

**Langley City Council Meeting Minutes
September 6, 2016**

Mayor Callison called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Present were City Council Members Bruce Allen, Ursula Shoudy and Dominique Emerson. Rene Neff arrived after start of meeting. Council member Thomas Gill was on vacation. Also present were Stan Berryman, Public Works Director; Dave Marks, Police Chief; Brigid Reynolds, Community Planner and Darlene Baldwin, Deputy Clerk. Mayor Callison led the flag salute.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. The closing of Seawall Park discussion was moved up in the agenda. Dog Park, Fireworks and Al Anderson was also added back into the agenda, under unfinished business. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Emerson. Motion carried.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda. Motion - Emerson, 2nd - Shoudy. Motion was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 8-15-16 Councilmember Emerson requested that the 8-15-16 meeting minutes be amended with a few additions.
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 35003-35028 and EFT 8/29 in the amount of \$37,987.29

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

Langley Library – Vicky Welfare, Librarian shared upcoming South Whidbey Fall Classes. Events being hosted at Langley Library for September and October are: September 9th - Write for It, September 19th - Knowing Your Strengths/Business Success, October 3rd – Are Your Goals Setting You Back? & October 10th – Ways to Finance a Business.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Seawall Park - Police-Chief Marks shared his concern for not being able to have legal backing for questioning those who are loitering at Seawall Park. In the past two weeks, he and his officers and Public Works staff have found 40 plus drug needles that needed to be disposed of properly for the safety of the community. This is a public safety concern for Chief Marks and he shared that Langley does not have the same rules that other local communities have regarding park hours. Chief Marks believes the difference in hours of operation is part of the increase of drug users at Seawall Park. Drug users are coming here and have found Seawall Park to be a good place to deal, shoot up and to have sex since they cannot be told to leave. There is also a problem with graffiti that does not represent our community in the best way possible.

Another concern with Seawall Park becoming a location for drug use is that if someone catches one of the buildings on fire that all of First Street could burn down. He is asking for a City code that establishes closing time for Seawall Park. Citizen Comments ensued for some time. Comments varied from yes on passing an ordinance to close parks during evening hours to comments that we need to find ways to help those who are using drugs.

Fred Lundal- Found needles himself and was told by customers that they didn't like graffiti. John Norby- shared some history of drug use in Langley. Jim Riley – didn't like the idea of turning over our freedom to use the park in evenings. Kim Dury – shared that there are disposal options for needles on ferries, should we also have those options in Langley? Connie Marcucci - we need to give police tools to do their job. Fran Abel - how does compassion and freedoms play into decisions around Seawall Park?

Council requested more time for discussion and review before making a decision.
Information Requested by Council:

1. Visit from Sheriff Mark Brown
2. Syringe disposal program info
3. How to cover graffiti
4. How will property be patrolled
5. Time to consider for park closing

Stan Berryman was also asked to fix two lights that are out at Seawall Park.

PUBLIC HEARING - 6 year Street Improvement Program 2017-2022

Mayor Callison opened up the public hearing for Citizen Input on the plan. Discussion and questions ensued for some time. Public Works Director Stan Berryman explained the projects on the plan. There were several comments from the public. Tom Fox asked for clarification if this is a plan or program. Kim Dury asked where is context and Ed Anderson asked for more specifics. Nancy Hepp submitted comments that local bicyclists have regarding the plan and lack of specifics. It was signed by herself and 9 others. Council comments and questions continued for some time.

Council requested a tour of projects sites with Stan Berryman, so they can have a better understanding of projects and what public money is being spent on. They asked for more details on projects and city contributions requested. Mayor shared that more details will come after the Comp Plan is finalized.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading a Resolution adopting the 2017-2022 Six Year TIP. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried.

STAFF REPORTING

Community Planning – Brigid Reynolds reported there is a meeting set up to talk with the community regarding First Street Improvements.

First Street Improvements - Community Conversation

Wednesday September 21st, 6:00pm to 7:30pm

Langley United Methodist Church - Fellowship Hall

First Seawall ad hoc committee meeting is set for September 27th, 5:30.

Public Works – Stan Berryman submitted Transportation Improvement Program for 2017-2022.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Tim Callison met with Captain Geoff Moore – Commander Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, and they talked about the effects the Naval Base has on the housing market. As of now, there are only 7 servicemen that live in Langley. There is a potential for more trickle down as people are pushed down the island from not enough housing options in Oak Harbor.

Mayor Tim Callison is part of the CHIP Affordable Housing Group. Out of the four areas of focus to pick from: Depression/suicide, violence, housing affordability and access to healthcare, the Mayor picked affordable housing as the committee he is going to be a part of. October 19th, 6-9 there will be a city event at Methodist Church focusing on affordable rentals/housing. There is a new screening process in place for House of Hope put together by Island County. Oak Harbor is creating a large shelter which will also help the homeless population.

Our Sewer Department earned the Wastewater Award again from the Department of Ecology for this year. There is work being done on creating a matrix that will help with codes for Air B&B's and rentals.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Fireworks - Dominique Emerson suggested the idea of one place for fireworks, people bring them and enjoy and then clean up. Bruce Allen shared that even with something like this is place there is going to be noise from outside of city limits along with local residence who are going to set off their own fireworks. Very difficult to police. Ursula Shoudy reminded us that there is already a law on the books for Langley's Fireworks code. An idea came up to be more proactive next year by getting the information out to the community on our fireworks policy. Doing this by putting together a pamphlet in June that also goes out to renters in the area during the July 4th holiday.

MOTION: To create a pamphlet and change times on the current ordinance. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Allen. 3 Yeses, Emerson-No. Motion carried.

Dog Park – Renee Neff brought up making a Dog Park in the trails behind Langley Middle School.

Light Bulbs for City of Langley Street Lights- Mayor Tim Callison shared there are two types of bulbs that PSE has that work with our street lights. Asking that community take a look at both lights to see which is preferred. Dominique Emerson-brought up Langley being a Dark Sky City. Rene Neff will investigate the criteria to be a DSC and will bring up with PAB

MOTION: To ask Parks and Open Space to survey monkey – lamps on street lights. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Allen. 3 Yeses, Allen abstained.

NEW BUSINESS

Confirmation of appointment of Mike Kenyon of Kenyon & Disend as city attorney

Mayor Tim Callison met with Mike Kenyon and recommended him. He will have time to devote to the City of Langley as well as he is willing to use paralegals to help keep our costs down.

MOTION: To approve Motion - Emerson, 2nd - Shoudy. Motion was unanimously approved.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that Island Shakespeare had 110 people attend from Oak Harbor this weekend. Dominique Emerson reported that the Port has planned a walk-through of the fairgrounds. Bruce Allen reported the HUB is hoping to reopen and is working on funding for that to happen. David White, poet will be doing a benefit for the HUB at United Methodist Church. Tickets to hear him read usually go for \$100.00 per ticket. For benefit tickets will be \$20.00 with all proceeds going to the HUB. Ursula Shoudy reported that DockStock was an amazing event. It was so good to see the Chamber of Langley, Port of SW and Rod & Gun Club all working together for a united cause. The responses from community and boaters were all positive.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

John Norby - Commented on that he believes Mayor Tim Callison and Debbie Mahler knew that Mayor Fred McCarthy shredded documents that John had requested. Mary Goldsbey & Debbie Zink concerned about noise coming from amplified music.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:15 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Darlene Baldwin, Deputy Clerk