Mayor Pro-Tem Seligson called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were Council Members Neff, Allen, Seligson, Sundberg and Allderdice. Also present was Director of Planning, Jeff Arango; Public Works Director, Challis Stringer; Police Chief, Randy Heston; and Director of Finance/City Clerk Debbie Mahler. The flag salute was led by Hal Seligson. The consent agenda was approved after questions on the vouchers were asked and answered. Discussion of the interim mayoral application process was added.

CONSENT AGENDA

a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 2-1—13, 2-4-13 & 2-13-13
b. Approval of claims warrants in the amount of $36,210.99
c. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 29839-29859 & direct deposit (11/15/12) $45,714.10 and Nos. 30046--30067 & direct deposit (1/15/13) $50,332.97 and Nos. 30099-30118 and direct deposit (1/31/13) in the amount of $46,538.04

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Robin Adams asked what the time frame is for establishing the Ethics committee. Hal Seligson explained that this would be decided at the next meeting.

SELECTION OF INTERIM MAYOR

Council Members Seligson and Allen recused themselves and moved into the audience with the other applicants. Jim Sundberg acted as chair person. Jim Sundberg read the rules established by the council for the selection. Jim Sundberg disclosed that Edwin Anderson had been his campaign manager when he was running for his Council seat and that Ed and his wife donated $50 to Jim’s campaign. He stated that this does not preclude him from carrying out his present duties a year and a half later on City Council, which he will continue to do with honesty and care for the best interests of the City of Langley. Rene Neff also disclosed that while she was a South Whidbey school teacher, that Fred McCarthy was the Superintendent, and that does not preclude her carrying out her duties in a fair and honest manner. The three voting members asked six questions of each applicant (Hal Seligson, Bruce Allen, Thomas Gill, Edwin Anderson, and Fred McCarthy).

Jim Sundberg recessed the meeting for a five minute break at 7:10. The meeting reconvened at 7:15 PM.

Each council member submitted their vote in writing. The clerk read the voting. Neff and Sundberg voted for Fred McCarthy. Doug Allderdice voted for Hal Seligson. Majority vote was for Fred McCarthy. Fred McCarthy was then sworn in by Debbie Mahler and took his place at the Council table. Mr. McCarthy chaired the remainder of the meeting.
STAFF REPORTS

Chief Heston reported on the hiring process for the fourth officer. He explained the interview process, the background checks, testing, etc. Randy has selected a candidate who is now undergoing pre-employment testing and if all goes as expected, he will be asking for his confirmation at the next meeting.

Challis Stringer reported that a dive team did an inspection of our sewer outfall. The new electric vehicle charging stations are up and running. The 1st Street waterline work is going well. The water system was flushed last week. Flushing took two 15 hour days and one 5 hour day. Public works may do another flushing in October. Camano Avenue was ponding during heavy rain. It turned out to be caused by a root through a 12 inch line that blocked the line completely. The line was dug up and cleaned out. There is now no ponding during heavy rainfall. The First Street contractor will have all equipment off of the Street and cleaned up by Friday before Mystery Weekend begins.

Jeff Arango reported that the PAB has scheduled a public hearing March 6 on the Shoreline Comp Plan. There will also be a comp plan amendments public hearing in April. Staff is working on a realistic way to fund the undergrounding of utilities on the Second Street project. Jeff also reported that city and Port staff met on the proposed lighting plan, which went well. The will have some higher lights along with LED lighting near the boat slips. The Port was happy with the outcome of the process.

MAYOR’S REPORT

Fred McCarthy reported that he is very happy to have this opportunity to serve the City and he appreciated the other applicants and their service to the City. He believes we have an exciting future before us. Mr. McCarthy stated that all are welcomed to contact him and invited all questions. He is looking forward to a positive transition into this role. He is deeply honored and thanked the Council for their confidence in him.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To approve the Grant Agreement with Island County for the acquisition of a conservation easement on the Noble Property with conservation futures funds. Motion – Allen, 2nd – Neff. Motion carried with all in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Jim Sundberg reported that he is on the Transit Board and attended the monthly meeting last week. The most interesting issue that is being discussed is how to have a second entrance to the big, new Island Transit maintenance facility without causing a traffic problem. Planning is moving along, but they are still looking for funding.
MOTION: To adjourn the meeting at 7:54 PM. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Allderdice. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk