

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes

December 7, 2015

Mayor McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Thomas Gill, Jim Sundberg, Robin Black, Bruce Allen and Rene Neff. Also present were Stan Berryman, Public Works Director; Jack Lynch, Temporary Planning Director; Dave Marks, Chief of Police, Doug Yormick, planning intern, City Attorney Rosa Frueling Watson, and Debbie Mahler, Clerk. Mayor McCarthy led the flag salute.

MOTION: To approve the agenda. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Black. Motion passed.

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

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 11/2/15, 11/16/15
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos.33787, EFT 11/3/15, 33965-33999 in the amount of \$61,435.1
- c. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Jay Hugret to the Library Board
- d. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Bruce Allen to the Island Transit Board

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

Ethics Training and Advisory Board – Bob Frause chairman reported that it is a very conscientious board that is working very hard. They have been working on finding principal values for the code and making proposed amendments to the ethics code. They are working on a confidentiality section for the code and procedures for dealing with ethics complaints. The board met earlier today, and will have a long (3 hr) meeting on January 25th to complete work on the code. They would like to have a joint work session with the council at some point. Currently, they meet from 5-6 PM on the 2nd and 4th Mondays of the month.

Library Report – Librarian Vicky Welfare reported that the Sno-Isle TedX event was received by thousands of people and very well appreciated. They have a new server upgrade at the Library so log-in's for computer use will change. They have a lot of exciting programs this month. Those programs are listed on their website. Vicky also mentioned that the library used to be powered by city's portable generator during power outages, but when the city got a grant to install a permanent wired in generator, it no longer powers their building. She asked if there is any way to bring the portable generator back to the library during outages. Public works will look into that issue and see if it is possible.

PRESENTATIONS

Downtown Parking analysis – Doug Yormick, Planning Intern presented his parking analysis with a short power point presentation.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Sharon Emerson reported that during the last power outage, the Whidbeytel Cyber Café accommodated people who needed a warm place to charge and use their electronics. She feels Langley needs to fund a similar center here. She stated that the City always finds money for things that are important. Bruce Allen informed her that the Langley Methodist Church is a warming center. Their friendship hall is open to anyone when the temperature is under 35 degrees, they serve a hot dinner, cots for sleeping with bedding and breakfast in the morning.

Walt Blackford, PSE representative and former City administrative assistant, said that we meet with the three churches in town several years ago to discuss this issue. None of the churches have a generator. Walt also explained the former “City Generator” as people often refer to it, was a generator leased by PSE and was there to provide backup when the power was down, when the lease was up, PSE did not renew because the generator did not have enough capacity to power the whole area. PSE then upgraded their lines and system to provide more reliable service.

A discussion ensued regarding the cost of a large generator and where one could go to house people during power outages and other disasters.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy shared the meeting agenda for tomorrow’s Rabbit Committee meeting. He also gave a report of the Island County Substance Abuse Prevention Committee meeting that took place on December 2nd. Thomas Gill was appointed as the new Chairman of that committee. The Mayor also distributed an updated strategic priorities list and went over the finished and pending projects. The sign at the old firehouse – The Fire Department had wanted the sign on the old building placed in their memorabilia area. Callahan McVay who runs the glass shop in the old firehouse got a bid to replace the sign that was very expensive. Main Street and the Historic Preservation Committee have weighed in and feel that it is very iconic sign and identifies the Glass shop and should remain.

Supervisor evaluations are taking place this month and supervisors will also evaluate their employees. There is a memorial for Larry Cort taking place in Coupeville tomorrow afternoon. Debbie Mahler will be attending for the City. Jim Sundberg stated that Larry Cort was a very good planner here in Langley, he had a PhD from a prestigious university in England and was very good at dealing with controversy. He moved on to Oak Harbor to head the project on Pioneer Way and then became their City Administrator. A plaque recognizing former Mayor Vincent F. Jones used to be at the entrance to the city. That was on private property and the sign is now gone. Mayor McCarthy ordered a new plaque to replace it. The Holiday Business Networking luncheon will be on the 15th of December. The Mayor elect has been meeting with each department head and participating in other transition activities with the Mayor.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Modified Six-Year Capital Projects Plan – Stan Berryman discussed the updated CIP and answered questions.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2016 FINAL BUDGET

Mayor McCarthy opened the public hearing at 6:45 PM. Debbie Mahler passed out new pages to update the budget. She explained that the only change was to move the amount of funds (\$5,000) budgeted for the Arts Commission this year, into 2016 as they will not finish the project they are working on until early next year. In cities where the Grow Washington organization operates, the cities have participated with them in some capacity when they set up in their jurisdictions. They are interested in doing something here in Langley. We do have funds budgeted in the planning department that could be used on this kind of

project. Debbie mentioned that the projected beginning balance of the general fund is \$344,197 and the ending balance is \$289,090 so the city has budgeted more expenditures than the yearly revenues will cover. She cautioned that while this is still a healthy carry over, the balance should not be reduced any farther. The public hearing was closed at 7:04 PM.

MOTION: To waive the first reading and adopt Ordinance 1025 adopting the 2016 budget in the amount of \$6,491,271. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Gill. Motion carried unanimously.

Posting of Council appointed position. Councilwoman Robin Black who was just re-elected, will be resigning her position at the first meeting in January. Debbie has prepared a posting for our website and the newspaper inviting people to apply for the position. The closing date is December 18th, interviews will be held at the December 21st meeting and the appointment made at that time. The new member will be sworn in at the first meeting in January.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve an agreement with SeaTac Shuttle for Tourism Promotion services in the amount of \$7,400 plus \$645 per month. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Sundberg. Motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION: To approve an agreement with Rosenkranz Productions in the amount of \$7,157 for graphic services design and installation on the SeaTac Shuttle. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Black. Motion was approved with all in favor.

MOTION: To approve the Tourism agreement with the Langley Chamber. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Sundberg. Motion carried with Robin Black abstaining as she is the Chamber Board President.

Mayor's Excellence Award for Mayor Nancy Conard of Coupeville. Mayor McCarthy explained that Nancy Conard has been a mentor mayor to him and very helpful during his term.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Thomas Gill reported that there will be a Library Board meeting at City Hall, tomorrow. The Board meets quarterly. Thomas thanked Fred McCarthy for his leadership on the Substance Abuse Coalition. Mayor McCarthy will be stepping down when his mayoral term ends on December 31st. Jim Sundberg reported that he attended several Transit Board meetings this month. They have hired a recruitment firm to find a new executive director. The current interim director will stay until April. They are continuing to discuss charging fares on inter-county routes. There will be public hearings and policies established for that if that is the direction they go in. Robin Black reported that the Chamber needs to be aware of any events in Langley so they can be posted on their website calendar. This coming Sunday the Chamber will be closed and will be closed on Sundays November through March. Robin is now president of the Chamber Board

and Nancy Rowan is vice president. Robin also reported that Western United States Agricultural Association is a new client of hers. They will help anyone who is exporting agricultural products and will give Grants up to \$350,000 to businesses to do so. Bruce Allen reminded everyone about the warming center at the Methodist Church. It has not received much use so far. Rene Neff reported that the Cemetery Board discussed at their last meeting the issue of the City being only partially in the cemetery business. Staff is currently researching what other cities with cemeteries do and the Board will make a recommendation to the Council for any needed changes.

Council went into executive session at 7:52 PM for approximately 30 minutes to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency, the governing body, or a member acting in 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 ended at 8:21 PM and the regular meeting was reconvened at that time.

MOTION: To accept Michael Davolio's letter of resignation effective December 7th for personal and professional reasons. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To approve a separation and severance agreement with Michael Davolio accepted by Mr. Davolio and signed by him on December 2nd. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion was approved without opposition.

Mayor McCarthy presented council with a draft job description and posting for the Community Planning position. He suggests it be posted in December and January and leave it open until filled. He asked for any comments or amendments council wants on the posting. Jack Lynch has been serving as interim planning director and his contract expires December 18th. Mayor McCarthy would like to contract with Jack for January and most or all of February while the city searches for a replacement and possibly to help the new hire get settled in. The Mayor will work up additional contract tomorrow to run thru February.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:36 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk