Langley City Council Meeting Minutes  
August 5, 2013

Mayor Fred McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:36 PM. Present were City Council Members Jim Sundberg, Hal Seligson, Rene Neff, Doug Allderdice and Bruce Allen. Also present were Finance Director/Clerk, Debbie Mahler; Director of Planning, Jeff Arango; and Randy Heston, Chief of Police. The flag salute was led by Mayor McCarthy.

MOTION: To approve the agenda. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Allen. Motion was passed without opposition.

MOTION: To approve the Consent agenda. Motion - Seligson, 2nd - Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 7/15/13.

b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 30828, e-file 7/25/13, 30829-30859 in the amount of $52,509.43.

c. Resignations – Chief Heston, Bob Snyder.

LIBRARY REPORT

Librarian Vicky Welfare reported that the Library Board still needs a new library board member, but have had lots of applications. On the 19th of August there will be programs by the Pacific Science Center for ages 8 and above. The library has had very good attendance at this summer’s programs by both adults and children.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Leanne Finley of Windermere stated that the property where the Edgecliff Restaurant used to be can be many different things. It is an important economic part of Langley, and she would like to invite everyone to stop by one afternoon in September (date not determined yet), and refresh their memories about the property and the existing building, and learn about other potential uses that could be done there.

BOARD & COMMISSION REPORTS

Thomas Gill, Chair of the Planning Advisory Board reported that over the last year, the board has completed a lot of work. Some of the things that they have been working on are: the Shoreline Master Program; 2nd Street project design elements; commercial zone and residential buffers; Edgecliff rezoning; public zone amendments; comp plan amendments; marina lighting issues; amplified music in commercial zones adjacent to residential zones; tree ordinance and landscaping impacts; an arts commission proposal; parklets; design guideline revisions; discussion of Third Street extension; and a zoning and subdivision review.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Changes to Personnel Policies. Mayor McCarthy informed Council that several changes are to be made to the Personnel Policies. The current policy states that personnel records are locked in the Mayor's office. The Mayor does not have room in his office. The policy will be changed to say that the records will be kept locked in a cabinet. The Whistleblower provision will be amended to take out third party reporting to the State Auditor's office, as they do not have the authority to investigate city whistleblower claims. Lastly, the provisions regarding payment of workers' comp claims will be changed to match the changes made by the state legislature.

MOTION: To make the above revisions to the Personnel Policies M – Seligson, 2nd – Allen. Motion was approved with all in favor.

Snohomish County Leadership Scholarship. Rene Neff had asked if the Council could have their monthly stipends go into a donation for a scholarship fund and/or if the City could fund a scholarship to the Snohomish County Leadership Committee. Debbie asked the Auditor's help desk if this was possible. The City cannot do anything with the Council's monthly stipend except pay it to Councilmembers. If they want to donate their stipends, they can do so after they receive them. The City would not get a direct benefit from a scholarship to the committee and therefore, it would be considered a gift of public funds. Rene will look at other ways in the community for funding the scholarship.

Annual Building Inspection Discussion. Jeff Arango stated that Langley has had on the books since 1998 a law requiring annual building inspection of all multi-family and commercial buildings. This was only implemented for three years. There is a fee of $80 for the review. He is currently looking at whether to rescind, re-implement, or change this requirement as part of building department review since Bob Snyder has resigned. Jeff is meeting with a company on the small works roster that provides building department services, as the City may contract on an interim basis for that service.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's appointment of Maria Cablao as Public Works Director. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Seligson. Motion carried unanimously.

Possible workshop to discuss Police staffing. Mayor McCarthy thanked Chief Heston for his dedicated service to the city. He started with the city as a reserve officer, than a regular officer and two years ago, became Chief. An open house will be held on Wednesday, August 14th from 1 to 4 PM. Mayor suggested a workshop to discuss the department, staffing, filling the Chief's
role, etc. Wednesday, August 14th at 9:30 – 11:30 AM. Council members expressed their appreciation and gratitude to Chief Heston.

**Economic Development forum discussion.** Rene Neff proposed that the City sponsor a forum to find ways to draw young families, businesses and visitors to Langley and South Whidbey. The forum would gather ideas from citizens and groups such as Chamber, Main Street, the Schools, and other groups. Rene and Bruce will work together on organizing the forum.

**Langley Waterfront & Marina Master Plan.** Jeff reported that the Port is moving forward with updating the Marina Master plan and want to work with the City. Port Commissioner Chris Jerome stated that the Port needs an updated survey of the existing facility to ascertain its condition, repair/maintenance needs, and projected lifespan – the Port will likely budget this in 2014. Then we need to establish an understanding with the Port on what the next phase of development will be through an update of the Master Plan for the area and establish a new ILA with the City regarding future development of the marina. He feels the Master Plan could usefully encompass the entire waterfront area.

**Discussion of possible bond workshop.** The City will need between $700,000 and $750,000 to fund the city’s portion of the 2nd Street project. Mayor McCarthy presented preliminary figures from the bond underwriter for different amounts and terms for bonds and asked if the Council wanted to schedule a workshop on bonding. Council consensus was that the issue has been discussed and put into the budget and a workshop is unnecessary.

**MOTION:** To proceed with bonding in the amount of $750,000, with the main focus on the Second Street project and possible other small projects. Motion – Seligson, 2nd – Allen. Passed without opposition.

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

Mayor McCarthy reported that Bob Snyder has been with the city for nineteen years. At one time he filled in as land use coordinator, and was an interim Public Works Director. Bob will be working full time for the City of Bellevue as a plans examiner. Mayor McCarthy also reported on the progress of the Island County Fair strategic plan movement. The EDC will be in the lead role of writing and submitting a grant to fund the plan. They would like to have event coordination year around at the Fairground. The First Street property owner who is not happy with the restoration of the sidewalk in front of her building is getting an estimate from the original contractor of what it would cost to restore it to its previous condition. Fred will be meeting with her and her contractor to find a settlement of the issue.

A productive meeting with the Library Board was held last week. Mayor feels it still has a productive role to play; the board is very viable and important. There are five applicants for the openings on the Board. The drive out of the alleyway next to Joe’s Music onto the sidewalk has
been marked with paint so that vehicles will be cautious of pedestrians when driving through there. We have a volunteer mower at Seawall Park. The Feed the Children program is progressing; Fred will bring back a report on how many children are being fed. The Friday Market is going well. Our website has been updated to take utility payment online beginning August 15. We now have 150 email addresses for citizens, and are continuing to work on an email database. Twelve bags of cold patch were used on Edgecliff potholes last week.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that the Shakespeare Festival is off to good start, 450 people attended the first weekend. The cast and performances are great. A sign will go on the front of the bus barn with information about the festival.

MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:40 PM. Motion – Seligson, 2nd – Allen. Motion was approved.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk