

Langley City Council Workshop Minutes
Potential Use of a Land Use Hearings Examiner
April 26, 2011

Meeting called to order at 2:00 pm by Mayor Paul Samuelson. All council members were present, as well as Larry Kwarsick and Jeff Arango of the Planning Department, Challis Stringer of the Public Works department and Kathleen Landel, special assistant to the Mayor.

A detailed presentation was offered by City Attorney Grant Weed on the roles and responsibilities of a Hearings Examiner, as well as the pros and cons of the use of a Hearings Examiner by a local municipality. The presentation lasted until 3:10 pm.

Discussion followed, with the council members offering questions and comments to Grant Weed, as well as Larry Kwarsick, who has had significant experience working with land use issues and hearings examiners. Larry gave an overview of the preparation he has done for the Council to be able to consider establishing an ordinance that supports a contract with a hearings examiner. Grant clarified the particular issues that would need to be addressed by the Council if they were to adopt such an ordinance.

The Council members affirmed that they were eager to pursue adopting such an ordinance, though there are some questions regarding the level of authority the hearings examiner would be given that need to be addressed.. The Mayor asked Larry Kwarsick to prepare to bring this matter to a Council meeting by creating a clear and concise checklist of decisions that would be needed to be able to prepare an ordinance for consideration.

In a brief discussion about future changes to ordinances that are made by the Council, Hal Seligson recommended that the *intent* behind the legislation be noted in the recorded minutes.

The Mayor passed out the schedule of upcoming Council workshops for the month of May and then initiated a short break at 3:35 pm to prepare to go into executive session.

The Council sat in executive session from 3:45 pm until 4:15 pm and then adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

Annette Andrews-Lux, Clerk

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