

**STAYTON TOWN HALL MEETING**  
**Santiam Memorial Hospital – January 20, 2011**

**INTRODUCTIONS**

**6:30 p.m.**

**Mayor Scott Vigil**

**COUNCIL PRESENT:**

Mayor Scott Vigil  
Councilor Larry Emery  
Councilor James Loftus

Councilor Henry Porter  
Councilor Brian Quigley

**STAFF:**

Don Eubank, City Administrator  
Christine Shaffer, Finance Director  
Rich Sebens, Chief of Police  
Dave Kinney, Public Works Director  
Dan Fleishman, Director of Planning & Development  
Rebekah Meeks, Pool Manager  
Louise Meyers, Library Director  
Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder

Initial Discussion: Councilor Emery stated he has lived in the Stayton area his entire life and loves the community. He has a lot of big plans for the community and hopes that they will work out. Councilor Loftus stated he was present at the meeting to listen to public concerns. Mayor Vigil stated he grew up in the Stayton area and is looking forward to seeing what the City can do to move forward in the right direction. Councilor Porter stated he has lived in the Stayton area for years and taught at Stayton High School for over 30 years. He has been out of local government for 10 years and is ready to serve his community again. Now that he is a small business owner he feels he has a different perspective on issues. Councilor Quigley stated he would like to hear collective dialogue to address community concerns.

Open Discussion: Sandy Edwards asked what goals the new Council had set for themselves. Mayor Vigil stated the Council will be holding a Goal Setting Session on February 19<sup>th</sup>.

A gentleman from the audience asked what the plans for Tenth Avenue are. Mayor Vigil stated the hospital road improvements need to be finished and the City is looking at a state grant for the Tenth Avenue improvements.

Shannon Tureck asked what the councilors' general opinion of Economic Development was. Mayor Vigil stated the City's role is not to create obstacles for development and the Comprehensive Plan Review Committee is looking at obstacles that need to be overcome and how the city can help to alleviate them. Councilor Emery stated Urban Renewal was tried and there were a few problems with how it was laid out but it seems to work in other cities that have tried it. The downtown needs to be fixed for people to come and shop. Councilor Quigley stated that Stayton needs to be promoted from within and suggested

the chamber partner with the PEG commission to produce a video promoting Stayton. Councilor Porter stated the transportation grid for the City is important. If the City can't fix the streets maybe they should be put back to gravel. Creative thinking and new ideas are needed to move forward, he said. Councilor Loftus stated he would like to see an Urban Renewal Plan that makes sense. The downtown needs to be developed as its' important for the City and plans for the skatepark need to be moving forward.

Reese Bordeaux asked when the pedestrian bridge connection would be finished. Mayor Vigil stated the city is working on obtaining a possible easement from the Wampler's.

In response to a question from John Brandt as to the cost of the election for annexations to the tax payers, Mr. Eubank stated the developer pays for the cost as part of their application fees. Mayor Vigil urged voters to approve appropriate annexations that are within the Urban Growth Boundary (UGB) area.

Lee Hazelwood commented on a recent letter to the editor and the fact that the city's rebuttal was published at the same time. Mr. Eubank explained the City was contacted by the editor and asked to provide input for their newspaper article.

Brent Stephenson, Manager for Santiam Water Control District (SWCD) stated the district had voiced their concerns about the city's use of the Districts water ways and asked how the new Councilors felt about it. Mayor Vigil stated the City Council needs a better feel for the history of the issue and will be meeting with the Public Works Director and reviewing the Storm Water Master Plan before they can answer any specific questions of the SWCD.

Clay Westly stated people need to be more involved in what's going on in the community. Someone needs to make folks aware of what's happening as there are 7,800 people in Stayton and only 25 present at the Town Hall meeting. Councilor Porter suggested holding a Town Hall Forum at possible community functions such as sports events.

Dan Brummer stated Silverton seems to have a lot more folks involved in community activities, but pointed out that education, income levels as well as a large number of commuters versus people who live and work in the same town, might play a part in their involvement.

Ms. Bordeaux stated pressure needs to be put on building owners to make them aware that the façade of their buildings and windows need to be attractive, even if they are vacant. Mayor Vigil pointed out recent improvements in the downtown area to the Porter & Lau building and the building at Third and Florence Streets.

Ms. Edwards stated with these tough economic times the City can't continue to tax people as wages don't keep up with the additional taxes along with water and sewer increases.

Mr. Tureck stated it appears that when the City of Stayton is involved with other taxing Districts, Stayton gets the short end of the stick. Councilor Loftus stated the Budget Committee suggested raising rates for Police Services to Sublimity so that they would pay their fair share.

Mr. Brummer asked if the City was enforcing ordinances and if so they should be collecting fees owed.

Mr. Eubank stated that staff was in the early stages of the Budget Process and if anyone had suggestions to contact him or Ms. Shaffer.

Mr. Kinney reviewed improvements that will take place at Santiam Park from grant funding, and projects that the Park and Recreations Board will be working on for Pioneer Park.

Forum Ends: Mayor Vigil thanked those in attendance for attending the forum; the meeting ended at 7:45 pm.

Respectively Transcribed by Rebecca Petersen, Deputy City Recorder this 26th day of January 2011.