Langley City Council Meeting Minutes  
April 1, 2013

Mayor Fred McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Jim Sundberg, Hal Seligson, and Bruce Allen. Council Member Rene Neff skyped in to the meeting from Orcas Island. Councilman Doug Allderdice was out of town and excused from the meeting. Also present were Finance Director/Clerk, Debbie Mahler; Director of Planning, Jeff Arango; Chief of Police Heston; 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 as amended. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Sundberg. A Resolution setting a policy paying for meals and business expenses was added and confirmation of a Mayor’s appointment. Motion was passed without opposition.

CONSENT AGENDA

b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 29785-29788, 30321, e-file 3/27/13, 30346-30375 in the amount of $33,216.08.

RECOGNITION

Mayor McCarthy recognized Thomas Gill for all the work he has done for the City as a volunteer IT manager. Fred detailed all of Thomas’s accomplishments in the last four years. A Certificate of Appreciation was presented to Thomas.

Mayor McCarthy thanked Challis Stringer for her ten years of dedicated work for the city, and also thanked her husband Ed Stringer for his help in transporting people during the slide. Challis has accepted a position in the City of Mukilteo and her last day with Langley will be on April 9.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor’s appointment of Dr. John Plakos to the Ethics Commission. Motion - Seligson, 2nd - Allen. Motion was unanimously approved.

LIBRARY REPORT

Librarian Vicky Welfare reported that programs for April include a Tom Trimbath presentation on “12 months at Double Bluff”, Dr. Craig Weiner’s Science of Happiness,
and a meet the Whidbey Reads ("West of Here") author, Jonathon Evison, as well as Preschool Storey time.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Robin Adams asked if there would be a geological investigation of the bluff slide on Cascade. Challis explained that we had an expert out on Saturday morning to investigate the slide. He has produced a report and coconut fiber and pins have been put in place. He will provide a further scope of work. Jonathon Moses stated that the code allows density increases on Edgecliff if sewers are put in and with the bluff problems that may not be a good idea. Jeff Arango reported that the PAB has discussed this issue and recommended a down zoning that has not been brought forward yet. Jeff will bring this issue forward at a future council meeting.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve the application from Mo's Pub & Eatery for amplified music 8 – 11 PM on May 25, 2013. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd - Allen. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To confirm the Mayor's appointment of Roger Gage to an additional term on the Planning Advisory Board and Aaron Simpson to a term on the PAB as an alternate member. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Sundberg. Motion passed unanimously.

Comprehensive Plan Graphics. Jeff Arango, City Planning Director, presented proposed updated graphics to be included in the Comprehensive Plan update that is the subject of a PAB public hearing on April 3rd. The graphics illustrate the important capital projects that are planned for the next six years. Jeff gave a detailed description of each of those capital projects and explained the graphics.

MOTION: To waive the first reading requirement and approve Resolution No. 753 establishing a policy for paying for meals and incidental business expenses. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd - Allen. Motion carried with Councilman Seligson abstaining.

Discussion of City sponsored bluff seminar. Rene has talked with people who do bluff education seminars who would be willing to put on workshops on this issue. She thinks it is important to do public forums on bluff stability and how to care for the bluffs. This
would be an expense to the city. Mayor McCarthy suggested that there are other sources of training and education that would not be a cost to the city. Rene also suggested a walk of the bluff areas with Todd Graves who is presently working on shoring up the slide area. Jeff will do some research on speakers who would be available within a month’s time.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that the Ethic’s Commission now has nine members and Debbie Mahler as staff to the commission. The Mayor proposes to have the first workshop with department heads, council and with a speaker, John McFarland on “Ethics in Municipal Government.” The Mayor will also speak on ethics codes and samples of other codes will be provided. In the second discussions about pragmatic issues that affect the commission, i.e. dates and times of meetings, who does what, what is to be covered, will take place.

On the 27th of March, Fred attended four different county meetings. He attended the Council of Governments, the Regional Transportation Policy Organization, the Law and Justice Committee, and the Sustainable Whidbey Coalition. Fred’s priorities over next two weeks will be to make a decision on an interim or permanent placement of the Public Works Director, and prioritizing council requests for action. Fred has produced a form that lists each Council member’s requests. Rene Neff suggested holding a special workshop to discuss these issues. All members agreed that a Council workshop within the next two months would be good.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Rene reported that she attended a Cemetery Board meeting. Jim attended Sustainable Whidbey who does the Green seal program to encourage sustainable, energy saving practices for businesses, the buy local program, and business and residential energy audits. Bruce Allen is attending the County-wide tourism committee meetings. He is trying to get one of their meetings scheduled in Langley next year. An “Edible Book” benefit was held for the HUB and it raised $900.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

a. *Tourism Funding.* Rene Neff was on a committee to select projects for funding for tourism promotion. The committee funded three projects for a total cost of $10,000. We still have an additional $5,000 for funding. Rene asked that we open up the applications again and make further funding with a new committee. Hal Seligson and Bruce Allen both volunteered to be on the committee with Debbie Mahler. Debbie will get the application back up on the website and advertise.
EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor McCarthy called an executive session at 7:50 PM for approximately 45 minutes to discuss the performance of public employees. Motion – Sundberg, 2nd – Allen.

The executive session ended at 8:23 PM, the regular meeting reconvened and adjourned at 8:25 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

[Signature]

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/Clerk