the state-wide goals are consistent with the previous Plan and Tate said they are not and that is part of the reason they are updating it. Councilor Jehnke asked when the last Plan was done and Tate said 1995. Mayor Schirado said revisiting and reviewing the state wide goals is a good thing and keeps them in tune with the State and the City itself. Tate added that the City got a grant to redo the Development Code in 2009 and now the Comprehensive Plan is being updated to match the Development Code better. Councilor Hadfield said he was most interested in the section about exceptions to the state-wide goals and if they had any latitude. Mayor Schirado said that if there is a conflict with the law, the state law would override what is in the City’s Plan. He gave the example of HB 2001 from the 2019 Oregon Legislative Session.

HB 2001 would override the City’s policies and regulations around single-family zoning. Councilor Hadfield asked if the City would have any grounds for exceptions and Mayor Schirado said probably not. Jehnke clarified that if the City thinks there is an exception, it still goes through the state. Mayor Schirado discussed how other jurisdictions have reacted to the bill and concerns over the impact it would have on infrastructure. Councilor Jehnke said someone could tear down a house and put in a four-plex. Mayor Schirado said that there was a public input event on HB 2001 coming up in Hillsboro that is he going to try to attend. Jehnke said the bill creates more opportunities for people with different purchasing power and Mayor Schirado added that the bill is aimed at addressing the missing middle housing options for lower income and middle income families who are unable to jump to higher-end housing. The Council discussed properties in Durham that could potentially be divided into smaller lots and how that would affect the City. Hadfield asked about the City’s height restrictions for buildings and if it was in jeopardy and Tate said it is not. Mayor Schirado discussed townhouses in Lake Oswego and shared-wall units. Tate said Durham already has shared-wall units in Afton Commons and added that it would be difficult to get a development on Mary Taylor’s property to open on to Upper Boones Ferry Rd. Mayor Schirado said that he has discussed HB 2001 with other mayors and they see problems with the bill and are still trying to figure out how it is going to go into effect.

Tate went over her year-end review for 2019 and also gave possible goals for the coming year. She gave an overview of the year end balances for the City’s accounts. Councilors Hadfield and Van Meter thanked Tate for her hard work for the City.

L. FINANCIAL REPORTS. Councilor Van Meter moved to approve the financial reports from November and December 2019, payroll checks 577 to 580, vendor checks 16596 to 16625, and

electric fund transfers totaling \$10,224.46. Councilor Hadfield seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous (4-0). **MO 012820-4**

M. COUNCIL COMMENTS & MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATIONAL ITEMS. Councilor Hadfield asked about a letter from League of Oregon Cities and how the City records the LOC dues. He also asked about the National League of Cities membership from the LOC and the benefit it will have for Durham.

Tate asked the Council to let her know if they are going to run in the next election so any vacancy can be put in the Spring or Summer newsletter.

N. ADJOURN. Mayor Schirado adjourned the meeting at 8:30.

Approved:

GERY SCHIRADO, MAYOR

Attest:

LINDA TATE, CITY ADMINISTRATOR/RECORDER