

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2011

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Fran Abel, Rene Neff, Bob Waterman, Hal Seligson, Doug Allderdice and Jim Sundberg. Also present was Director of Finance/City Clerk, Debbie Mahler, Planners Larry Cort and Jeff Arango and Director of Public Works, Challis Stringer. The flag salute was led by Council Member Abel.

Mayor Samuelson thanked Fran for her service to the City, especially working with Jeff Arango on the Second Street Market. Fred Lundahl thanked Fran on behalf of the Chamber for all her contributions and said he looks forward to working with her in the future. Hal thanked her for her contribution of the Hearing Examiner idea. Bob Waterman appreciated Fran's ability to speak her mind clearly. Rene also thanked her for her strength and integrity and friendship and Rene passed out cupcakes. Rene Neff also thanked Bob Waterman and expressed her respect and appreciation to him and she also thanked Mayor Samuelson for his energy and heart during his term. Ed Abel thanked his wife also for her service as a council member. Fran thanked the Council for appointing her and thanked Paul for being an "awesome mayor". She presented Paul with a bouquet of flowers and passed out candy to all.

Clerk Debbie Mahler swore in Jim Sundberg to position 3. Jim took Fran's place at the Council table after taking his oath of office. Hal Seligson then was sworn in and took his oath of office for his new term.

MOTION: To approve the Consent Agenda. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Seligson. Motion carried unanimously after Councilman Seligson asked several questions about the vouchers.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – November 21, 2011, Joint Port/Council workshop minutes October 5, 2011.
- b. Claims Warrants Nos. 28506-28545 in the amount of \$30,485.41
- c. Approval of the agenda as amended.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Library Report annual report. Shirley Owen, Chair, Pam Owen, Carol Ryan, Monica Guzman, and Jim Tulley were present. Bob Waterman is the Council liaison, Rob Harrison was absent. Shirley and Pam talked about what the Board does. The library board interfaces with city staff, library staff, Sno-Isle organization, and the Council. The Board will need new council liaison, as Bob Waterman's term of office expires at the end of the month. They would also like to have an official staff liaison, and a sit down session with staff and a council person to know how to work

better together. They would like to have more education regarding city procedures and working with staff. For 2012 the Library Board is working on the Landscaping at the library building which they would like to return the original plan. They are interested in working with the City on the 2nd Street construction project, as it will affect the library. They are also working on coordinating a scholarship award of \$1,000 funded by the Association of Washington Cities. The Board meets quarterly. Mayor Samuelson thanked the members for their service to the community.

Main Street. Larry Kwarsick explained that he and Jeff Arango have been working with the Main Street Board on an agreement for funding. We have received a Department of Revenue letter confirming the city's ability to participate in the Main Street Tax Incentive Program. The City currently pays about \$45,000 from the utility funds to the State for B&O excise taxes. We can pay that amount to Main Street and the city will get 75% credit for the excise taxes with the State. We can proceed with this as soon as Main Street gets its State certification. Fred Lundahl of the Chamber and Main Street Board stated that this is a great funding mechanism; it redirects money that would have just gone to the state, back to the local program. Individual businesses may also redirect their utility excise tax to the Main street program and can claim it as a donation for tax purposes. Main Street will be meeting with Whidbey Telephone Company and Nichols Brothers to discuss the idea of their participation in the program.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that the Cemetery Board met last Tuesday. It was a brief meeting and they will not meet again until January. The Cemetery is in need of eco-blocks or similar blocks for the bio-mulch scooping area. The Rotary club may be helping with new garbage can covers for the cemetery. Hal Seligson reported that he attended an Economic Development Council meeting and they are working on an entrepreneurs support program. Marilee, his wife, is on the Good Cheer Board and he reported that the number of families coming through the food bank continues to rise. It did average 754 people per month, but served over 900 in November. Good Cheer has been active since 1962; almost 50 years.

Jim Sundberg thanked the members of Planning Advisory Board which he has been chairing up until the now. Jim is also a member of the Main Street Board and is working on creating a database of businesses in downtown Langley, and working with the planning department to welcome and promote the location of new businesses in the city. Jim declared that he has an avid interest in promoting access to the city from all forms of transportation such as electric vehicles of different types, and connecting walking paths throughout the city. Doug Allderdice reported that Island Transit ridership is up. They received large grant that will help immensely with their bus facilities.

STAFF REPORTS

Planning. Jeff Arango reported the scope of work for the 2nd street project is complete and has been sent to the state for review. Jeff has started a new website for planning called “DesignLangley.org”. The planning department has three ordinances on tonight for first reading. Three more ordinances are being reviewed by legal counsel. More ordinances are being considered by the PAB. Those being considered regard such things as seasonal café seating in downtown, and electric vehicles like golf carts on city streets.

Public Works. Challis reported that the City received grants for \$99,068 to repave Anthes Avenue between 1st and 2nd and a Cascade Avenue overlay.

Finance. Debbie Mahler reported on the budget changes and distributed new pages to the budget.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 959 amending LMC 2.60.015 re salary & benefits for the Mayor. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. Larry Kwarsick explained that this ordinance had been intended to lower the Mayor’s pay during Larry’s term, but it had to be approved before his election was final to apply to him. Larry has submitted a letter declining the majority of his pay and his benefits during his term and the ordinance will apply to the following term of office. The ordinance was approved with Councilmember Sundberg abstaining.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 735 Resolution establishing a compensation grid for persons employed by the City of Langley. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. The motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance No. 960 adopting the 2012 budget in the amount of \$5,553,854. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. The motion failed. Council will reconsider the motion at the next meeting after salary steps on the pay grid for each employee are set and changes are made in the Tourism fund.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance 961 amending LMC 15.04 re Building Permit Fees. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. The motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution No. 736 establishing a small works roster process to award public works contracts and a

consulting services roster for architectural, engineering and other professional services. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Waterman. The resolution was passed without opposition.

MOTION: To authorize the Mayor to sign a public agency membership contract with MRSC for small works roster services. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. The motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading an ordinance amending LMC 18.01 and 18.16 and adding a new section 18.16.075 regarding height modifications in the Wharf Street Overlay Zone. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Sundberg. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading an Ordinance amending LMC Title 18 the Zoning Code and amending section 18.22.155 accessory dwelling units, 18.06.060 Maximum heights in RS500 residential single family zoning; section 18.08.060 maximum height in RS15,00 residential single family zoning. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Sundberg. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading an Ordinance amending LMC 15.01 regarding tree protections during construction. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. The motion was approved in a unanimous vote.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To authorize the mayor to sign an agreement with Whidbey Children’s Theater for tourism promotion. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. The agreement was approved with all in favor.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, an ordinance adding a new Chapter 3.62 to the LMC establishing a PW vehicle and equipment reserve fund. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried without opposition.

MOTION: To authorize the Mayor to sign an amendment to the contract with ESA increasing total project cost from \$13,300 to \$14,725. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Neff. The

City entered into the contract with ESA to provide technical support in developing the update of the Shoreline Master Program. The work was completed on schedule, but the review by the State Department of Ecology delayed the project by several months and drove the costs past what was anticipated. ESA has agreed to split the overage equally. All costs are paid under a Coastal Zone Management Grant. Motion carried.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's appointment of Jeff Arango as Planning Director as of January 1, 2012. Motion - Waterman, 2nd - Neff. Motion was unanimously approved. Mayor Samuelson stated that he was delighted and excited to have Jeff and praised the work he has been doing with the Second Street Market and other projects. This completes the restructuring of the Planning Department from two planners to one.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 8:40 PM. Motion - Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk

