

**Langley City Council Meeting Minutes
November 16, 2015**

Mayor McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Thomas Gill, Jim Sundberg, and Bruce Allen. Robin Black and Rene Neff were out of town. Also present were Stan Berryman, Public Works Director; Michael Davolio, Planning Director; Charlie Liggett, Police officer and Debbie Mahler, Clerk/Finance Director. Mayor McCarthy led the flag salute.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. The Nelson annexation request was removed from the agenda. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Gill. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Gill. The consent agenda was approved with all in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 33906-33943 in the amount of \$25,192.09
- b. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 33766-33784 (10/15/15) in the amount of \$34,691.00 and Nos. 33842-33865 (10/31/15) in the amount of \$67,416.72

RECOGNITION/APPRECIATION

Larry Cort – Posthumous Mayor’s Excellence Award. There is a Celebration of Life for Larry scheduled for Tuesday, December 8th at 1 PM in Coupeville. Debbie will present the plaque and pin at that time.

Frank Rose- working on the arts master plan and will finish in January and bring to the Council for approval. They are building a consortium and when they have it together, will start a fund raising campaign. They plan to have artists build an archway on the lane next to the firehouse with the 2015 budget funds.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Sharon Emerson noticed that there is a fee increase built into the budget for sewer even though Pace Engineering is working on a rate study and the sewer comp plan and it will be ready in January. Jim Sundberg said that the existing rate increase follows the old plan and can be amended when the plan is complete. Jim assured Sharon that the rate study results will be studied well by Council.

PUBLIC HEARING - 2016 Preliminary Budget

Mayor McCarthy opened the public hearing at 5:50 PM. Debbie Mahler explained the few changes that have been made since the first draft of the budget. Street and water capital projects were discussed as well as utility rates and the need for building capital funds for infrastructure improvements. The hearing was closed at 6:05 PM.

STAFF REPORTS

Community Planning – Jack Lynch reported that the annexation request by the Nelsons has been withdrawn. They decided to stay in the County to keep the property basically intact. Jack presented a new Comp plan schedule. The PAB is working diligently on different components of the plan. Three public

hearings are coming up in the next 90 days for public input. The complete draft should be ready by February, at which time it will come to Council for review. The Shoreline Master Plan was recently updated and will be incorporated into the plan. Jack is working on getting the SeaTac/Whidbey shuttle wrap project going. The Design Review Board, Arts Commission and Chamber members are working on the design of the wrap. A new sign at 6th and Cascade will be placed soon about townhouses coming soon. Preliminary design for that comes to DRB this week. We received verbal notice from the State that we will receive another \$5,000 in growth management funds to complete the Comp Plan review.

Public Works – Stan Berryman reported that the electrical systems and generators have been checked and fixed out at the treatment plant. Public Works is prepared for the winter months. Asplandh has done trimming of trees around the power lines. Our snow plow has been mounted and tested and is ready to go. The tree at the Catholic Church has been banded with a steel cable where it split. It is a rare and huge native dogwood.

Police – Charlie Liggett reported that last week Officer Black located a stolen uhaul truck full of property from recent county burglaries. He encouraged residents and business owners to lock their doors and cars to prevent crimes of opportunity. He also encouraged people to check on any home bound neighbors this winter during cold times and power outages.

Finance – Debbie Mahler distributed monthly financial reports and graphs for the month of October. Debbie reported that the bi-annual audit is still ongoing. The auditors are planning to be done sometime around Thanksgiving. Debbie and Thomas Gill met with a representative from Whidbey Telecom last week about replacing the City’s antiquated phone system. A proposal should be forthcoming soon.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that a Rabbit Committee Meeting was held on the 27th of October. The resulting report will be presented on the 8th of December at 3 PM. It will be a collective statement of the problem and acceptable strategies that all are hopefully happy with. They are looking at non-lethal means of moving rabbits from under structures at fairgrounds and school. It will probably include some trapping and redistributing and old warrens filled up which will naturally decline their population.

The next Island County Substance Abuse Prevention Committee meeting is on 12-3-15. Thomas Gill will take over the chairmanship of that meeting when the Mayor’s term ends at the end of December. Less drug use by youth is being reported; the coalition’s work is making a difference.

A Strategic Priorities Update list was distributed and the progress discussed.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve the amended parking agreement with Langley Methodist Church pending legal review. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Gill. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Island Transportation Planning Organization inter-local agreement between Langley, Island County, Oak Harbor, Coupeville, Island Transit, Port of Coupeville, Port of South Whidbey, WSDOT and Island County EDC. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd- Allen. Motion was approved.

MOTION: To adopt Resolution 775 amending the Municipal Code Fee Schedule. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Gill. Motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance No. 1024 fixing the amount of Ad Valorem taxes to be collected in 2016. Motion - Gill, 2nd - Allen. Motion was passed unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

A list of Board and Commission openings and ending terms was distributed to Council.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Bruce Allen stated that the warming center at the Methodist Church opens whenever the temp gets below 35 degrees. Anyone under 18 needs to be accompanied by an adult. No one is allowed comes in or leaves after 8 PM, they are served dinner and breakfast the next morning and cots and bedding materials are provided. Jim Sundberg reported that Island Transit is undergoing its annual audit at this time also. Jim will be there for the audit entrance conference. They are selecting a recruiting firm to hire an executive director by April 1st of 2016. Their budget process will be complete in early December. Thomas Gill reported that Substance Abuse Coalition meeting is the 2nd of December, not the 3rd and the Library Board meets on December 1st.

Council went into Executive session to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency. Executive session began at 7:20 PM planned for approximately 60 minutes. Executive session ended at 8:15 PM. The regular meeting was adjourned at 8:16 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk