Mayor Fred McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Rene Neff, Bruce Allen, Thomas Gill, Robin Black and Jim Sundberg. Also present were Jeff Arango, Director of Planning; Stan Berryman, Public Works Director; Debbie Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk; and Dave Marks, Police Chief. The flag salute was led by Mayor McCarthy.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda as amended. The approval of the Arts Commission recommendations were added under new business and a Mayor’s Award of Excellence. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Gill. Motion carried.

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Neff. The consent agenda was approved.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 8/20/14, 9/11/14, 9/15/14 and 9/23/14.

b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 31950, EFT 9/26/14 & 9/04/14, 32373-32413 in the amount of $37,891.04.

c. Confirmation of the Mayor’s appointment of Collin Campbell to the Planning Advisory Board.

**RECOGNITION/APPRECIATION**

Mayor McCarthy presented a Mayor’s Award of Excellence to Earl Bangston, the developer of the Highlands at Langley, an environmentally friendly housing project. The Skagit County Builders Association also awarded the project.

**COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS**

a. Parks and Open Space Commission. Marianne Edain reported that the Commission discussed the Cascade Walkway and recommend that the City study all potential means of access to the Wharf/waterfront area which do not impair or detract from the public’s visual access to the sweeping and iconic view from the Cascade Avenue Walkway. They also advised that they feel the city should proceed with trying to acquire the Noble creek property. The Commission would like to install Capillary beds – gardens where native plants that are removed when doing development can be planted in temporarily and reused later. They want to establish volunteer work parties to remove plants and put them in the capillary beds. Mayor McCarthy met with South Whidbey Parks and Rec, the Port and Island County Parks department to find out if there is anything to be gained by working in collaboration. The Mayor put together a list of projects he felt should be priorities, met with President Nancy Rowan of the Commission for her input to the list.

b. Langley Library. Vicky Welfare, City Librarian thanked to Stan Berryman for getting the railing painting at library completed. They are looking forward to completion of trellis project over the doorway to the library. Library landscaping was redone by Main Street and should be easy to maintain. There is still a vacancy on the library board. This Thursday at 5:30 the library will have a
book group discussion. They will have a live music event celebrating singer/songwriters from the 70s this Friday. Exploring renewal energy options will be held on October 16th. Nancy Pearl will be at WICA to give book recommendations on Wednesday, November 5th at 10:30 AM. Wednesdays at 10 am is preschool story time.

c. Design Review Board. Jeff Arango reported that the Design Review Board has been reviewing signs and the commercial space redesign of the Kalakala Company. There is a vacancy on the DRB also for a Langley resident.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Callahan McVay thanked the council for all they do, and especially the great Second Street project which was completed on time. He also wanted to add his support for the Langley Lift project. He is in support of the project and thinks it will afford even better views. Callahan feels this is very viable for disabled, elderly and other people who would prefer not to walk up the steep hill. The Main Street golf cart has not worked very well in being the regular transport for people going up and down from the waterfront. Council members Sundberg and Black encouraged people to have open minds about the project and to let all people state their opinions without being attacked.

Gail Fleming stated that people are confused about the role of the Planning Advisory Board regarding the lift project. People thought the PAB meeting where it was discussed was a public hearing and that the PAB was making a decision that night. The final decision will be made by Council. There is still a lot to explore and there is no final design at this point. The Parks and Open Space Commission has two openings. Vance Tillman would like the Council to consider carefully before supporting I-594. He feels it has budget issues for the police department and transfer regulations that are unwieldy.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that monthly economic development sector for October is education. He will be visiting with schools, colleges, etc. during the month. The monthly networking luncheon last month was mail, postal service, and financial planning. It had 16 attendees. There are two business training classes planned on doing business in Langley and one on customer service. Social media training will be rescheduled for November and December. Use of Pinterest, video to promote business, Paypal, Square and Infusionsoft. The Mayor attended the latest substance abuse meetings. One was called by Helen Price Johnson, Island County Commissioner on crime and drug use. There was a meeting September 30th at Woodland Hall on Maxwellton area crime and drugs. They participants were appreciative of our Police Department and their help in the area. Mayor McCarthy invited all to attend the Substance Abuse Council meetings. The PAB meeting got a little heated. The City is listening to public comments, and it is not the City’s intention to push something on the public that they do not want. Council has been involved in three two hour meetings on their priorities and goals for the next year’s budget. Most things Council listed were incorporated into the draft Mayor’s budget. The City is dedicating a bench to Frank Sullivan behind City Hall on October 23rd at 4 PM and a will hold a small dedication service at that time.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Standard Practice suggestion for resolution requests – Mayor McCarthy presented a suggested standard that the City Council not take formal positions on matters that don’t directly involve the conduct of city business. He feels that if the Council takes positions at the Council level, it will divide the citizenry on
matters that will be decided at the State level. Consensus was to adopt the Standard of Practice as recommended by the Mayor.

NEW BUSINESS

Arts commission recommendations. Frank Rose, Chairman of the Arts Commission explained that they had three submissions for art for Second Street and they have recommended two of those. The artworks were viewed and two selected. November 1st is the day tentatively scheduled for installation of the sculptures.

**MOTION:** To accept the recommendation of the Arts Commission. Motion – Gill, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

The Mayor’s draft budget for 2015 was presented with a total of $5,892,169. The budget was considerably less than the previous two budgets which included many infrastructure upgrades that the City was unable to get funding for. Most of the priorities expressed by the Council in their workshops were incorporated into the budget draft.

**MOTION:** To bring to a first reading, an Ordinance relating to maintenance and demolition of historic structures in the CB district and the Langley municipal code amending the City Administration and Personnel code in Title 2, the Buildings and construction code contained in title 15 and the zoning code contained in Title 18. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion passed with all in favor.

**MOTION:** To bring to a first reading a Resolution amending the Land Use fee schedule. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Gill, Motion was approved without opposition.

**MOTION:** To bring to a first reading a Resolution amending the Municipal Code fee schedule. Motion – Gill, 2nd – Allen. Motion was approved unanimously.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Jim Sundberg has attended three meetings on Island Transit in the last month. They are also working on their budget, and could begin to build capital reserves in the next year. They are awaiting the official results of the Island Transit audit. The report should be out soon. Hopefully, Island Transit can expand services next year. Robin has attended the Snohomish County Leadership Council, and is the only Island member. There are no projects related to the Island happening this year. They expect about 30 hours per week of time, which is going to be a bit of a challenge while she is running her business. Projects are to be assigned November 6th. Thomas Gill commended the great construction of the drug abuse coalition; it has provide good resources to county and the city. He stated that he has a huge respect for the police department.
Meeting was adjourned at 7:51 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk