

City of Langley

Council Meeting May 3, 2010

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Robert Gilman, Rene Neff, Bob Waterman and Russell Sparkman. Also present was Challis Stringer, Director of Public Works; Fred Evander, Planner; Kathleen Landel, Special Assistant to the Mayor; and Debbie Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk and also Fred Geisler and Jim Sundberg of the Planning Advisory Board. The flag salute was lead by Rene Neff.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Gilman. Motion carried.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – April 19, 2010
- b. Claims Warrants Nos. 26341, 26370, 26406-26406, 26441-26463 in the amount of \$27,993.18.
- c. Approval of Agenda

MAYOR'S REPORT

- a. Proclamation – Virginia LaRue Week – Mayor Samuelson read a proclamation honoring Virginia and proclaiming the week of May 3rd as Virginia LaRue Week in Langley. Virginia has been a resident of Langley and South Whidbey shopkeeper for almost forty years and is celebrating her ninetieth decade this year. The Chamber of Commerce also awarded Virginia the Shining Star.
- b. Langley Community Garden Project – Anderson Farm- Dorothy Anderson has opened up her family property to the community for organic gardening in a pea patch style. Glen Leever, the City's AmeriCorps worker explained that this has been quite a process to work out all the details and specifics. Liability was a large issue and it took some time and effort to work it out. Kathleen Landel explained that the City will sponsor the garden, process applications, keep funds for the garden organization and do some promotion. Dorothy Anderson expressed her excitement about continuing a garden at the family farm. The garden will have 14 pea patch spots, 3 are already reserved. Cary Peterson said the plots and paths are being created and will be ready for planting soon. A dedication will be held Monday May 10th at 5:00 PM at the Anderson Farm.
- c. Port of South Whidbey – Chris Jerome, Port Commissioner reported that the Port has decided on a new office in the lower

floor of the China City restaurant. They will be moving in the next few months. The Port would like to put a cell tower at Possession Park, and will be discussed this at the upcoming Port meeting. Additional tidelands have been donated by Tony Puma and Paul Schell so that the Port can get a Port Management Agreement with the State Department of Natural Resources. The Port is working on a grant for marina expansion. Dive weekend was a great success.

- d. Chamber – Sherry Jennings reported she attended the content strategy meeting at the New Media Center. A party will be held at the Edgecliff tomorrow honoring Virginia LaRue. Sherry will be attending another Ferry tariff advisory committee meeting next week. Thursday is the Island County Tourism Committee meeting, and the committee will be working towards hiring a new Director.
- e. Library – Vicky Welfare reported that the library is launching the Big Read Island wide. There will be numerous community events in the next month. Information is available at the library or on their website.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that the Cemetery Board is working on a new insert for the brochure, regarding green burials, costs, etc. The board is talking about a possible columbarium addition to the Cemetery. Jason Neal, a boy scout, is making 4 benches to be placed at the Cemetery. Rene attended an EDC lunch last week where the state economist spoke regarding the economy and the recovery. He said this is the worst downturn in residential building in 30 years. He believes we are moving out of the recession in 2010 but, feels at 2014 we may be back to 2006 levels. Bob Waterman reported that May is Historic Preservation Month. The Historic Preservation Commission has an opening and he welcomed citizens to apply. Russell Sparkman reported that Mayor's Council on Economic Health meeting was cancelled last Monday.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Fred Evander reported the Planning Advisory has been holding public hearings on the Langley Passage Project and there will be another hearing on May 12th at City Hall.

Debbie Mahler gave a financial report and passed out graphs of major revenues. The General Fund is presently in a negative status and an interfund loan may be needed to address cash flow issues. However, sales tax picked up slightly in April for the first time in ten months.

Challis Stringer reported that the Park at Second Street and Anthes is having much work done and it has been paid for by Nancy Nordoff. There will be a work party on Saturday, May 15th, followed by a potluck and street dance. The Licastro band will play.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Craig Carty of Second Street asked that meetings be posted on the web a few meetings ago and wondered if it was going to happen. Mayor Paul reported that the City is looking into the possibility.

ACTION ITEMS

PUBLIC HEARING – Outside City Water Users Utility Tax

Mayor Samuelson opened the public hearing at 7:16 PM. Challis Stringer explained the reasons why outside city water users are charged 1.22% times what city residents are charged. Debbie Mahler explained the City's reasons for charging outside customers the utility tax that residents currently pay and what the money will be used for. Debbie and Challis answered questions from the Council and audience. The hearing was closed at 8:43 PM.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, a Resolution amending Langley Municipal Code 3.16 regarding Utility tax. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Sparkman. Motion was approved with all in favor.

MOTION: To Authorize Mayor Samuelson to sign a Memorandum of Understanding with the Anderson Farm regarding the Langley Community Garden. Motion - Waterman, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's appointment of Rob Harrison to a three year term on the Library Board. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Waterman. Motion passed without opposition.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's re-appointment of Jan Tepper to a six year term on the Civil Service Board. Motion - Sparkman, 2nd - Waterman. Motion unanimously passed.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

SPECIAL JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

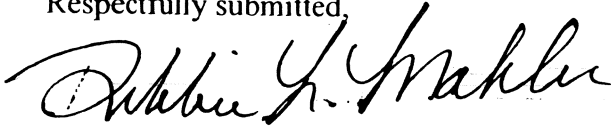
a. *Zoning Code Amendments.* Robert Gilman gave a power-point presentation on neighborhood planning including what defines a neighborhood, what are the benefits of including human-scale neighborhoods as part of our planning, and should the subarea

boundaries be included on the zoning map and codified as a foundation for community geography. A discussion of whether this can work in a city of Langley's size ensued between the Council, Planning, and Planning Advisory Board members. The next meeting will have a presentation on land use budgeting.

b. Regulating Noise – the draft ordinance was discussed. Staff will take comments from Council and do some more research and submit the changes back to Council for further direction.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 10:07 PM. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk