

City Council Special Meeting Minutes
May 23, 2011

Mayor Samuelson opened the meeting at 3:00 PM. Present were City Council Members, Robert Gilman, Robert Waterman, Hal Seligson, Rene Neff and Fran Abel. Rene Neff. Also present was City Attorney Grant Weed and Director of Finance Debbie Mahler.

MOTION: To approve the agenda. Motion - Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. Motion carried.

OLD BUSINESS

MOTION: To adopt Resolution No. 732 providing for the submission to the Voters of the City of Langley, at a special election to be held August 16, 2011, of a proposition of whether the city should adopt the Council/Manager form of government; and requesting the Island County Auditor to conduct that special election. Motion - Gilman, 2nd - Neff. Motion passed unanimously.

Consideration of formation of pro/con committees. Nominees for the committees must be submitted to the Director of Finance/Clerk and forwarded to the Council by May 31st. The Council will appoint the members of each committee at the June 6th meeting and pro/con statements must be submitted to the Auditor by June 17th.

Draft ordinance setting Mayor's salary and benefits. Grant Weed, City Attorney, drafted at the request of the City Council, an ordinance revising the current ordinance setting the Mayor's salary and benefits. The current ordinance sets a base salary without benefits that can be changed to a higher salary with benefits if a plan of administration is brought forward and approved by the City Council. Discussion of average mayoral salaries, whether the jurisdictions have an administrator or not, etc. went on at length. Council will continue to review the issue of salary and bring their recommendations and rationale to the meeting on June 6th when the amended ordinance will be up for adoption. Jim Sundberg stated that he feels that to compare - many things must be looked at; the amount of skill required, the living wage for the area, the time involved, etc. Vance Tillman commented that anyone can say they will be full time, but if they decide to put in only part time after election, there is nothing the Council can do to lower the salary.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 4:30 PM. Motion – Waterman, 2nd – Seligson. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk
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