Mayor Fred McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Rene Neff, Jim Sundberg, Hal Seligson, and Bruce Allen. Councilman Doug Allderdice was out of town and excused from the meeting. Also present were Finance Director/Clerk, Debbie Mahler; and Director of Public Works, Challis Stringer. The flag salute was led by Mayor McCarthy. The Consent agenda was approved after several questions from Council members.

**MOTION:** To approve the agenda. Motion – Rene Neff, 2nd – Hal Seligson. Motion was passed without opposition.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 2/19/13.
b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 29783-29784, e-file 2/28/13, 30233-30262 in the amount of $139,893.03.

**LIBRARY REPORT**

Vicky Welfare reported that the library has a new service for downloading e-books and audio materials. On Saturday they will hold a program on hiking in the Olympics, and for women’s history month, there will be two programs on the women of Langley history, and preschool story time every Thursday.

**CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Fred Luhndal of MainStreet Association announced that the electric shuttle arrived this weekend and was tested out in town. He will bring it to the next council meeting a half hour early to show council members.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

a. *Introduction and swearing in of Officer Hardin.* Officer Dave Marks introduced the Department’s new hire, Mitch Hardin. Mitch is a fully commissioned officer who previously worked in Michigan. Mitch’s wife, son and daughter were in attendance. Officer Hardin took his oath of office.

b. *Ethical Conduct Commission.* The Mayor will appoint members by the next Council meeting. No council members will be a part of the committee. The committee will make recommendations to the city council.
c. Addition of Veteran’s Outreach and non-discrimination for sexual orientation in Personnel Policies. These amendments will be added to the City’s Personnel policies. Mayor McCarthy thanked Hal Seligson for bringing up these issues.

NEW BUSINESS

a. Meet & Greet – Julie James, Langley Harbormaster. Curt Gordon of the South Whidbey Port Commission introduced Julie. Julie explained that one of the goals of the port is economic development. She wants to work with the City. The new loading ramp at the marina has been a great success. Julie is reaching out to the marina community and is planning marina events around local festivals and events. Council members asked her a few questions. Julie reported that she had a boat detailing business with her kids 25 yrs ago, has marine mechanics in the family, and worked at a marina on Bainbridge previously.

b. Discussion on the possible gaining of two vehicles, a 21 passenger bus and a 9 passenger van from the parks dept. Councilman Allen, who volunteers for the HUB, explained that the HUB has been offered these two vehicle from the Parks District and they would love to have them, but cannot afford to operate and maintain them alone. They would like the city to partner along with possible other non-profit agencies. Jim Sundberg stated that a plan would have to be worked up and staff would need to investigate the issue, the ownership, insurance, maintenance, storage, licensing requirements, etc. Staff will study the issue and report back.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Fred McCarthy thanked everyone in the community for welcoming him to the Mayor’s position. He has found city hall a very welcoming environment. He attended three meetings last week (COG, RTPO, Law & Justice Committee), has met for an hour with eight employees so far, each councilmember, and various community members. He has set up supervisory meetings every other week and is meeting with county commissioners and the county prosecutor. Mayor Nancy Conard, of Coupeville, is a friend and colleague and has agreed to be his Mayor mentor. Fred also reported that we are working on an expanded lease at the old fire hall.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene Neff reported that there was a clean-up day at the Cemetery last Saturday. A Second Street Market meeting and Main Street meeting are coming up. Jim Sundberg attended the Sustainable Whidbey Coalition monthly meeting. Their emphasis is on energy efficiency for businesses, increased solar insulations, and quarterly workshops on various sustainable topics. He wants the city to be a contributing member. The Island Transit Board meets once per month. The design of the intersection in front of the new maintenance facility is the big issue now, and the funding of it. The new maintenance
facility is huge compared to what they have existed in up until now. Their current facility is extremely small and cramped. They should be moving into the administrative headquarters portion in May. The maintenance portion of the building will take a little longer.

Bruce Allen reported that the HUB received a $1,200 check from St. Hubert’s women’s club. Has attended one meeting of the tourism board and is very excited about working with the group to expand tourism. There are now two full time cooks at the HUB, looking for two more. It is now open four days per week, will be five days per week by Fall. It is very successfully helping kids without resources to food for their families and other help. Hal Seligson reported that he would like to have all city boards and committees report to the city council on a regular basis. He toured the bluffs below Edgecliff and Wharf Street and took a look at the slides that are happening. He feels the problem is worth reviewing. The Economic Development Council is discussing diversifying the economy. He has proposed a light industrial zone and would like to work with the Port on this issue. Hal also wants to pursue Chief Heston’s ideas for further security at the schools. He also wants to look at marijuana issues in the near future along with looking at stability and regulations regarding bluffs and watersheds and sewer connections.

Challis reported that the First Street water line project is progressing well. The bacteriological tests on the line between Wharf and Anthes came back this morning and all was well, so they will be hooking up to the new line in that area.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

Mayor McCarthy called an executive session at 6:59 PM for approximately 30 minutes to discuss the performance of a public employee.

The executive session ended at 7:33 PM, the regular meeting reconvened and adjourned at 7:34 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk