Langley City Council Meeting Minutes
October 15, 2012

Mayor Kwarsick called the meeting to order at 5:35 PM. Present were Council Members Neff, Allen, Sundberg and Allderdice. Councilman Seligson was ill and excused from the meeting. Also present was Police Chief Randy Heston and Director of Finance/City Clerk Debbie Mahler. The consent agenda was approved.

CONSENT AGENDA

b. Claims Warrants Nos. 29686-29723 in the amount of $237,524.50
c. Payroll warrants Nos. 29577-29600 & direct deposit (9/15/12) $48,428.43
   and Nos. 29663-29684 (9/30/12) $45,382.27.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

There were no comments at this time.

STAFF REPORTS

Randy Heston reported he is working on a traffic safety grant for equipment for next year through the Washington Traffic Safety Commission.

Thomas Gill reported that the PAB went over the public zone amendments, got feedback on the commercial zones abutting residential zones, and is continuing to work on the issue.

Debbie Mahler reported that she has received the first draft of the municipal code which must be proofed and returned within 90 days. There were several pages of questions and items to check and that is being reviewed now. The September financial reports will be in council boxes later in the week.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor Kwarsick reported that Challis has prepared and submitted the Rural Mobility Grant application for Sunday Bus Service. The Port of South Whidbey is a co-applicant. If we receive the grant, we may be able to partner with other entities such as the Port of Mukilteo. We should hear something on our application by December. The Port would buy the property for the parking, city would run the transit. The City would be purchasing a 15 passenger van that doesn’t require a commercial driver’s license.
UNFINISHED BUSINESS

Police Officer – lateral hire – School Resource Officer. Mayor Kwarsick presented the Council with a memo regarding the School Resource Officer (SRO) program. Chief Heston stated that when we hire the fourth officer, if we hire an untrained officer, they have to be sent to the academy for training for almost six months which is a cost of $4-5,000 and the officer’s salary during that time must also be paid. After the academy they must ride with a field training officer for several months. It can be a year or longer before they are a regular member of the crew. A lateral hire is an already trained and working police officer, who would make a higher starting wage, but would be ready to work immediately and with no training costs. The SRO would be an additional duty. The school is very supportive of this and is willing to provide an office for the SRO. This is a preventative, proactive and supportive program. Council approved beginning the hiring process for a lateral officer and adding SRO duties to the department.

MOTION: To make a lateral hire for the fourth officer and add SRO duties to the department.
Motion: Neff, 2nd – Allen. Motion carried with unanimous support.

2013 COLA. A 2.8% cost of living increase is proposed for 2013. This would cost a total of $19,740. Of that amount, $12,466 is from the general fund and $7,274 from the public works funds. Council wants to continue discussion of a possible COLA before making a decision.

2013 Budget hearing dates and Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) presentation. The first public hearing on the major revenues for 2013 and the preliminary budget is scheduled for the next meeting on November 5th. The CIP presentation will be at that time also or in a budget workshop. A second public hearing on the final budget is scheduled for the following meeting on November 19th. The property tax levy must be set by this meeting. The budget hearing can be continued to December 3rd, if necessary. The budget can be passed following the final budget hearing and no later than the December 17th meeting.

2013 Tourism funding. After the obligations to the County-wide interlocal for tourism, Chamber, and WICA appropriations, there is up to $15,000 that can be allocated for promotion of tourism. Mayor Kwarsick has developed an application program for this funding.

MOTION: To move forward and advertise the tourism funding application process. M – Allen, 2nd
NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Tucker Stevens to the Civil Service Commission. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd - Allen. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To approve the 2013 Small Works and Consultant Roster Service with MRSC. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Allderdice. Motion was unanimously approved.

MOTION: To waive the two reading requirement and adopt Resolution No. 750 Recognizing and honoring the many contributions made by Sno-Isle Libraries for the past 50 years. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

Rene Neff reported that a group of people is doing a documentary on sustainability in communities. They are making a trailer to get funding, and are interviewing Rene, Eddies on Whidbey and other locals. They are adding elect vehicle charging stations, golf carts, the 2nd St market, farm to table programs, and the Sustainable Whidbey Coalition. MainStreet has decorated the City for Fall and will have a door decorating program for Christmas; a big Christmas tree lighting between the gallery and Doghouse on First Street. The Langley Loop video has been put on UTube. Rene is pushing for a big release promotion. The South Whidbey Record office is moving into the Langley Village.

Jim Sundberg reported that he is attending joint tourism committee meetings. The Whidbey Camano Islands.com website is spending over $200,000 per year to promote tourism on the Island. The Langley Green Seal program is having an annual get-together later this month for all members. Rene rode Port Townsend ferry earlier today and said the Whidbey Camano Islands.com have an amazing display on Port Townsend and Coupeville on the boat. She asked if there was anything similar for this area.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk