

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

October 18, 2010

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Robert Gilman, Rene Neff, Fran Abel and Bob Waterman. Also present were Director of Planning, Larry Cort; Director of Public Works, Challis Stringer; City Engineer Ryan Goodman; Land Use Attorney Carol Morris; and Director of Finance/City Clerk, Debbie Mahler. The flag salute was led by Council Member Abel.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Gilman. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – October 4, 2010
- b. Claims Warrants No. 26922-26924, 2703-27115 in the amount of \$67,828.97
- c. Payroll Warrants No. 26925-26950 (9/15/10) in the amount of \$51,148.32 and No. 26996-27043 (9/30/10) in the amount of \$51,254.70.
- d. Liquor Licenses: Mike's Place-renewal; Maurlee's-renewal.
- e. Approval of quote from Ackermann Electric for \$10,546.96 + tax for the electrical installation at Sewer Lift Station 2
- f. Approval of quote from SturdeWeld Const. for \$14,650 for removal and replacement of the pumps for Lift Station 2.
- d. Approval of Agenda

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. WSU Extension Volunteer Appreciation Day- Mayor Samuelson presented a proclamation proclaiming October 18, 2010 as Washington State University Island County Extension Volunteer Appreciation Day in Langley.

CITIZEN COMMENTS *

JoAnn Buff asked the Council for their opinions of the annexation to the Sno-Isle Library District. Bob Waterman stated that he is for the annexation, that he does not think the City's general fund will be able to sustain the costs of the library and to maintain the current level of service Sno-Isle would be better able to do it with the additional tax revenue that it would collect. We have lost the pharmacy, the medical clinic, the newspaper office, and the library is an important service to keep for the community. Robert Gilman stated that the Library District pays over \$612,000 to support the Langley library and Langley pays about \$45,000 of those costs. If the annexation passes, Langley residents will contribute \$120,000 in property taxes to Sno-Isle. Rene Neff is very much in support of the annexation, knows the city cannot afford to pay more.

Jonalyn Woolf-Ivory, Executive director of Sno-Isle was present. Jonalyn stated that the cities in their system own and maintain the library buildings in their communities. The district does not pay rent to those cities. The district does own some of the buildings that were funded by bond measures. Fran Abel stated that she has already voted yes, and thinks the library is priceless and critical and a very much needed service that must be adequately funded. Robert Gilman agreed and supports Proposition 1 and encouraged people to think about the library and if they have issues with the city or the city budget, please bring those up with the city. He feels it should be a vote to continue the library, not a political football for other things. Bob Waterman mentioned that the Friends of the Library, not the City have funded many of the improvements to the library over the years.

Mayor Samuelson also stated that he voted yes, the community around us pays more than Langley does for the support of the library and the City's general fund is not healthy enough to support it. The Finance committee brought this issue forward some time ago. JoAnn Buff said that she wants to be able to vote on issues that affect Sno-Isle and as a non-annexed resident, she cannot vote. Robert explained that if the annexation did not go thru and the City no longer paid a contract fee, Langley residents would be unable to use library services anywhere in the Sno-Isle system. If that happened, we may or may not have a library in the city, but residents could not use it. Pam Owen, chair of the city's library Board and also chair of the Friends of the Library also spoke in support of the annexation and the need for services to school children and families.

OLD BUSINESS

a. Continuation of Langley Passage Closed Record Hearing. Mayor Samuelson opened the hearing at 7 PM and asked if anyone had any appearance of fairness, ex-parte contacts or conflicts of interest to disclose. Robert Gilman stated that he got questions about process from some citizens, which he did answer. Bob Waterman stated that Doug Kelly, attorney for the applicants has done legal work for him in the past and that he is the property owner of the space rented by his wife and Rene Neff for their business. Both Bob and Rene stated that this has no bearing on their ability to be impartial. Council, applicant, appellants, and staff were sworn in by the Mayor. Council Members Abel and Waterman had additional questions of the record. The questions will be put in writing, submitted to Larry Cort who will distribute them to the parties. Answers will be submitted to Larry by October 22nd and distributed to Council and the deliberations will be continued at the November 1, 2010 meeting. Closed record hearing was closed at 7:25 PM.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Authorization to apply for a Garden Tour Grant.

MOTION: To authorize the Mayor to sign the application for a Garden Tour Grant to support the Langley Community Garden.

Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:26 PM. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Gilman. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk