Langley City Council Meeting Minutes  
February 6, 2012

Mayor Kwarsick called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were City Council Members Hal Seligson, Rene Neff, Jim Sundberg and Bruce Allen. Doug Alderdice was absent. Also present was Director of Finance/City Clerk, Debbie Mahler, Planner Jeff Arango and Director of Public Works, Challis Stringer. The flag salute was led by Mayor Kwarsick.

**MOTION:** To excuse Doug Alderdice’s absence. Motion - Seligson, 2nd – Allen. Motion carried unanimously.

**MOTION:** To approve the Consent Agenda as amended. The Liquor licenses were removed from the consent agenda and placed in new business. Motion - Seligson, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried unanimously after Council members Sundberg and Seligson asked several questions about the vouchers.

**CONSENT AGENDA**


b. Claims Warrants Nos. 2870—28704, E-file 1/24, 28787-28819 in the amount of $35,302.82

c. Approval of the agenda.

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**MOTION:** To adopt ordinance No. 968 relating to the operation of golf carts; amending the city code to establish a golf cart zone; adopting regulations related to the use of golf carts within the golf cart zone. Motion - Sundberg, 2nd - Seligson. Motion carried unanimously.

Tom Lindsay of Waterworks gave a presentation on his proposal for a waterworks museum at the old fire hall. South Whidbey Parks and Rec may also be interested in participating in this idea. Acquiring grants and fund raising would need to done to keep something like this going into the future, but it would draw children and families to Langley and South Whidbey.

**MOTION:** To submit a grant request in conjunction with the South Whidbey Parks and Rec District for this project. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Allen. Motion carried with all members in favor.

*Municipal Code Services.* Challis Stringer, Public Works Director reported that staff has looked at several companies that do municipal code publishing and have found that costs
are similar between the different companies, but the company that fits best with the staff’s ideas of what is important when using a web based code was Code Publishing, Inc, a Seattle company. They also seemed to be very easy to work with. Council consensus was to go forward with re-codification with Code Publishing.

NEW BUSINESS

**MOTION:** To bring to a first reading, an Ordinance adopting a demonstration program for mixed use housing and affordable housing units. Motion - Seligson, 2nd - Allen. Cary Peterson owns property with three other partners on Al Anderson Avenue who are very interested in doing an affordable housing project under this program. Cary explained that their project would have a youth component. Chris, one of Cary’s partners explained that they would be recycling trees, milling wood to be used in the housing, using tree stumps for mushroom harvest, etc. Mary Jo McArdle asked that things such as our utility rates be reviewed also to make the living affordable once the home is procured. Motion passed with all in favor.

**MOTION:** To waive the two reading requirement and adopt Resolution No. 940 regarding compensation for police officers and to authorize the Mayor to enter into the contract with the Police Guild. Motion – Allen, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried unanimously.

*Liquor License renewals.* Jeff Arango explained that ultimate approval of a liquor license is up to the WA State Liquor Control Board. The City’s approval or objection is a recommendation to the Liquor control Board. The City may only object to a renewal if there is ongoing criminal activity or breaking of alcohol laws. All renewals are for licenses expiring in April of this year. The Star Store, the Inn at Langley, and Mo’s Pub and Eatery. There were no objections to the renewal of licenses at the Star Store and the Inn. Councilman Allen then recuses himself due to his working relationship with Mo’s. There were no objections to renewal of Mo’s license.

*Appointment to the Island County Tourism Board.* Fran Abel was the City’s prior representative. Mayor Kvarsick appointed Jim Sundberg as the City’s new representative to that Board. Council concurred with the appointment.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ellen Blendheim of Mountain View Lane stated that she has had her property since 1972 and has asked several times over the years to have her street paved. She stated that it is the only unpaved street left in Langley. She asked that the City consider paving it. Mayor Kvarsick explained that most of our paving or resurfacing is based on grant funding. Grant funding is based on the type of road and because this is a small dead end residential
street and not an interceptor or major arterial, grant funding is not possible. Mayor and Council will look at how something can be done or some kind of alternative.

Kay Lagerquist stated that she feels that Mo’s Pub’s location is in violation of our zoning codes and has greatly impacted the residential neighborhood on Second Street. She feels it has also devalued her home and impacted parking. Mayor Kwarsick said there have been unintended consequences such as the impact on parking, but no code violation. Jeff Arango explained that Mo’s is not a cocktail lounge or a tavern, but is a very successful restaurant with a bar in it. Jeff has some ideas for fixing parking issues and providing pedestrian ways. Mayor Kwarsick and Jeff will work to find ways to mitigate impacts. Victoria Locke Carty also lives in the area and would like to work with the city to find some solutions to the impacts. Rene Neff, Bruce Allen, Maureen Cooke the owner of Mo’s and several neighbors will work to find solutions to the issue.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Kwarsick reported that interviews have been conducted with half of the engineering firms for the design of 2nd Street. There is a public hearing in Clinton regarding the Mukilteo ferry landing changes on Thursday Feb 23rd. The Mayor, Jeff and Challis are going to visit Mukilteo and discuss parking issues, etc. with the Mayor and Mukilteo staff. Curt Gordon from the Port is also going to attend. In March, the Mayor will bring changes to the City’s personnel policies manual on issues regarding whistleblowers, overtime, performance evaluation, and ethics to the council.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Hal received a report from the EDC regarding tax revenues in the area which he will pass on to the rest of the Council. Jim Sundberg reported that he has attended a meeting of the Tourism Committee. It was very well attended and covered a wide range of tourism promotion activities. Meetings are monthly and Jim will keep the Council informed about activities affecting Langley.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

Draft ordinance regarding remote attendance of meetings. This issue was discussed by Council early last year and a draft ordinance was done by our legal counsel, but was never brought forward for action. Consensus was that the issue should be pursued. Some changes need to be made to the draft. Thomas Gill, the City’s IT person explained the different ways that Skype access could be used. Speaker phones could also be used. Discussion ensued regarding changes to be made to the draft.

Port of South Whidbey. Jeff Arango reported that the Port had a meeting last week and has decided to explore looking at making another grant application. Some revisions to interlocal with the Port are needed, and we need to discuss with the Port issues such as parking in Mukilteo, the funicular, private funding partnerships, etc. Jeff would like to set up an advisory group with city and port reps to work on these issues and advise the
Port’s Board. Staff proposes to set up a meeting with the Port regarding the grant and other issues and create the foundation for a cooperative approach to the marina development.

A public workshop will be held on February 15th on Medical Cannabis – it is not a decision making meeting, not about legalizing cannabis, but a public meeting regarding possible legislation regarding medical cannabis. The meeting will take place at the Methodist Church Fellowship Hall.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:06 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Director of Finance/City Clerk