

**Langley City Council Meeting Minutes  
December 21, 2015**

Mayor McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:31 PM. Present were City Council Members Thomas Gill, Jim Sundberg, Bruce Allen, Robin Black and Rene Neff. Also present were Stan Berryman, Public Works Director; Dave Marks, Police Chief and Debbie Mahler, Clerk/Finance Director. Mayor McCarthy led the flag salute.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda. Motion - Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Black.  
Motion carried.

**MOTION:** To approve the consent agenda. Motion - Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Neff. Motion was approved by all.

**CONSENT AGENDA (See below)**

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 12-07-15
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 3402-34050 in the amount of \$49,022.83
- c. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 33886-33905 (11/15/15) in the amount of \$35,451.85 and Nos. 33944-33964 (11/30/15) in the amount of \$65,835.24
- d. Designation of Joann Hamick Quintana as chair to the Library Board
- e. Acceptance of Jay Hugret's resignation from the Library Board
- f. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Jeannie Miller to the Arts Commission
- g. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Kristy Korrow to the Planning Advisory Board
- h. Confirmation of the Mayor's re-appointment of Rene Neff and Cary Peterson to the Cemetery Board

**RECOGNITION/APPRECIATION**

Jim Sundberg – Appreciation for Council Service. Jim was awarded with a glass float for his service. Mayor McCarthy and each councilmember expressed their appreciation for Jim's work on the Council, with the Port and on the Island Transit Board.

Robin Black – Appreciation for Council Service – Robin has served on the Council from June 2014. She was also presented a glass float and the Mayor and Council expressed their thanks for all that she has done for the city.

Mayor Vincent F. Jones Plaque presented to Helen Price Johnson. Commissioner Helen Price Johnson's grandfather, Vincent F. Jones was mayor of Langley from 1958 to 1965. He was responsible for a downtown revitalization project, street sweeping, parades and other events. He passed away during his term of office. The City had previously honored him with a plaque which was placed on a sign at the entrance to Langley. Over time the sign disappeared. Mayor McCarthy had a new plaque made that will be installed in City Hall. Commissioner Johnson expressed her thanks and that this was very meaningful for her family.

Mayor's Excellence Certificate – Chamber Leadership – Nancy Rowan. Nancy was the former president of the Langley Chamber of Commerce and before that was a board member and the executive director.

Letter regarding Langley Fire Department Sign – Retired Langley Fire Chief Andy O'Keefe and Chief Rust Palmer had wanted the sign on the old firehouse to be placed in the District's memorabilia

room. Callahan McVay, the current tenant at the old firehouse, had looked into having a new made, but it would have been very costly. He feels, and the Chamber and Main Street also feel that the old sign is an iconic sign and brand for the Glassworks. Chief 's Palmer and O'Keefe have agreed that the sign will remain until occupancy changes at the old fire hall and then go to the Fire District 3 memorabilia room.

### **COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS**

Chamber of Commerce – Semi Annual report. Michaleen McGarry, chamber Director reported that the Chamber has designed and produced pamphlets on how to start a business in Langley, help for starting B & Bs and rental rooms and regarding the bike route from Clinton to Anacortes. They are working on the coming Mystery Weekend plans for February.

### **CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Susan Berta of the Whale Center presented Mayor McCarthy a certificate and key to their hearts, and a lifetime membership in the Langley Whale Center, for his work stopping ghost shrimping in Langley and presenting a key to the city to Lolita and for all his other work with the Whale Center and for the City.

John Norby suggested the City paint a sidewalk at the corner of First and Anthes.

### **STAFF REPOTS**

Public Works – Stan Berryman reported that he is working with Jack on elements of the Comp plan to update them. Utilities are in at the Upper Langley Development.

Police – Chief Marks reported that he met with Island Church who has agreed to be a shelter for residents during storms, etc. They do not have a generator for power outages. Rene Neff stated that St. Hubert's Church does have a generator and are willing to be a warming center although they do not have shower facilities. The Methodist Church does have a warming center that is open whenever the temperature is below 35. Ursula Shoudy announced that the Rod and Gun Club has been discussing becoming a warming center also. They have a very big space that would be available. During the windstorm on the 16<sup>th</sup> of December, the police department handled 14 calls. They were in constant communication with the Mayor, kept the Langley Police Facebook page updated during the storm to give people current information.

Finance – Debbie Mahler passed out revenue graphs for November. Debbie will be taking some vacation for the holidays and will be off until December 30<sup>th</sup>. Debbie reported that the city is getting a new phone system through Whidbey Telecom. They will be bringing in fiber to the building, replacing all phones and adding a few new ones, changing some phone lines. Installation will be just over \$800 and the monthly charges will save us a few dollars over what the city now pays.

### **MAYOR'S REPORT**

Mayor McCarthy reported that Rabbit Committee Meeting of December 8<sup>th</sup> had a variety of different views on the issue. Agreement to do a pilot program, joint task force flushing out rabbits, catching and relocating to other areas. Melene Thompson who manages the fairgrounds for the Port, said they are still considering having ferrets chasing rabbits from warrens and filling them in and then relocating rabbits. Langley rabbit Society wants to establish a sanctuary possibly on the fairgrounds for rabbits.

Final Strategic Priorities Update - 12-21-15. Mayor McCarthy updated Council members on the status of projects and priorities. The new Firehouse lease is almost complete, new phone system in the works, sewer comp plan almost finished and the rate study should be done in February, SeaTac Shuttle contract signed and in the works, annual employee evaluations are done, employees will be done by the

end of the year. The holiday economic development luncheon was a success. The Mayor and Mayor Elect, Tim Callison attended the final COG and ILLIO meetings of the year last week. Some projects still in the works are looking at amending the food van ordinance, the tree ordinance, sewer billing analysis, and a citizen guide to planning in the works. There is a tree out on Coles Road that is hanging over the roadway. The Mayor informed the property owner about the tree. A community planner position announcement is being published tomorrow. The Police Guild failed to negotiate new wages, so the Police officers will receive the same merit and cost of living increases as the rest of the staff for 2016.

Mayor McCarthy attended the Student Entrepreneurial Contest Recognition in Coupeville. The student winner ran an entrepreneurial business putting bark in yards. The holiday business networking luncheon was held on December 15, 2015 and was very well attended. Mayor-elect Callison and Mayor McCarthy have been working on transition activities. Tim Callison has had joint meetings with the Mayor and all department heads.

The Sustainable Whidbey Coalition has put itself out of business. They accomplished many things such as the Green Seal program, while they operated. They have \$2,474 left in their treasury which will be donated to the Beach Watchers organization. We have two openings on the Library Board and an alternate position on the Ethics Board. Request from Randi Perry, Utility Supervisor. Agreed to a modified work schedule when she had her baby. Has been working 34 hours instead of 40 hours per week. Approved for additional year.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** To approve the contract extension of Jack Lynch, Interim Planner thru February, 2016. Motion - Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Sundberg. Motion was unanimously approved.

A joint Council/Planning Advisory Board Meeting was set up for Wednesday January 13, 2016 from 3-5PM. Motion Allen, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

#### **NEW BUSINESS**

A draft job posting for the Community Planning Director was discussed. Changes were made and the announcement will be posted tomorrow.

**MOTION:** To accept the amended announcement. Motion - Neff, 2<sup>nd</sup> - Gill. Motion passed without opposition.

#### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Robin Black reported that Chamber has had many seasonal activities that were well attended in the last month. The Very Merry \$1,000 give away and Deck the Doors, and gift baskets were given out last weekend. The Port is going to do a launch count of boats at the wharf. Mukilteo parking negotiations are still ongoing. The Port's Clinton marketing study is in process. The windmill at the fairgrounds was damaged in the wind storm. It will not be replaced. The Port is discussing charging a small fee for crabbing from the dock. A special meeting was held last week to go over surveys on Clinton marketing and the Port will go over the results with the Clinton Council next week. The next Chamber meeting will be at the fairgrounds and Port Commissioner Ed Halloren will be a speaker.

Jim Sundberg reported that he and Bruce Allen attended the last board meeting of the year for Island Transit. They passed a budget, established capital funds for bus and van replacement, and set up contingency funds. They are also getting additional support for some runs from the State. Bruce Allen will be the City's member on the board next year. Island Transit has hired a recruiting firm that is looking for the executive director replacement.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk