

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

March 16, 2009

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Robert Gilman, Jim Recuperero, Rene Neff, Russell Sparkman and Bob Waterman. Also in attendance were Director of Planning, Larry Cort; Director of Public Works, Challis Stringer; City Engineer, Ryan Goodman; and Asst. Clerk-Treasurer Nancy Gastony. The flag salute was lead by Mayor Paul Samuelson.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda without the minutes until necessary corrections are made and with the addition of Approval to release retainage to Sullivan Contracting, LLC for completed work on Camano Avenue walkway. Motion – Waterman, 2nd - Recuperero. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes - March 2, 2009
- b. Claim Warrants in the amount of \$144,989.30
- c. Payroll Warrants in the amount of \$44,344.61

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Samuelson invited Sherry Mays, Ex.Dir. of the South Whidbey Chamber of Commerce to speak to the progress of the Beautification Project. She first read a Thank You note from the Classic Car Club that had graced the City on a snowy weekend and loved the abiance and hospitality of the City. The Chamber has acquired seed money from the Port of South Whidbey for Choochokam and the Uniquely Whidbey Trade Fair scheduled for May 30 – 31, 2009 at the Fairgrounds. The baskets for the Langley Beautification project are \$58.00 each and Fred Lundahl will be looking for donors. The Port declined funds for the beautification project but Rolf Seitle has agreed to personally pay for one basket, as did Russell Sparkmen and Paul Samuelson. Welcome the Whales will be held April 18-19, 2009 and there will be a dedication of the Whale Bell plus a bike ride from Langley to Bayview for a showing of the movie, Whale Rider. Langley was nominated as the Best Tourist City by King 5.

Mayor Samuelson gave a power point presentation covering the 2009 Annual Plan outlining the administration's goals and timeline to implement those goals. He spoke of the front page article in the South Whidbey Record and his desire to inform and involve all the community in the role this administration is faced with to solve the Stormwater shortfall that is depleting the Street Fund. He welcomes debate and suggestions that will contribute to the solution. The administration is still in communication with the interested parties concerning the use of the Fire Hall. The curbs will be replaced in front,

thereby increasing parking. The concrete pad will be redesigned and made to blend with the landscape of the Useless Bay Coffee Company that is next door.

ACTION ITEMS

MOTION: To pass Resolution #714 that establishes a Wellness Committee for City Hall. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Waterman. Motion carried unanimously.

STUDY SESSION ITEMS

2009 Draft Comprehensive Stormwater Plan - Ryan Goodman, City Engineer gave a brief overview of why the plan was necessary and the fact that the stormwater fund were co-mingled with the street funds which has resulted in a \$115,000.00 shortfall.

Challis Stringer, Director of Public Works, gave a power point presentation on the Stormwater systems we have in place, the operations and maintenance of them, the priority 6 year capital projects and why they are needed. An increase from \$2.90 to \$13.49 would be necessary to break even with no money for improvements. She then introduced Skip Grodt and Darla Guerrero, from URS Corporation and Katy Isaksen from Katy Isaksen & Associates, who did the State mandated study. Each spoke at length about the problems and proposed remedies. The report suggests a gradual increase from the current \$2.90 to \$22.10 by 2014.

Robert Gilman spoke to the importance of tree cover as opposed to grass coverage impacting the water table, ie. Ponding and erosion of bluff. We need to put more money into the pot referring to the \$115,000.00 shortfall.

Larry Cort asked about the use of development charges in cases when the capital improvement is required to accommodate growth.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Bruce Kortebein asked why the proposed 6 year priorities only dealt with the portion of Edgecliff Drive from Furman and Decker toward the City and neglected the portion from Furman to the end. He would like all of Edgecliff included in the 6 year priority of capital improvements. He has concerns about the 12" water table and the possibility of new homes in the area causing an increase that table and causing increased bluff sloughing.

Rolf Seitle talked about the need to improve the water quality of the conveyance/outfalls to decrease the pollutants being released into the sound. Harrison Goodall agreed saying this has to be part of the whole process. We need to deal with the ecology of the little basin we have here.

Harry Dickerson asked if the increase of stormwater fees could be done by LID and included in the taxes, so they would be tax deductible. Dan Prewitt

mentioned the fact that more and more people are on fixed incomes and are skeptical since they have been poorly served by their government in the past.

Paul Samuelson agreed and responded with a promise to do the very best job with what we have. He spoke to the fact that he didn't hear any push-back on economics from the people represented in the audience and suggested to the council the discussion be continued at the next council meeting.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:10 PM. Motion -
Waterman, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried unanimously.

Respectfully submitted,

Nancy F. Gastony
Asst. Clerk-Treasurer

Passed by the City Council of the City of Langley and Approved by the Mayor on this ____ day of March, 2009.