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**Council Work Session Minutes
Fire Governance**

**Monday, April 8, 2019
5:45 p.m., Community Auditorium**

***Minutes are unofficial until approved by Council.
Council approved minutes as presented April 22, 2019.***

1. ROLL CALL:

Mayor Peter Truax called the Work Session to order at 5:48 p.m.

ROLL CALL: COUNCIL PRESENT: Thomas Johnston, Council President; Timothy Rippe; Adolph “Val” Valfre; and Mayor Peter Truax. **COUNCIL ABSENT:** Ronald Thompson; Elena Uhing; and Malynda Wenzl, excused.

STAFF PRESENT: Jesse VanderZanden, City Manager; Paul Downey, Administrative Services Director; Michael Kinkade, Fire Chief; and Anna Ruggles, City Recorder.

2. WORK SESSION: FIRE GOVERNANCE

Fire Chief Kinkade and VanderZanden facilitated the above-noted Council work session, noting the purpose of the work session was to give Council an overview of the Western Washington County Fire Task Force’s Foundational Principles. Kinkade and VanderZanden reported in March, 2018, the Council approved Objective 2.14, Fire Authority IGA, to “participate in a Task Force of potential members to consider the financial, legal, and operational impacts of intergovernmental fire service delivery”. The City currently shares IGA for fire service delivery with the City of Cornelius and the Rural Fire Districts of Forest Grove, Cornelius, and Gaston. The Western Washington County Fire Task Force was formed and began meeting in November, 2018, and is composed of the Mayor and PSAC Council Liaison for Forest Grove, Mayor of Cornelius, and the Chairs of Forest Grove, Cornelius, and Gaston Rural Fire Districts. Fire Chief Kinkade introduced Don Bohn, Washington County Deputy Administrator, who gave an overview of the Western Washington County Fire Task Force’s Foundational Principles, noting the Task Force met five times between November and March and with his assistance composed and approved the Foundational Principles on February 9, 2019. Bohn reported the scope of the Task Force was to study three potential governance models and provide a consensus proposal to the five governing agencies; the governance models include: 1) continue with current system of individual IGAs, 2) establish a comprehensive IGA that essentially forms a fire authority, and 3) establish a Western Washington County Fire District.

Council Discussion:

Mayor Truax opened the floor and roundtable discussion ensued as the Council had an opportunity to review the draft Foundational Principles. Kinkade and Bohn addressed

various Council inquiries and concerns pertaining to providing service to the community, maintaining the community's trust and ensuring there is community outreach, noting the Foundational Principles were developed to guide discussion and assist in evaluating the governance models, including service to the community and operational effectiveness. Kinkade advised the next step is for staff to bring back a proposed resolution supporting the Foundational Principles at the April 22, 2019, Council meeting, noting the Foundational Principles were recently approved by the City of Cornelius, Gaston RFPD, Forest Grove RFPD, and Cornelius RFPD. In conclusion of the above-noted Council discussion, VanderZanden advised the budget process will look at hiring a facilitator to consider governance structures.

Council took no formal action nor made any formal decisions during the work session.

3. ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Truax adjourned the Council work session at 6:11 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,



Anna D. Ruggles, CMC, City Recorder