A. CALL TO ORDER BY PRESIDING OFFICER

Mayor Bemis called the meeting of the Gresham City Council to order at 3:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, 2013 in Council Chambers located in the Gresham Public Safety and Schools Building, 1331 NW Eastman Parkway, Gresham, Oregon.

COUNCIL PRESENT:
Mayor Shane T. Bemis
Council President Karylinn Echols
Councilor Jerry Hinton
Councilor Kirk French
Councilor Mario Palmero
Councilor Mike McCormick
Councilor Lori Stegmann

STAFF PRESENT:
Erik Kvarsten, City Manager
David Ris, City Attorney
Robin Franzen, Director Public Affairs
Rachael Fuller, Assistant City Manager
Karen Pearson, Director Human Resources
Bernard Seeger, Director Finance and Management Services
Marnie Allen, Senior Assistant City Attorney
Eric Chambers, Senior Manager,
Jessica Harper, Assistant to the Mayor
Craig Junginger, Police Chief
Greg Matthews, Fire Chief
Ron Papsdorf, Manager Governmental Relations
Susanjoy Baskoro, City Recorder

1. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE AND MOMENT OF SILENCE

Mayor Bemis lead the Pledge of Allegiance followed by a moment of silence.

2. INSTRUCTIONS TO CITIZENS ON SIGNING UP FOR PUBLIC TESTIMONY REGARDING AGENDA AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

Council President Echols read instructions to citizens wishing to testify.

B. CITIZEN AND COMMUNITY GROUP COMMENTS FOR AGENDA (EXCEPT PUBLIC HEARING) AND NON-AGENDA ITEMS

1. CITIZEN AND COMMUNITY GROUP COMMENTS

Catherine Nicewood, President of the Rockwood Neighborhood Association, in support of Friends of the Children, shared her knowledge and thoughts about the Friends of the Children program. She urged the Mayor and Council to partner with this program.

C. CONSENT AGENDA

Susanjoy Baskoro, City Recorder, read the Consent Agenda.

1. APPOINTMENT: PLANNING COMMISSION

2. RESOLUTION NO. 3149: STATE HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT

3. ENACTMENT READING: COMPREHENSIVE PLAN AMENDMENTS - HOUSING POLICY

4. RESOLUTION NO. 3126: DEFERRED COMPENSATION PLAN

5. COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

6. RESOLUTION NO. 3150: AMENDING CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

7. RESOLUTION NO. 3151: WITHDRAWING FROM THE JURISDICTION OF THE TAX SUPERVISING AND CONSERVATION COMMISSION

Councilor Stegmann introduced Paul Drechsler and thanked him for his service on the Planning Commission.

A motion was made by Council President Karylinn Echols, second by Councilor Kirk French, **TO APPROVE CONSENT AGENDA ITEMS C-1 THROUGH C-7**. The motion passed as follows:

Mayor Shane T. Bemis	YES
Council President Karylinn Echols	YES
Councilor Jerry Hinton	YES
Councilor Kirk French	YES
Councilor Mario Palmero	YES
Councilor Mike McCormick	YES
Councilor Lori Stegmann	YES

D. PUBLIC HEARING

None

E. COUNCIL BUSINESS

1. CONTINUATION OF SALARY DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS AND BENEFITS FOR EMPLOYEES CALLED TO ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY

Karen Pearson, Director Human Resources, presented the staff report.

Mayor Bemis said he is certainly in support of this but asked if there is a way this can be done in perpetuity instead of bringing this before Council each year.

Ms. Pearson said Council has the option to continue providing this differential for a longer period of time but the renewal comes annually. The City paid out $4600 toward this differential last year.

Councilor Hinton said he supports this request. He asked if the City guarantees a like position upon the return of the employee after serving their military term.

Ms. Pearson replied yes the federal law governing active military duty call-ups requires the City to place the employee back into their previous held position or like position without loss of what they had been receiving or would have been receiving had they stayed employed.

Councilor Hinton asked if the City provides any death benefit to the families if there is a worst case scenario.

Ms. Pearson said they continue their life insurance under the City, so that benefit would continue as we continue to pay the premiums under this differential pay. In addition, they may receive military death benefits.

Councilor Hinton asked what the City's policy is on jury duty for current City employees.

Ms. Pearson said the City continues the employees pay during active jury duty. The employee is asked to give up any jury pay they receive, which is generally $10 per day.

Council President Echols said she feels this service is very important to provide to our employees and families as the sacrifice made by those employees and families can never be repaid in total. It is a small thing that the City does but is very meaningful. She noted that she likes hearing about this benefit as it comes to Council every year as it reminds her that we have people in our employment who serve the community and serve our nation in so many ways. She is happy to see it come before Council.

Councilor Stegmann asked if this is only for the National Guard employees or for all branches of military.

Ms. Pearson responded this is for anyone that is called-up in any branch of the military for active duty. It does not include their training time as that is paid under a state statute that allows us to continue their pay. This is a differential pay for when they are called-up for actual active duty and they have activation orders.

Councilor Stegmann said this is very specific as it says it is in response to the global war on terrorism. She asked if it must be designed as global war on terrorism.

Ms. Pearson said her understanding is that most activation currently occurring is directly linked to the war on terrorism.

Councilor Palmero asked if the benefits cover the employee's families while they are away.

Ms. Pearson said it covers the differential between what an employee receives and basically considers them receiving their whole pay had they continued their employment here at the City. We don't pay family members, but they do have their benefits paid by the City. So if they are receiving family benefits, the premiums would continue to be paid and the benefits would go to the family for continuation of health and life insurance.

A motion was made by Councilor Mario Palmero, second by Councilor Mike McCormick, **TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 3148 AUTHORIZING THE CONTINUATION OF SALARY DIFFERENTIAL PAYMENTS AND BENEFITS CONTINUATION FOR CITY EMPLOYEES CALLED TO ACTIVE MILITARY DUTY.** The motion passed as follows:

Mayor Shane T. Bemis	YES
Council President Karylinn Echols	YES
Councilor Jerry Hinton	YES
Councilor Kirk French	YES
Councilor Mario Palmero	YES
Councilor Mike McCormick	YES
Councilor Lori Stegmann	YES

2. COUNCIL WORK PLAN 2013: YOUTH SERVICES

Bernard Seeger, Director Finance and Management Services, introduced **Marnie Allen**, Senior Assistant City Attorney, and **Mark Young**, Chief Operations Officer of Friends of the Children.

Mark Young presented the staff report and provided a booklet describing the Friends of the Children program (PowerPoint Presentation Exhibit A, Booklet Exhibit B).

Mr. Seeger continued the staff report beginning at slide 7 of the PowerPoint presentation (Exhibit A).

Mr. Seeger provided an amended Lease Agreement (Exhibit C) and described the changes as follows: on page 2, the square footage has been corrected to be 21,862 square feet; on page 11 the language refers to the Boys and Girls Club (BGC) which was inadvertently left in this lease and should have been removed.

Councilor Stegmann asked how many new kids the Friends of Children foresee engaging in the program that live in Gresham.

Mr. Young said every year they select between 30 and 40 youth. Last year they selected 44 youth and 33 were from this general area. In the next five years they will select at least 100 to 125 new youth from the area that will be a part of this program.

Councilor Stegmann said from an economic standpoint, because you stay with these kids for 18 years it would seem that you would need to hire more employees. She asked for a description of the growth of the organization.

Mr. Young said there are two ways that the program grows. The current growth plan is serving 425 youth and the Strategic Plan states that over the next 3 1/2 years they will grow to 475 and the goal is 500. One of the ways to grow is by adding new staff. Another way to grow, is when he says they have 30 to 40 kids, they have kids who are graduating. At the age of 18 they move out of the program. That opens up space. The only way a child leaves the program is if they move out of area. They have a 30 mile radius of participating youth. The reason they have 20 to 40 kids is that they are replacing youth that have moved out of the program. This year they are adding 16 brand new youth in Clark County. In the next 3 1/2 years they will add an additional 50 youth to the overall program.

Councilor Stegmann noted the organization has been around for 20 years. What is the status of the first kids who went through the program?

Mr. Young said the first graduate has returned to the organization as an employee. They have had other graduates who are back to be mentors. In order to be a part of the program they must be a college graduate. The organization has scholarship money to help students with education costs. To work with at risk children you really must know what you are doing.

Councilor Stegmann said it is important to begin to work with kids at a young age to keep them out of gangs. She thanked Mr. Young for being in our community.

Councilor Palmero asked how many students are currently in the program.

Mr. Young replied 425 students.

Councilor Palmero asked if every year they actively seek more students.

Mr. Young stated that is correct. They replace those who graduate or move.

Councilor Palmero said he is very happy they are coming to this area. He said many kids have older brothers and sisters that might be at risk. He asked if they are working with other organizations to help the siblings.

Mr. Young said Harvard did a study called the "ripple effect" and with the ripple effect they determined that they are actually impacting the family members and other students. With K through 5 the mentors are literally in the schools sitting right next to the youth. When our mentors are present, everyone around them is lifted up. All of the members have a membership to the Boys and Girls Club. They have referrals out for family members and for older at-risk youth.

Councilor Hinton asked if this model is being picked up by other organizations across the country.

Mr. Young said yes, they have chapters in four other cities and are having serious conversations with the Big Brother - Big Sister of America program. That program cannot touch this level of student so they are trying to figure out how they can bring Friends of the Children into their program.

Councilor Hinton asked who is paying for the deconstruction of the PAL Center.

Mr. Seeger said the cost is estimated to be between $60,000 and $80,000 and, as a part of the lease, the Friends of the Children will contribute $30,000 towards that expense.

Councilor French asked what the ratio of mentor is to the youth.

Mr. Young stated the program is divided into two categories; K through 5 with a ratio of 1:8 and then the adolescent program has a ratio of 1:11. The reason this category is higher is because they do a lot of group programming because teens don't generally like to hang out with adults. This is one of the main reasons for wanting to be in East County. East County youth can't get to North County.

Councilor McCormick asked since Friends are breaking ground in 2015, how soon will the program be effective in East County and when will the construction be complete.

Mr. Young said the first step is to raise the money and we are very confident we can do that. The goal is approximately $3.5 million. It will take one year to raise those funds. They are not a fan of borrowing. Once they determine if the electricity is connected separately to the gym then they can begin to offer services right away. If the electricity is connected to the PAL Center they will need to wait, as that building is being deconstructed.

Mr. Seeger said they don't know if the meters to the two buildings are separate or combined.

Council President Echols asked if the City is able to do an environmental deconstruction of the PAL Center.

Mr. Seeger said staff plans to do a deconstruction. The estimate states approximately 95% of the materials can be recycled.

Council Presidents Echols clarified the verbiage on the briefing sheet to be "deconstruction" instead of "demolition". She asked if it is cheaper to deconstruct.

Mr. Seeger stated the $60,000 to $80,000 is the net cost to the City for deconstruction.

Council President Echols asked what the period of time is for the deconstruction.

Mr. Seeger said it is anticipated to be completed by the spring of next year.

Council President Echols said she has been involved in non-profits most of her life and runs a nationwide non-profit currently. This programs stats and numbers are enviable. They are a significant indicator of the success of this organization and certainly to the vision of your founding member. She is very glad that their approach includes the overall community.

Mr. Young said he keeps his word that they will be good neighbors.

Mayor Bemis said thank you for the work you are doing and for coming to this City. The stats are amazing on their own but he thinks the reason the stats are so high is because the organization comes at it from a place of purpose, passion and dedication which is driven by Duncan himself. When you look at the folks who support this effort and the services they represent you understand why this organization is so successful. He emphasized his appreciation for the organization being in Gresham and noted an open door policy for anything needed from the City.

A motion was made by Council President Karylinn Echols, second by Councilor Kirk French, **TO APPROVE A 49-YEAR LEASE WITH FIVE TEN-YEAR EXTENSIONS, WITH FRIENDS OF THE CHILDREN, A NON-PROFIT ORGANIZATION, FOR APPROXIMATELY ONE ACRE OF PROPERTY LOCATED AT PAT PFEIFFER BARRIER FREE PARK TO PROVIDE INTENSIVE AND LONG-TERM MENTORING PROGRAMS TO VULNERABLE YOUTH AS AMENDED.** The motion passed as follows:

Mayor Shane T. Bemis	YES
Council President Karylinn Echols	YES
Councilor Jerry Hinton	YES
Councilor Kirk French	YES
Councilor Mario Palmero	YES
Councilor Mike McCormick	YES
Councilor Lori Stegmann	YES

F. COUNCIL MEASURES AND PROPOSALS

None

G. ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

Hearing no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:44 p.m.

Shane T. Bemis,
Mayor

Respectfully Submitted,

Susanjoy Baskoro
City Recorder