

Langley City Council Meeting Minutes
May 19, 2014

Mayor Fred McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Jim Sundberg, Thomas Gill, Rene Neff, and Margot Jerome. Bruce Allen was absent. Also present were Finance Director/Clerk, Debbie Mahler; Public Works Director, Stan Berryman; and Chief of Police Marks. 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 – Neff, 2nd – Sundberg. Motion was passed without opposition.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 5/05/14.
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 31848-31890 in the amount of \$37,250.85
- c. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 31717-31740 & direct deposit (4-15-14) in the amount of \$48,647.84 and Nos. 31777-31800 & direct deposit (4-30-14) in the amount of \$48,922.76
- d. Resignation of Parks Commission Member
- e. Confirmation of appointment of Christine Nyuburg Epstein and Frances Johnson to the Cemetery Board

MOTION: To approve consent agenda. Motion – Gill, 2nd - Jerome. Approved without opposition.

RECONGNITION/APPRECIATION

South Whidbey Parks – Kids to Parks Month Recognition. Mayor McCarthy presented an award to Doug Coutts, South Whidbey Parks Director for this program and the outstanding parks facilities.

Mayor McCarthy thanked Councilwoman Jerome for her service to the council and gave her a starfish topped glass ball blown at the Firehouse Gallery. Each Councilmember thanked Margot and wished her well in her move.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Charlie Kleiner owner of the Doghouse asked the Council to amend the six month moratorium on demolishing historic buildings. He feels that the city was notified that if they did not receive a permit to remodel the building, they would have to rebuild. He doesn't feel that it will take six months to study regulations on this. He feels this is punitive. He asked that the moratorium be reduced to 30 days. Jeff explained that the moratorium is for up to six months and we are already

14 days into it. If regulations are to be adopted and a public hearing held, it would take longer than another 15 days.

Laurie McNeil spoke about the workshop presentation last week of preliminary plans for development on First Street. Her building will lose view and be significantly impacted by the proposed development. She encouraged everyone to think about whether the height of a three story high building is appropriate in Langley.

INTERVIEWS FOR CITY COUNCIL OPEN POSITION

Tim Callison, Robin Black and Sharon Emerson were asked interview questions by the City Councilmembers. Each candidate was asked the same eight questions.

MOTION: To go into Executive Session at 6:25 PM for approximately 15 minutes to discuss the qualifications of applicants. No decisions will be made in executive session. Motion – Neff, 2nd - Jerome. Motion carried.

The executive session was adjourned and the regular session was reconvened at 6:40 PM.

MOTION: To nominate Sharon Emerson as the Council replacement for Councilmember Jerome. Motion – Neff, 2nd - Gill. Motion was tied. Robin Black was nominated by Margot Jerome, 2nd by Jim Sundberg and the vote was also tied 2-2. Mayor McCarthy broke the tie by voting for Robin Black. Robin will be sworn in at the next council meeting. Tonight is Councilmember Jerome's last meeting.

STAFF REPORTS

Jeff Arango - Community Planning. Jeff reported that Second Street is on schedule should be done the 2nd week of June. The intersection of Cascade and 2nd will be closed this weekend in anticipation of asphaltting early next week. Jeff explained that a design change was made on the plaza that will save about \$7,500 and also save in long term maintenance. The rain garden and trees were planted, some electrical work and signage, markers and concrete scoring are still to be done. Main Street will soon be working on the landscaping. The Arts Commission applicant interviews are done, and the commission will start working on selecting art work for the project in the near future. The Planning Advisory Board (PAB) had a public hearing on code changes last week, tree and landscaping standards. The PAB is recommending those code changes to the council. The revisions are to be studied by the city attorney at this point. Jeff also reported that a public hearing on the moratorium will be scheduled in the near future. Jeff will continue the

height discussion for the proposed First Street development with PAB. The City has a finalized design of the new city website and the company is starting migration of the content.

Public Works. Stan Berryman reported that public works has reconfigured ditches around town to improve drainage. Road striping and curb painting has been done. Pioneer tree service will be trimming the bluffs soon. The solar flashing speed signs we are receiving from the county will also be going up soon. Stan has ordered a large public restroom sign that will be visible from Second Street. The city has gone out to bid to replace the old city backhoe. Stan has also ordered 72 copper caps for the Seawall stairs.

Police. Acting Chief Marks reported that he is working on creating a simplified emergency response plan for each council member and for city departments. It will have a quick reference that will be easy to understand and reference. Officers have completed all their training requirements for the year. Dave will be going to SERT training tomorrow.

Finance. Debbie Mahler passed out revenue graphs and monthly reports. Debbie reported that she is finishing her annual reports to the State Auditor which are due by the end of the month. She also reported that the Municipal Code has been updated online. There are just a few more recent ordinances to be codified and the print edition will be updated in August.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that he is conducting personal interviews this Thursday with the top three civil service board certified candidates for police chief. Mayor is very pleased with the quality of the applicants. The suggested date for the ribbon cutting on Second Street is Wednesday, July 9, 2014 at 10 AM to 12 PM. Mayor passed out the council's goals established at the beginning of the year and looked at those that have been met and are in progress. A targeted marketing is going out to IT/knowledge workers to recruit them to Langley. D Day Remembrance is June 6th. Successful workshops in social media and business planning have been held. Attendance has been quite good for the different business sector luncheon/workshops. Social media training for small businesses will be held again soon. Mayor McCarthy is continuing to follow business growth in the city. The Second Street project is moving along and other street overlay projects are on track for later this year. Library painting will be in July and the city restrooms and Chamber been painted already. Island Events Center committee has finished their work and passed it on to the County. Mayor McCarthy informed the Council that the Record published a very nice article about the kids from the HUB cleaning up the Boy & Dog park. He met with the Veterans' Association today to plan events for D Day. The workshop meeting held a week earlier with Mr. Francisco was discussed. Jim Sundberg stated he needed more financial information. Thomas Gill said he is concerned and needs further information, has heard positive and negative comments. Has no opinion at this time, still gathering info.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, Ordinance No. 1000 Amending Langley Municipal Code Chapter 1.24 Ethical Conduct, and Ordinance Nos. 994 & 998b. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Jerome. Motion was unanimously approved.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, Ordinance No. 1001 establishing licensing requirements and fees for temporary public markets in Title 5 of the Langley Municipal Code. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd - Jerome. Motion carried with all in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Margot Jerome, Bruce Allen and Thomas Gill attended Island Transit's ribbon cutting last Saturday. Margot attended an economic development conference at her own expense last week. She stated that it was an outstanding meeting. Thomas Gill was very impressed with Island Transit's new maintenance facility. Tuesday the 3rd at 4:30 is the Library Board meeting. It will be their second quarterly meeting of the year.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk