

**COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

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

MOTION: To approve the agenda. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda as amended. Motion - Gill, 2nd - Sundberg. The consent agenda was approved with all in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 12-18-14
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 32619-32656 and EFT 11/26/14 in the amount of \$30,852.02
- c. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 32514-32538 (11-15-14) in the amount of \$47,625.77 and Nos. 32578-32601 (11/30/14) in the amount of \$46,307.95

RECOGNITION/APPRECIATION

City Council Recognition. Mayor McCarthy gave Mayor's excellence awards to each Council member. Each member was given a City pin and the Mayor made a statement about each member's service activities.

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

- a. *Chamber of Commerce semi-annual report.* Mark Easterly reported the Tourism committee shows that Langley is up 5% from last year. The Chamber opened the Doghouse in January for the Djangofest. This fundraiser netted about \$1,500. The kiosk at the highway is supported by the Chamber and the Freeland Chamber. Since September the kiosk has generated over \$500 I revenue by placing business banners on the railings for marketing. Year to date visitors over last year is down one percent. In the peak season, June – September, we were up nine percent. The Chamber's website has been almost completed, the framework is done, and it has great potential to promote businesses in Langley. Nancy Rowan is the new Chamber Board President
 - a. *Arts Commission.* Frank Rose presented the proposed Arts Commission Guiding Principles and Visual Arts Collection Management Plan Policy and Procedures to the Council. Frank also

showed a concept picture of the new sculpture being produced by Sue Taves that the Arts Commission has recommended the city approve to replace the waves sculpture which has sold.

MOTION: To approve the Arts Commission's Guiding Principles, Rules of and Visual Arts Collection Management Plan Policy and Procedures. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried unanimously.

MOTION: To approve the new sculpture by Sue Taves to replace the sold sculpture on Second Street. Motion- Allen, 2nd - Gill. Motion was approved with all in favor.

- b. *Carolyn Tamler.* Carolyn held a workshop on “Shop Langley” and did a follow-up survey. About 25 business people attended the workshop. They came up with 13 points of high priorities. 50 people filled out surveys and each picked 5 of the priorities – Langley Main Street is working on a lot of these issues.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Dan Haldeman operates a business on Second Street. He stated that he found it unacceptable that the snow and ice on our streets and sidewalks were not removed in the last snowfall. Mayor McCarthy stated that we are now better prepared. Haldeman feels that it should not be the responsibility of property owners to have to clear the sidewalks. Stan Berryman stated that it is a very common practice for cities to require property owners to clear sidewalks. Kim Tiller of Whidbey Island Naturals also feels the snow and ice response should be better and thinks the city should look at the policy of having property owners clear sidewalks.

Fred Lundahl stated that as a business owner in town and a shuttle driver, he is a very strong supporter of the funicular concept. Especially with the proposed marina expansion, he feels it is very necessary. The Clipper ship and other tour services will not stop at the harbor at Langley unless there is transportation up the hill from the harbor. Brian Woloshin is very against the funicular and does not feel it is needed in Langley.

STAFF REPORTS

Public Works. Stan Berryman reported the grant for the ductless heat pumps for the library has been approved. It is from the Department of Commerce, for \$4,500 and PSE will also give a rebate. He is meeting with a Geo-tech engineer to look at Saratoga Road and do some monitoring on the slope. During the last power outage,

Rob Durr was here most of the night to keep the generators and pumps working at the treatment plant. Stan may ask WA DOT to re-evaluate road type designations in the city.

Police Department. Dave Marks reported that he appreciated the public works crew who came out after hours and helped with the storm response.

Finance Department. Debbie Mahler distributed November financial reports and revenue graphs. Sales taxes, hotel/motel taxes and real estate excise taxes are all up over last year. Debbie explained that the City has until the 20th of January to amend the 2014 budget. An amendment may be necessary to the street fund because of the overages in the Second Street project.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that the monthly economic development sector this month is transportation. He has been meeting with taxi services, etc. On Wednesday the 17th, the economic development luncheon will be held and the Community planner interviews are following that afternoon. There were seventeen applications, and three finalists to be interviewed. References have been checked and the finalist will be chosen after the interviews. Interviews will be at the Saratoga Inn as the City Hall meeting space will be in use. On January 7th the PAB and the County Planning Department are meeting regarding GMA and comp planning. A Food truck ordinance is being worked on. We currently have two applications for food trucks. The Mayor, Police Chief and City Clerk met and negotiated with the Police Guild last Wednesday from 3 PM and settled at 7:30 PM. We have a tentative agreement for three years, pending legal approval. Once our attorney has checked the agreement it will be brought before the Council for approval.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MOTION: To adopt Ordinance No. 1007 adopting the 2015 Budget in the amount of \$5,530,599. Motion -Neff, 2nd - Allen. Some language changes were made to the Mayor's budget message regarding the funicular project. Motion was passed with all in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Robin Black reported that leadership Snohomish County is going well. She is working with a partner in Oak Harbor on a pamphlet entitled "Weekend on Whidbey" that will promote the area and be available widely. Jim Sundberg took Mayor McCarthy up to Island Transit to see the facilities and meet the staff. He also attended a Port meeting where they announced the process for the recruitment of a replacement commissioner until the next election. The Port is also adopting their

budget for 2015. The Port is receiving good revenue from the marina. They are updating their master plan. Thomas Gill reported that the Library is very interested in upgrading the heating system. The Library Board is very interested in settling who is responsible for different maintenance issues.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk