

Langley City Council Meeting

December 1, 2008

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Jim Recupero, Robert Gilman, Rene Neff, Bob Waterman and Russell Sparkman. Also present were Director of Planning Larry Cort, and Director of Finance/City Clerk Debbie Mahler. The flag salute was led by Rene Neff.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Recupero. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – November 17, 2008
- b. Claims Warrants in the amount of \$76,605.09
- c. Liquor Licenses – Living Green (Grocery-Beer/wine)
- d. Approval of Agenda

MAYOR'S REPORT

Dane Anderson reported that the Port is working on the lease with the DNR, and on funding issues – looking at different ways to finance the expansion. Rick, the harbormaster reported that there is a good possibility for a port office on site. The next Port meeting is this coming Wednesday. Sherry Mays, Executive Director of the Chamber reported that she is working closely with the Mayor and the City, and the business owners to promote the city to visitors and help the merchants. She is sitting on the Economic Development Commission, and meeting with Rick Larson later this week regarding the economic revitalization program. Langley kicked off the holiday season on Saturday with the tree lighting and community dinner which was quite successful. Chet Ross, president of Island-wide Tourism Committee spoke regarding the work of his committee. He reported that they have been doing regional marketing, pre-Olympics marketing, co-op marketing with other counties, and have a new website – now plan to invest more in print, radio and tv advertising. Roseann Alspector, regional director, passed out a report on the progress of the tourism committee – Whidbey is one of the dream destinations listed in the Life magazine special edition. She also reported on a proposed water taxi between Camano and Whidbey.

Mayor Samuelson reported that the Langley clinic joint commission met early this morning, clinic is now open 4 days a week, hospital has secured a two year lease on the building, and he will be meeting with Ron Lind of Langley Drug soon. The Hospital and City are committed to having a drug store here no matter what. The Mayor is participating in the interview process for additional hospital commissioners. The City is negotiating with the Chocolate Flower Farm for a lease of the old Fire Hall where they plan to expand their business.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that the Cemetery Board did not meet this month. Parks and Open Space met twice this month. They want to have a long term plan for taking care of parks and open space and any future land acquisitions. Russell Sparkman reported that the Economic Development Council meeting last Monday – the committee is made up of people in marketing, Langley business owners, a developer, and a chamber representative. The first meeting was mostly orientation; going over the comp plan recommendations. They will soon be getting into roles and responsibilities and tasks. The group plans to have speakers from local businesses, focus on short term and long term ways to serve economic development. Bob Waterman reported that the Historic Preservation Commission placed the City Hall and Historical Society Museum on the register of historic places. The old section of the Cemetery is also nominated, but they will meet with the Cemetery Board first. The Commission will be working on preservation of the downtown character look and feel, but allow for needed changes. Robert Gilman and Rene Neff have been part of a group working on establishing a “green building school” that physically trains people in green building skills. The will incorporate the group and move forward probably within a month.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Larry Cort reported that the Fire House is public zoning; the Chocolate Flower Farm is a commercial use. This will require a rezone, a contract rezone or an addition as an allowed use within the public zone. He asked council to consider those issues and it will be discussed further at the next meeting. The Planning Advisory Board is neck deep in the subdivision code, and will have an extended meeting next week. A subcommittee of the PAB is working on a tree ordinance, and will be drafting it soon. The Regional transportation committee allowed us to shift grant dollars from Camano project which came in under budget to the Anthes project which was over budget.

Debbie Mahler reported that Langley’s sales tax revenues and hotel/motel tax revenues are up and have already exceeded last year’s revenues with a month left to go in the year. Debbie feels that a lot of the sales tax is due to the new streamlined sales tax initiative which took effect in July and changed the way sales tax was allotted. Now, all sales which take place on line or by phone, catalog, etc. are allocated to the place where the goods are delivered to.

Frank Sullivan reported on public works for Challis Stringer, who is ill. The sewer extension on Langley Road is well under way, and the contract for extension on Third Street will start very soon. Public works employees are studying for and taking exams for certification on water system operations which we are taking back in house from the now contracted service. Furman and Decker Streets were paved this summer. Frank mentioned that this is the first time in 40 years that those streets have not had to have pothole patching. It’s still warm, but the City crew is prepared for snow and ice and have all equipment ready. Storm drains have been cleared, new stop signs are up which are more visible and reflective. It has been a great year for public works with many

accomplishments. We will bring on two new employees in January to help run the sewer and water systems.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public at this time.

PUBLIC HEARING – MORATORIUM EXTENSION

Mayor Samuelson opened the public hearing at 7:52 PM. Larry Cort explained that the City Council approved an emergency moratorium to bar acceptance of applications to divide land for residential use in the RS7200 and Rs15,000 zones that the Council originally passed in June of 2007 as the Comp Plan work was in full swing to run for one year from imposition. On June 4th of this year, the Council voted to extend the moratorium for an additional six months because the work to develop, draft, review and adopt new implementing regulations had not kept pace with the work approved with the initial moratorium. Much work has been accomplished, but not all work will be done by the end of December. Staff therefore recommended another six-month extension with an addition to the exempt actions to allow short plats and binding site plans within two established neighborhoods. Larry answered questions from the Council and audience. The hearing was closed at 8:07 PM.

ACTION ITEMS

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, an Ordinance adopting a new Chapter 18.21 of the Langley Municipal Code, entitled Fairground Overlay District. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried without opposition.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance No. 915 adopting an extension of 6 months to the Moratorium on applications to divide land in the RS7200 and RS15,000 zoning districts, amending and approving the list of exempt actions and declaring an emergency. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Recupero. Motion was unanimously approved. Gilman motioned to amend language, Waterman 2nd – passed unanimously.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance No. 916 adopting the 2009 Budget in the amount of \$3,810,370. Motion - Gilman, 2nd - Recupero. Ordinance 916 was adopted with all in favor.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, an Ordinance amending Ord. No. 744 and LMC 13.01 regarding the water system. Motion - Sparkman, 2nd - Waterman. Motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, a resolution amending the Municipal Code Fee Schedule re sewer rates. Motion - Recupero, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, a resolution updating pay rates for persons employed by the City of Langley. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Recupero. Motion passed.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:20 PM. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Sparkman. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



| Debbie L. Mahler

Director of Finance/City Clerk

Passed by the City Council of the City of Langley and Approved by the Mayor this 15th day of December, 2008.