

CITY OF LANGLEY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES
January 20, 2015

Mayor McCarthy called the meeting to order at 5:30 PM. Present were Council Members Thomas Gill, Robin Black, Bruce Allen and Rene Neff. Jim Sundberg was out of town. Also present were Director of Public Works, Stan Berryman; Chief of Police, Dave Marks; Michael Davolio Planning Director; and Director of Finance/City Clerk, Debbie Mahler. The flag salute was led by Mayor McCarthy.

MOTION: To approve the agenda as amended. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Neff. Motion carried. An executive session was added.

MOTION: To approve the consent agenda. Motion - Allen, 2nd - Black. The consent agenda was approved with all in favor.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of council meeting minutes of 1-5-15
- b. Approval of claims warrants Nos. 32754-32794 in the amount of \$81,380.53
- c. Approval of payroll warrants Nos. 32619-32679 (12-15-14) in the amount of \$50,978.51 and Nos. 32680-32702 (12/31/14) in the amount of \$47,712.87
- d. Confirmation of the Mayor's appointment of Kim Drury to the Library Board

COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS

- a. Historic Preservation Commission – Bob Waterman reported that the commission had signs placed on historic structures and more are being added this year. The Commission was deeply saddened by the death of Tucker Stevens, a member of the commission. There is now an opening for a new member. Homes listed on the historic register can give a homeowner a break on property taxes. The Commission is looking at properties that they would like to add to the register such as the old portion of the middle school and a church. Next month the Commission will review last years work plan and begin a new plan for this year.
- b. Whale Center – Susan Berta thanked the City, the Council and Port for welcoming the center and the whales in Langley. Saturday, they will hold a “Ways of Whales Workshop” in Coupeville, at the Performing Arts Center. They are also hoping to add a second workshop during the year in Langley. Wendy explained the Whale Center opened March 2014. Many visitors are followers of the Orca Network and come specifically to visit and to volunteer at the Center. Many locals bring their out of town visitors to the Center. The Center is completely volunteer run; docents work four days a week. Open 11-5. Average about 50 visitors per day. There have been 7,000-8,000 visitors since it opened in March. The largest number of visitors come from Seattle. Visitors have been registered from 42 states, Canada and 22 other countries. Youth activity events are held

on the 3rd Saturday of each month at 2 PM, which draws many from off island. Local Schools also bring classes in for tours.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Brian Woloshin stated that letters and correspondence given to the Council at meetings are not posted on the website or attached to the minutes. He feels the city needs to attach commission and board reports to minutes and on the website. The clerk does attach any written reports that are given to council, but if the written report is not given to the Council, it does not get included. The City will try to always get copies of those reports and attach them from now on.

Mayor McCarthy stated that he has had numerous requests to have a Planning Advisory Board meeting to discuss the funicular concept. He stated that he is stepping back from the funicular concept until Port has completed their comprehensive plan and know the issues with boaters and their needs for transportation. There are presently seven different options on the table. New ideas have been presented lately. Those include more golf carts, a trolley, a funicular, elevator, escalator, or nothing at all. We have new planner, who will be looking at the issue with fresh eyes and the Port is working on their master plan. No meeting strictly focused on funicular will be held yet because we do not have the data gathered.

Sharon Emerson agrees it is premature to have a meeting on the funicular, but thinks the city should have a meeting to look at the different benefits that can be derived and which are important to Langley. It could be done at a Planning Advisory Board meeting in a larger setting. Skip Demuth stated that collecting data such as the number of boats and people that come into the marina, how many need transportation, etc. is the place to start. Larger boats come into the city for 2 hours at a time with 60-100 people on them. Ed Halloran, Port Commissioner stated that this is one of the things that will be looked at in the Port's Master Plan. Council members pointed out that the City is still listening to ideas, not making any decisions.

Cynthia Tilkin stated that on 1st and Anthes a drain is often blocked with leaves and she has seen a merchant out there with a shovel trying to clear it. She feels parking in Langley is still a problem and stated that a fabric store on Anthes has seen four cars parked on Anthes by a business's employees for long periods of time. She mentioned it, and is having retaliation problems. Public Works Director Stan Berryman stated that the City is working on the drains and keeping them cleared. That particular drain is a problem and they are aware of this and clean it out often. Chief Marks encouraged people to call the police department with these parking issues when they are happening. Mayor McCarthy said the city is talking about another parking study in the near future. Joe Wierzbowski introduced his son Joe, the former chef at Café Langley, who is planning to open food truck.

STAFF REPORTS

- a. Community Planning – Michael Davolio reported there is a meeting of the Port Commission following this meeting which he will attend. The City has received a request to look into a warming shelter at the Methodist Church. He and the building inspector did

a walk thru of the facility and found that it is consistent with the mission of the church, had no building or health and safety issues, and he feels it is good to go.

