

Town of Wilkeson
Regular Council Meeting
August 25, 2021

Public Hearing: RE: Ash Street Conditional Use Permit- Opened at 6:00PM

Emily Terrell, Town Planner discussed the staff report and what the Conditional Use Permit for the Ash Street Bridge entailed and how it fit within the guidelines as a “legal non conforming structure.” She read comment received from the Muckleshoot Tribe and what they thought should be done with the repairs. Ultimately this is a legal structure and the repair is relatively minor and non invasive. Per the State and Local definitions, it does not require the mitigation and replacement measures suggested by the Tribe. The necessary steps have been taken with the Hydraulic Project Approval from the Dept of Fish and Wildlife, Dept of Ecology, Department of Natural Resources, town issued building permit, as well as the Joint Aquatic Resources Permit Application. The project meets all the criteria for approval for a Conditional Use Permit.

1. Comment received from Larry and Cheri B- concerns over the amount of time it has taken to get the repairs/ permits in place. They believe that they should have had additional notice that the bridge was going to be closed. Additionally, they are concerned about EMS response, the Fire Drill conducted by Buckley Fire took 22 minutes to implement.
 - a. Comments from Emily and mayor included the layers of red tape required for this kind of project and that it was done as quickly as possible, considering all of the permits and approvals that were needed from all levels. EMS has a plan, and it is not ideal, but it is the best that can be done in this situation with the current closure.
2. Comment Received From Mark and Brenda W- they are unhappy with the lack of time they had to get their vehicles and other items over the bridge before it was closed. Health concerns because of recent medical issues and how they would get safely over the walking bridge if in need of emergency medical services or transport.
 - a. Comment from Mayor- we have an ATV on long term loan from East Pierce at the fire station, equipped with a gurney for medical concerns over the bridge. It will allow quick response and safe transport with medics. Emily added that we have a responsibility to the public for their safety and welfare. We can red tag private structures of all kinds if they pose a threat to public safety, which is what we have done here. Closing the bridge or condemning buildings does not then require the town to get involved financially with repairs.
3. Luke W and Larry B made additional comments regarding the actual structure of the bridge and the fact that it should not fail, even if the abutments have failed, that closing it/ red tagging it was not necessary.

Hearing Closed at 6:25pm

ROLL CALL: Called to order at 6:26- presided by Mayor Sellers. Council members, Thawsh, Sellers, Bachmeier, Zumba and Summers were present. Clerk Marie Wellock was present as well.

CONSENT AGENDA

1. Minutes of the regular meeting held August 11th, 2021
2. Approval of bills as budgeted for August 25th, 2021

Motion made by council member Zumba to approve consent agenda, seconded by council member Sellers, voted on and carried.

CITIZENS PRESENT/ COMMENTS:

1. Kathy and Pete H- would like to look at rezoning their property for additional uses. It is in the heart of our downtown and there is quite a bit of space for multiple uses, whether it be lodging, an art studio or

some kind of other retail space. They believe that this is a good time to make this kind of change with the towns upcoming Growth Management Review opening up in 2022, and wanted to know what the council thought of this. Council thinks it is a good idea and look forward to hearing about their plans.

2. John Hilding spoke at length about his future plans for bacon and eggs skate park. He would like to start fundraising for some upgrades to the park, including adding drainage around the frying pan, topsoil, seed and gravel where necessary. He would like to see “Salt and Pepper shaker” restrooms as an addition to the park. It was mentioned that there is not sewer service at the park and it would require the facilities to be “pit toilets.” He will keep the community up to date with fundraising efforts and how to get other local non profits involved with this venture.
 - a. Comment received from Cathy N- kids should be encouraged to wear helmets when skating the park.
3. Sara S- would like to know what it takes to rent town hall and if there would be a way to use town hall for community events, without necessarily paying for it’s use when it is for betterment of the community. Will get with Marie and Mayor. Different uses may require different rules/ legal barriers.
4. Additional Comment regarding speeding concerns in town were made and reiterated though the constituents present. Their consensus is that there is not enough being done about this.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. ADU’s were again discussed with Emily present to answer questions and address concerns, including specifics of how large the structure could be and the other rules associated with this kind of addition. Council does not feel confident making a decision on the ordinance and will have a committee meeting about these specific issues prior to the next council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS:

1. Surveying Bid reviewed for the necessary parcels for the sidewalk project. Council member Zumba made motion to approve this expense, seconded by council member Sellers, voted on and carried.
2. Email Received from the “Flying Book Bus” wanting to park in the town hall lot with her mobile book shop. Council is ok with it and will give her a few options for where she can park and let her decide.
3. **Motion to approve the Conditional Use Permit application for the Ash St Bridge made by Council member Zumba, Seconded by Council member Bachmeier voted on and carried**

MAYORS REPORT:

1. Colors viewed for fence blades. Community and council decided on color number 1. Will let maintenance know.
2. **Mayor would like to see improvements near the park map kiosk. This would include a concrete ADA complaint picnic area as well as a gravel parking pad for rotating mobile businesses. It is estimated to cost \$4,000, we will need to get the ok from the Park Service prior to beginning this work. Motion made by Council Member Zumba, seconded by Council member Sellers voted on and carried.**

COUNCIL REPORTS

Parks & Trails/ Emergency Services, Berkley Bachmeier-

Community Development, Mark Zumba-

Cemetery & Emergency Services, Bambi Thawsh-

Streets/Sidewalks, Bill Summers-

Utilities, Rick Sellers-

ADJOURNMENT- Council member Zumba motioned to adjourn the meeting at 7:25pm, council member Summers seconded, motion carried.