

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

August 15, 2011

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Fran Abel, Rene Neff, Bob Waterman and Hal Seligson. Also present was 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 - Neff. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – August 1, 2011
- b. Claims Warrants Nos. in the amount of \$27,640.13
- c. Payroll Warrants # 28093-28114 (7/15/11) in the amount of \$40,769.11 and # 28141-28165 (07/31/11) in the amount of \$43,478.93
- d. Approval of Agenda.

MAYOR'S REPORT

a. *Langley Library.* Vicky Welfare reported that the library will be closing this coming Saturday thru Labor Day weekend for renovations. The Clinton library is closed right now for their own renovations, but will open on Friday. The library received a Grant from PSE for adult learning. In Langley the theme will be on gardening with our own Fran Abel presenting.

b. *Main Street program.* Fred Lundahl reported that Main Street's first event will be a Historic Langley Walkabout on August 27th. Raffle tickets are being sold and are also available at Good Cheer; the drawing will be held at 2 PM with lots of prizes. Eric Levine added that the historic walkabout hopefully will draw people by boat and car. Historic photos will be on display in the shops and participants will have a list of captions to match with the right photos. There will be music in the park, a Model A showing, harbor expansion plans presentation and the owners of the Doghouse will talk about their plans to restore the Doghouse.

NEW BUSINESS

a. *Cemetery Board report.* Marilyn Strong, Board President; Cary Peterson; R. James Enslow and Marilyn Helsel of the Cemetery Board and of course, Council Member Neff were present. The Board reported that the Green Burial section of the Cemetery that was launched in 2010 has had its first burial and 21 of those graves have

been sold. A community group is considering purchase of another 9 plots. To ensure the financial stability of the Cemetery fund, grave prices were raised this year and mowing and garbage disposal were contracted out. The Friends of the Langley Woodmen Cemetery have held work parties and helped with debris hauling, pothole filling, and setting out the trash cans for pickup. In addition, the Friends have purchased a new zero turning radius mower and donated it to the City for use at the Cemetery. Marilyn also reported that Lynn Hays donated a metal trellis/arbor at the entrance to the Ash Garden and plantings have been placed around it. The standing rocks in the ash garden have been plotted in a grid for installation of plaques. The Board would like to have two additional members added and are working on a new Cemetery Brochure which will include the Green Burial policies and procedures.

b. Acting Chief Heston presented the Langley Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan and reported that the Plan was finished and sent to the State Military Department of Emergency Management and approved last fall, but has not been formally adopted by the City. Approval will be scheduled for the next meeting after the Council has had a chance to review the plan.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's extension of appointment for up to six months of Randy Heston as Acting Chief of Police as confirmed by the Civil Service Board. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Neff. Motion was unanimously approved.

DISCUSSION TOPICS

a. *2012 Budget Discussion.* Debbie Mahler passed out a budget timeline and discussed what the finance committee is doing. She reported that fee schedules with recommended changes will be brought forth to Council soon and the departments are working on their core services presentations.

b. *Open Council Position.* The legislature recently changed the law on filling council vacancies and the Council now needs to appoint someone to fill the unexpired term of Robert Gilman. Council concurred that advertisement should start immediately and interviews scheduled for the Council meeting on September 19th.

c. *Langley Electeds website.* Councilman Gilman was the webmaster for the site. Now that he has left the Council, a decision must be made on whether to keep the website up and running. Rene Neff stated that she would like to bring the website into the city and keeping it running. Bob Waterman also thinks it is valuable and should be under the city's control. Fran was also in favor of keeping the site. Hal Seligson said he had no strong feeling about it, but if it is not difficult to convert, we should keep it. Thomas Gill has offered to be the webmaster for the site.

d. *Code Committee.* Debbie Mahler explained that some sections of our municipal code that are not often referred to are seriously out of date. She feels that the only way to keep the code current is to have a committee of staff and Council that meets once a month to go over the code, one chapter at a time. The committee can then recommend changes and keep the code updated. Consensus was to proceed with the committee. The city will ask former Councilman Gilman for the work product from his prior code committee to use in conjunction with the review.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 6:25 PM. Motion -
Waterman, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk