

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

April 19, 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 were Director of Planning, Larry Cort and Director of Finance/City Clerk, Debbie Mahler. The flag salute was led by Council Member Waterman.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – April 5, 2010
- b. Claims Warrants No. 26371-26404 in the amount of \$36,877.48
- c. Payroll Warrants No. 26251-26276 (3/15/10) in the amount of \$51,579.90 and Nos. 26282-26307 – 26104 (3/31/10) in the amount of \$53,398.41.
- d. Approval of Agenda

MAYOR'S REPORT

Proclamation – Whale Trail City – Mayor Samuelson read a proclamation declaring Langley a Whale Trail City. The Whale Trail mission is to inspire appreciation and stewardship of whales and the marine environment through a network of marked viewing locations throughout the coastal waters of the Pacific Northwest where the public can view orcas, gray whales and other marine mammals.

Chamber Report – Sherry Jennings reported that this Saturday is the Welcome the Whales festivities and parade in Langley. Experience Langley Volume 2 was a few weeks ago. It had a great response and the content marketing workshop is coming up soon. Experience Langley Lodging Books are being put together right now. These tell what to do in Langley, where to stay and where to find things. The Sign committee is still meeting regarding the proposed sign on the highway directing people to Langley. This weekend is Earth and Ocean weekend and the celebration of earth day will continue at Bayview corner after the whale festival. The spring lodging tour is will be on May 16th. The tour will include 10 different lodgings. Uniquely Whidbey Trade Fair is also coming up at the Fairgrounds showcasing Island businesses. Choochokum Arts is being worked on also, more exhibitors then ever have applied this year. Sherry also solicited for help before and during Oktoberfest.

Council Vacancy – Councilman Jim Recuperero has resigned. The City will be advertising for candidates for appointment to Jim's unexpired term. Interested candidates can fill out the city's application form.

Island County Budget – Commissioner Angie Homola gave a very informative power point presentation on the County’s budget and answered questions from the Council and audience.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments from the audience at this time.

STUDY SESSION TOPICS

Proposed utility tax to outside water users. Challis Stringer, Director of Public Works explained that all city residents pay a 6% tax on their water bills. At this time, outside water users do not pay the tax. A recent court case has ruled that cities must use general fund monies to pay for fire flow and hydrant maintenance, that the water rates cannot pay for fire suppression, as it is a government service. The utility tax is paid to the general fund and can help pay for those costs. Some outside city water users were present and asked questions that will be answered at the public hearing to be held on this issue at the next meeting.

SPECIAL JOINT STUDY SESSION WITH PLANNING ADVISORY BOARD

Zoning and Sub-division code/open space provisions amendments. Mayor Samuelson opened the special work session at 7:40 PM. Council presented their list of prioritization of the issues of concern with the proposed subdivision and zoning amendments. Larry Cort gave a definition of open space as it pertains to Langley’s Comp Plan and to the subdivision code and the definition as it pertains to the rest of the zoning code. Members of the Planning Advisory board answered questions from the Council members regarding those areas of priority.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 9:38 PM. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Sparkman. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk