



**MINUTES**  
**KEIZER CITY COUNCIL SPECIAL SESSION**  
**Monday, June 12, 2017**  
**Keizer Civic Center, Council Chambers**  
**Keizer, Oregon**

**CALL TO ORDER** Mayor Clark called the Special Session to order at 6:00 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

**Staff:**

Chris Eppley, City Manager  
Shannon Johnson, City Attorney  
Bill Lawyer, Public Works Director  
John Teague, Police Chief  
Tim Wood, Finance Director  
Tracy Davis, City Recorder

**FLAG SALUTE** Mayor Clark led the pledge of allegiance.

**SPECIAL PRESENTATION** Jim Smith, Keizer, presented a donation to the Keizer Police Department for the K-9 program, reviewed how he has assisted the Department over the past several years, and voiced support for the department and the proposed funding mechanism.

**DISCUSSION**  
**a. Public Safety Funding** Chief Teague provided a broad statement of the agency philosophy of policing in Keizer noting that citizens are safer in Keizer than they were 20 years ago and explaining why. He noted that the Community Response Units (CRU) are responsible for keeping neighborhoods safe, the agency focuses on prevention of crime by focusing on the problem and the bigger picture and works to solve the problems fairly and justly rather than by simply issuing arrests. A Department of Human Services representative has offices in the Police Department and this benefits Keizer families. The agency mission is 'to help the community maintain order while promoting safety and freedom and building public confidence'. It has fewer police officers today than in almost 10 years, but there is less crime so this request for five more police officers is not about impending doom, it is about sustaining a good thing and allowing the agency to meet community expectations.

Chief Teague also shared information gleaned from a non-scientific poll done on the Police Facebook page: 399 (87.1%) in favor and 59 opposed to 12 cents per household and business per day.

Finance Director Tim Wood clarified that the fee would fund 5 officers including start-up costs, uniforms, etc. annually. (\$4 per month per utility account would equal \$660,000 per year)

Mayor Clark thanked Keizertimes for making sure the information got out to the community, recognized Representative Bill Post, former Keizer Police Chief Marc Adams, former Councilor Mark Caillier and Fire Chief Jeff Cowan.

Keizer residents *Jim Smith, Marc Adams, Ron Freshour, Jean White, Matt Lawyer, Bill Post* and *Anne Rasmus* voiced support for the increased staffing and the fee.

*Ken Gierloff*, Keizer, voiced support for the public safety fee and the parks fee but noted that he felt the public safety fee should take precedence.

*Michael DeBlasi*, Keizer, voiced support for the public safety fee but added that because the city has focused on parking cars, tax values are depressed and taxes available for funding police diminished. Raising taxes and focusing on compact development should be considered. Council should approve the fee but unless the problem is addressed it will resurface.

*Garry Whalen*, Keizer, voiced support for the fee but indicated that he would like to see more specific information for both the parks and police fees.

*Rhonda Rich*, Keizer, expressed support for the fee but suggested that both the Parks and Police fee be addressed in the next election and that a sunset or re-evaluation date be made part of the process.

*Mark Caillier*, Keizer, voiced support for the Public Safety fee and urged Council to take action and not to wait for the 2018 election because it would be 3 years before the city would see the impact.

Mayor Clark announced that this special session will not be the only time the fee is considered. Should Council decide to direct staff to come back with an ordinance for this fee, the plan would be to have both fee ordinances on the same agenda and have additional public testimony taken at that time.

Chief Teague noted that well cared for parks give people a place to go so they go hand in hand with crime prevention.

Councilor Parsons moved that Keizer City Council direct staff to bring back an ordinance to impose a fee for \$4 per month per household and business account fee dedicated to funding police positions as outlined in the proposal from Chief Teague. Councilor Freeman seconded.

Mayor Clark proposed a friendly amendment that the fee be indexed to fund five positions. Councilors Parsons and Freeman accepted this amendment.

City Manager Chris Eppley urged that the process not be automatic but that staff propose the indexing at Budget Committee meetings. City Attorney Shannon Johnson explained that the Ordinance would put the process in place and a Resolution would set the fee. The Resolution could be adjusted each year.

Mayor Clark amended her friendly amendment: that the fee be indexed if necessary through the budget process. Councilors Parsons and Freeman accepted the amendment.

Discussion followed regarding the high standard of integrity and compassion in the Keizer Police force, election costs, community oversight, the delay of implementation of the fee if it was postponed until the next election, and giving the police the resources to do their job. Councilors Freeman and Reid thanked everyone who attended the meeting and the vendors who publicized the event on their reader boards.

Mr. Johnson pointed out that the proposal was for \$44 per year which is less than \$4 a month. Mayor Clark indicated she preferred leaving the motion intact at \$4 a month.

Motion passed unanimously as follows:

AYES: Clark, Reid, Parsons, Ryan, Freeman, Herrera and Anderson (7)  
NAYS: None (0)  
ABSTENTIONS: None (0)  
ABSENT: None (0)

**ADJOURNMENT** Mayor Clark adjourned the meeting at 7:24 p.m.

MAYOR:

APPROVED:

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Cathy Clark

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Debbie Lockhart, Deputy City Recorder

COUNCIL MEMBERS

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Councilor #1 – Laura Reid

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Councilor #4 – Roland Herrera

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Councilor #2 – Kim Freeman

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Councilor #5 – Amy Ryan

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Councilor #3 – Marlene Parsons

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Councilor #6 – Bruce Anderson

Minutes approved: \_\_\_\_\_