

City of Langley

Council Meeting March 1, 2010

Mayor Samuelson called the meeting to order at 6:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Robert Gilman, Jim Recupero, Rene Neff, Bob Waterman and Russell Sparkman. Also present was Larry Cort, Director of Planning; Challis Stringer, Director of Public Works; and Debbie Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk. The flag salute was lead by Jim Recupero.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Council Meeting Minutes – February 16, 2010
- b. Claims Warrants 26123, 26175-26190, in the amount of \$63,603.67
- c. Liquor License – The Braeburn (Restaurant – Beer/Wine)
- d. Approval of Agenda

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

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Samuelson read a proclamation honoring long-time citizen Flo Haun and proclaimed March 2, 2010 (Flo's 90th birthday) as Flo Haun day in Langley.

Sherry Mays, Executive Director of the Langley Chamber reported that Mystery Weekend was a great success. 90 people came into the city on the Victoria Clipper ship. There were over 1,100 paying registrants, and over 3,000 people attending. 585 people went through the Historical Museum over the weekend. April 24th is the Welcome the Whales parade. Uniquely Whidbey Trade Fair will be June 6th.

Port of South Whidbey Commissioner Chris Jerome reported that a workshop was held with the Port's engineer who did the last design for the marina. The workshop was very productive and helpful to the new commissioners. An economic and industrial workshop is to be held this week.

Vicky Welfare, Langley Librarian reported that the library participated in mystery weekend as a clue place and had 1195 people come through over the weekend. They usually get about 200 people a day. Materials checkouts have increased by 6% and attendance at programs is way up.

Glenn Leever, a new Americorp worker, was introduced to the council and audience. He is from Cincinnati, Ohio. Glenn is just back from 2years in the Peace Corp in Costa Rica. He will be working with Kathleen Landel on neighbor-to-neighbor issues.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Robert Gilman shared a letter he received from Pacific Northwest Langley and Port Townsend. People from four different countries and all over the states came on the tour. Rene Neff reported that she will attend an EDC annual luncheon next week. Rene Neff reported that the Cemetery Board meeting is later this month. Bob Waterman reported the consultant inventorying the historical buildings in town will be here next Friday and back again the next week. This will be a survey of the older buildings to see what can be recommended for inclusion on the historic register. Russell Sparkman reported that the Mayor's Council on economic health is focusing on a new agenda. They are trying to put together a meeting with commercial property owners relative to their needs. The next "Experience Langley" will be in April.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Larry Cort reported that his department is spending lots of time on the zoning amendments. Under the Wharf Street overlay that was enacted last year, a land swap with two owners will be soon underway. This is to shift public access to the back portion of the bluff. The property has been surveyed, and it looks promising that this will work. It will require an official action to vacate a portion of Wharf Street and rededicate another portion if this works.

Debbie Mahler gave financial reports for January 2010 and answered questions from the City Council. Debbie also passed out graphs of major revenues and history.

Challis Stringer reported that the Public Works department will be flushing hydrants next Tuesday and Wednesday, which will create some brown water that is not harmful. Notice will be posted in the paper, the website, and other areas. Green burial plots were platted at the cemetery. There is a cemetery work party this weekend. The State Dept of Health approved Langley's water testing permit so we can test for other agencies and people.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ruth Den Adel mentioned that she has seen plaques on some buildings in LaConner that tell their history. She thinks it is great and wondered if the city could expand this. Bob Waterman explained that the Historical Preservation Commission is looking into this issue.

ACTION ITEMS

None.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Zoning Code Amendments/Moratorium. Larry Cort reported that the past few weeks have been an intensive outreach program to get information out to residents on the proposed amendments to the code. Planning had 19 separate meetings with property owners and held a public hearing at the Planning Advisory Board last week. The Planning Advisory Board will hold a special workshop this Wednesday to look at the comments and concerns brought up by the public and look for solutions and changes to problem issues. March 10th will be another public hearing on the amendments. Jim Sundberg, Chair of the Planning Advisory Board reported on the public hearing that was held last week. The hearing was very well attended. There were speakers with concerns and with support. The meeting ended on a very positive note. The Board is open to making revisions as they go through this process. Larry stated that written comments were also received. There were four areas of concern from the public open space, the square footage allocation, the name of the conservation district, and mixed use neighborhoods. Larry put together a list of possible alternatives for Planning Advisory Board to consider. Larry and Jim both answered questions from the Council and audience.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:48 PM. Motion –
Waterman , 2nd – Sparkman . Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,



Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk