



MINUTES
KEIZER CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION
Monday, July 10, 2017
Keizer Civic Center, Council Chambers
Keizer, Oregon

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Clark called the Work Session to order at 5:47 pm. Roll Call was taken as follows:

Present:

Cathy Clark, Mayor
Marlene Parsons, Councilor
Roland Herrera, Councilor
Bruce Anderson, Councilor
Laura Reid, Councilor
Amy Ryan, Councilor
Kim Freeman, Councilor (5:47)

Staff:

Chris Eppley, City Manager
Shannon Johnson, City Attorney
Nate Brown, Community Development
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director
John Teague, Police Chief
Tracy Davis, City Recorder

DISCUSSION
a. Inclusivity

City Manager Chris Eppley reviewed documents that had been provided to participants and provided a brief explanation of submissions by various City Departments that specifically addressed how social equity and justice are included in the daily operations of each department with the limited resources available to the City. He added that the purpose of this meeting was to decide if and/or how Councilors want to legislatively address this topic.

Mayor Clark noted that one of the Council goals is community engagement. She urged citizens to volunteer on city committees in order to participate in city government and be engaged with the community.

Cyndi Swaney, Keizer, explained that those who signed the letter met as a group to express their desires for the inclusivity resolution.

Levi Lopez, Executive Director for Mano a Mano Family Center, provided testimony for the resolution that Salem passed noting that the general sense was that residents of Keizer are concerned about incidents happening in the city and wanted to bring this to the attention of Council. The intent of the resolution is to make a statement promoting inclusivity at the highest level of city government and make sure that the effort is not simply departmental but is an overriding vision of inclusivity and equity. The resolution is meant to mirror resolutions that have been passed by other Oregon cities. He commended Chief Teague and his officers for their inclusivity efforts and urged that Keizer take be a leader in this effort.

Discussion followed regarding whether or not the proposed resolution

conflicts with any federal laws, follow-up efforts by cities that have passed these resolutions, communication with the public, and community engagement and involvement.

Christina Markus, Salem, from Causa Oregon, explained that the Resolution reaffirms values of dignity and respect for all people and states that the City is abiding with Oregon law. It is the first step to welcome everyone. She added that the Causa Oregon website (www.causaoregon.org) has information for all types of different situations.

Carol Doerfler, Keizer, shared her thoughts on how the inclusivity resolution information could be shared throughout the community.

Anna Sequeira da Silva, Keizer, reiterated the proposal noting that it includes members of the community who are consistently excluded.

Mayor Clark then focused on how to define and understand the context of inclusion and equity in every day practices. Many organizations have adopted an 'Equity Lens' which is a protocol or thought process that asks policy and decision makers to consider when they look at projects, programs or policies. She suggested that perhaps this decision making tool should be developed.

Councilors discussed the valid assumption that inclusivity is good and discrimination is bad, and that respect, equality and fighting against bullying are valued. Additional dialog included language in the resolution and the usefulness of the 'Equity Lens'.

Councilors discussed how to share information. Chief Teague noted that getting information to Pastor Jose or to Levi at Mano a Mano was an effective way to share information. Councilor Reid explained that McNary is piloting an advisory class and this may be something that would be a good forum for this.

Councilor Ryan noted that she felt like most of what is being considered is related to immigration and she did not feel it was the position of the City Council to create a false comfort level with this resolution when it is not in the City's power to enforce it. She urged caution noting that she felt Council was treading politically into immigration laws over which they have no control.

Mayor Clark explained that human beings are not always decent to each other in every situation and Council is looking at how to get the facts out and have a voice. When someone is excluded for any reason, where can they express their voice? How do we share information and become the ambassadors to connect people? She asked Council and the City Manager to think about how this connects with the community engagement goal noting that it will take some time to do but Council will find a way to do this.

Bill White, Keizer, urged that the piece written by Chief Teague be compared with the proposed resolution and the two combined to make one document. He suggested that NextDoor.com be used to share information.

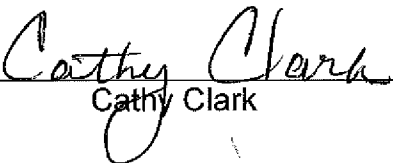
Referring to those two documents, Mr. Eppley explained that to some extent the City has two functions going on side by side: the administrative function which manages the operations of the City and the legislative function which is the people elected to represent the interests of the community adopting laws and directing expenditures of resources. In the operational level staff pays attention to these kinds of issues because they are required to and it is good business. On the operational side the city has policies in place but not on the legislative side. Perhaps those should be compared to make sure the actions of the legislative branch match up with the administrative practices. He also questioned how action taken by the legislative branch gets to the people that need to know. Anything that comes out of this group needs to make it to everyone and not everyone has a phone or a computer.

Discussion followed regarding the need for continuing the discussion, getting the word out, creating a safe environment for everyone, making sure the community is inclusive and respectful, and conveying dignity to all regardless of background.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:12 p.m.

MAYOR:

APPROVED:


Cathy Clark

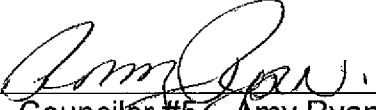

Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

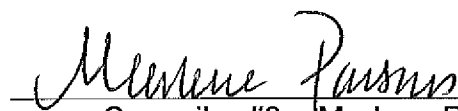
COUNCIL MEMBERS

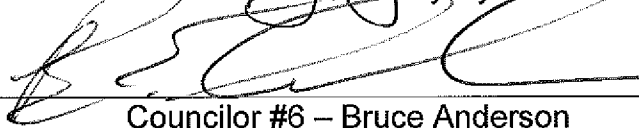

Councilor #1 – Laura Reid

Councilor #4 – Roland Herrera


Councilor #2 – Kim Freeman


Councilor #5 – Amy Ryan


Councilor #3 – Marlene Parsons


Councilor #6 – Bruce Anderson

Minutes approved: 8-21-17