- b. Public Works – Stan Berryman reported that he has shoveled out the drain that Cynthia was talking about, and is aware of the issue. The City received the new backhoe today. A cover was built for the sand pile and shipments of deicer have been received. The barrier across from the Saratoga Inn on Cascade needs to be replaced. He feels it should be a metal barrier similar to the one farther up the road on Cascade. His department is currently trying to restore the lighting at the Boy & Dog Park.
- c. Police – Chief Marks reported that he is working on completing the Hazard Mitigation Plan. Langley was the only city involved in this planning that had citizens involved at the meeting held in Coupeville. Officer Adkins graduates from the Law Enforcement Academy on February 19th in Des Moines. Chief Marks has completed a purchase order for the new patrol vehicle. His department is preparing for Mystery Weekend later in February.
- d. Finance - Debbie Mahler explained the budget amendment for 2014. Most changes were housekeeping, i.e. removing grant and loan projects that did not happen. The cost allocation plan was redone with actual figures and updated. During the Second Street project, several unanticipated expenses were approved and the general fund is transferring funds to the Street fund to cover those. The Water fund received more revenue than budgeted and the cost allocation amounts were changed. Three funds were increased and three funds reduced taking the adopted budget from \$11,792,678 to \$7,824,502.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor McCarthy reported that at the January 7th PAB meeting, Island County's Director of Planning attended and talked about the County's growth management update. The Mayor, Councilman Gill, Chief Marks and PW Director Berryman attended the Jan 13th meeting at the County on the Hazard Mitigation Plan. An online survey about hazard mitigation for the entire county had the highest percentage of responses from Langley. On January 29th Councilmembers Gill, Black & Allen and the Mayor will be attending a meeting at NAS Whidbey from 10am – 12:00 noon at the Officers Club. It is meant to be a Community Leaders Briefing. Mayor McCarthy proposed a Council retreat and visioning workshop. Tim Callison, husband of Councilmember Black, will lead the workshop. He is a certified innovation trainer with 26 years of demonstrated innovative management. The retreat will center on infrastructure, economic development, the port master plan and waterfront access. He suggested 3 hours on Thursday the 26th of February. The retreat is scheduled for that day from 9AM-12PM. An agreement on the Police Guild Contract has been reached and has been reviewed by the city's attorney. He will bring the agreement before Council for approval at the first meeting in February. Mayor McCarthy has spoken with Kim Hoelting regarding handcrafted tables for council chambers to replace the rickety current ones for a reasonable price. There have been concerns expressed about a proliferation of rabbits in the city and the coyotes they draw. Certain people were feeding them and giving them resting places. This has since stopped since they have become aware of the

problem. There are products that will keep rabbits out of a garden. The City will not be hiring anyone to trap or dispose of rabbits. His recommendation is that we leave the trapping of rabbits up to individual homeowners and refer them to the website wdfw.wa.gov where they will find links: 1. living with wildlife 2. nuisance wildlife 3. hiring a wildlife control person and they would have the information to address their individual problems on their property.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

- a. Arts Commission –
 - i. 2014 Annual Work Plan Report
 - ii. Draft Bylaws
 - iii. RFP 2nd St. Outdoor Sculpture

Frank Rose presented

MOTION: To approve the Commission’s report, bylaws and RFP. Motion – Allen, 2nd Neff.

MOTION: to amend the bylaws by deleting the first two bullets on finances. Motion -Neff, 2nd - Allen. The amendment passed unanimously. The original motion passed unanimously also.

NEW BUSINESS

MOTION: To waive the first reading and adopt ordinance 1008 amending the 2014 Budget. Motion - Neff, 2nd - Allen. Motion carried with all in favor.

MOTION: To bring to a first reading, an Ordinance establishing requirements and fees for mobile food vendors in Title 12 of the LMC. Motion – Neff, 2nd – Allen. A Main Street survey of existing restaurants resulted in a consensus that it is a good idea during the busy parts of the year, but would take business away from existing businesses during the non-peak time of year. The ordinance was amended to have only one site on Second Street, and one more on First Street or Anthes and to allow the food vendors from Memorial Day to Labor Day. The first reading was approved as amended with all in favor.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Thomas Gill reported that he attended the hazard mitigation planning meeting in Coupeville. Robin Black reported that Langley made the list of 10 cities to visit in a lifetime. She also distributed the draft pamphlet she has produced as her Leadership Snohomish County project which promotes Langley.

Bruce Allen reported that the student he is to mentor through the ROTC academy has put it off entering until fall. Rene Neff reported that she attended a Cemetery board meeting earlier today. They Board wants to set a retreat to discuss ideas regarding a cemetery facilitator.

Mayor McCarthy announced that the Council will go into an Executive Session at 7:35 PM for approximately 20 minutes to discuss with legal counsel representing the City, litigation to which the City is a party, when public knowledge regarding the discussion is likely to result in an adverse legal or financial consequence to the City. The executive session was adjourned at 7:55 PM and the regular meeting reconvened.

The meeting was adjourned at 8 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Debbie L. Mahler, Clerk/Finance Director