



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
Councilmember

ROLL CALL

Present were Mayor Durney and Councilmembers Carlstrom, Daniels, Grun, Hyde, McMillan, Moir, Nelson, Pellegrini, Shumate, Wiedl and Winkelman. Absent was Councilmember Dickhoff.

Staff in attendance were Fire Chief Ray Pumphrey, Police Chief Jeff Myers, City Attorney Steve Johnson, City Administrator Brian Shay, City Planner Alissa Thurman, City Librarian Mary Thornton, Finance Director Mike Folkers and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

PUBLIC HEARING

**Assessing Abatement Costs
501 Ontario**

Councilmember Moir made a motion to open the public hearing on the assessment of abatement costs for 501 Ontario. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mayor Durney read the fair hearing doctrine.

Mayor Durney asked Mr. Howell, the City Building Official to present the staff report to the council. The building located at 501 Ontario was reported to the Building Department in August of 2008 due to safety concerns and code compliance issues, a notice was mailed to the property owner to address the clean-up and make needed repairs to the building. Mr. Howell provided background information on the nuisance code and the steps that need to be taken in an abatement process. Mr. Burton, the owner of the property appealed the abatement and a hearing was scheduled before the Building Code council on August 12, 2009. The Building Code council found in favor of the city and issued an order to Mr. Burton stating that the building would be demolished. Mr. Burton was served with notice and bid requests were sent out utilizing the State roster. As part of this process, the City also applied for and received permits from ORCAA for asbestos removal. Bids were received on November 20, 2009. These costs in addition to other costs for certified postage, photographs, publishing, etc., came to a total of \$33,146.06. A brief discussion was held concerning the disposal costs. The contract terms with Hometown Sanitation were reviewed.

Mr. Anthony Burton, 1819 Main Street, Elma, owner of the property at 501 Ontario, stated he disagrees with some of the points that Mr. Howell made. He contends that the letters



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

were sent late so he did not have ample notice to remove things from the building. He also stated that he had no objection to this building being demolished, but had asked for a reasonable amount of time to remove the things he wanted. He had a lot of interest in the building as he had run a business in there for 17 years. He asked for 8 months to clear everything out and tear down the building. He was given only 3 months. The letter he received was not mailed until 5 days later from the date Mr. Howell stated. He received it on Saturday and they demolished the building on Monday. He lost everything that was in there because he did not have time to clean it out. He lost thousands of dollars from the things he lost from the building. He repeatedly called city hall to speak with someone in the building department, the Mayor or the City Administrator asking for more time. He had received a bid for \$15,000 to demolish and remove the debris much less than the bid costs. He also believes that they tore down the building with the roofing on it so there were no additional charges for the asbestos removal. He attempted to correct the problems with Mr. Howell and actually thanked him for letting him know of the problems. He does not believe the charges are accurate. He could not get a response when he submitted a letter asking for more time. He believes this is an absolute travesty and he is disgusted and disappointed in the way he has been treated.

Hearing no further public comment, Councilmember McMillan moved to close the hearing at 7:29 p.m. The motion was second and passed by voice vote.

**Assessment of Abatement
Costs – 516 8th Street**

Councilmember McMillan moved to open the Public Hearing to assess the abatement cost for 516 8th Street at 7:30 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mr. Howell provided the staff report concerning the abatement process that had been taken concerning the building at 516 8th Street. In February an asbestos survey was requested. Several areas were found with asbestos. In December of 2009 large sections of the asbestos roofing material blew off into the Masonic Lodge parking lot. An inspection was also done of the remaining roof materials and it was determined that other sections of the roof needed to be secured and/or removed. There was also a piece of metal siding that was facing 8th Street that needed to be removed for safety reasons. In December 2009, a licensed contractor removed the dangerous



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

roofing and secured the other roof materials. A broken window was also fixed. Total cost for this portion of the abatement comes to \$1,989.08. The new owner of the property has not been responsive in trying to solve the problem. Real Property Redevelopment from California are the owners of record at this time.

Hearing no public comments, Councilmember McMillan moved to close the hearing at 7:38 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**Proposed One-Way Street
Designation - Levee**

Councilmember McMillan moved to open the Public Hearing at 7:30 p.m. to discuss a proposal to make Levee Street a one-way flow of traffic. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mr. Shay provided background information concerning discussions that have been held at the Public Safety Committee meetings. The proposal is to make Levee Street one way from the police station towards 6th Street.

Mr. Dave Hanson, 509 7th Street, Hoquiam, asked for clarification on the road that comes under the bridge into the police parking lot. Staff responded that this road would not be affected as the proposal only includes Levee Street.

Hearing no further comments, Councilmember McMillan moved to close hearing at 7:41 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mayor Durney explained the process that will be taken.

Utility Bills

Mr. Folkers explained a recent software problem on the utility bills that caused households not to be charged for their consumption on their bills. Subsequently, the problem has been corrected and the newest bill will include the charges for consumption in the current billing as well as consumption that was missed on the previous billing as well as the newly instated sewer charge increase. Staff is currently fielding calls and working with those customers affected by the problem.

**COMMUNICATIONS
Snug Harbor Utility Bills**

Mr. Fred Pellegrini, 1401 C Street, Hoquiam (Snug Harbor mobile home park), stated that he just received a utility bill for over \$220.00. The owner of the property stated that it is because their water meters are not accurate. He asked if



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

meters could be checked to make sure that they are working correctly. He provided his telephone number and asked that staff contact him once they have researched the problem.

Excessive Charges for Fees and Penalties

Mr. Larry Lytle, 1520 Minor Street, stated that he believes what the city is charging for penalties and fees is excessive. He believes with the new laws going into place as of February, the city is going to be out of line. He also spoke about the possibility of the Treatment plant moving. Mr. Shay stated that the city is looking at a lot of different possibilities for the treatment plant but nothing has been decided.

Ambulance Fees

Mr. Ken Sparr, 1401 A Street, spoke to the Council and staff regarding his wife's ambulance bill being sent to the insurance. He thought that with the ambulance fee that he pays with his utility bill, that he would not be charged for the service. Mr. Folkers explained how the ambulance program works. He informed Mr. Sparr that if the insurance does not cover the total charge, he will not be charged anything above what they pay.

Traffic Safety – 7th Street

Mr. Dave Hanson 509 7th Street, spoke to the council regarding safety issues with speeding on 7th Street. He asked the council to consider putting in stop signs on each corner which would help with the problem of speeding.

Elton Bennett

Ms. Barbara Bennett-Parsons, 520 Upper Grand Avenue, thanked the City and Council for all of the support on the recent project at Elton Bennett Park. She also expressed her thanks to the Conservation Corps Team and the AmeriCorps members here at the City. The park looks wonderful. She brought some of the art work that will be installed on the interpretive panels if anyone is interested in viewing them.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Hyde moved to approve consent agenda items a and b as presented and the motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the consent agenda were as follows:

- a. The City Council minutes of January 11, 2010;
- b. The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 68292 through 68483 in the amount of \$632,290.52



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

The motion for approval of the consent agenda passed by voice vote.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

**Regulatory Committee -
Place Names and Name
Changes Policy**

The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation that the policy on Place Names and Name Changes be approved by the Council. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to approve the committee report and the motion was seconded. Councilmember Grun asked for clarification on the policy. Mr. Folkers explained that this is a policy/procedure that will be followed if the City wishes to confer a specific name on a given building, street, facility, place or natural feature within the City limits. Following further discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

Council Retreat

Council President Moir announced that next Monday the council will hold a non-staff retreat from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. at the Hoquiam Middle School. This is an opportunity for council to get to know each other, talk about their goals, and other items. No action is taken at the retreat.

Rescue Truck

Chief Pumphrey asked for Council approval to purchase a surplus rescue truck from the Aberdeen Fire Department for \$6,000. Councilmember Hyde moved for the approval of this request. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

**Hoquiam Sr. Center – 8th
Street**

Mr. Shay presented a proposal from Street, Lundgren and Foster to evaluate the old Senior Center and the Farmers Market for improvements to the two city owned facilities. The City is considering expansion of Farmers Market and evaluation of the senior center for needed improvements/repair. Funds to pay for this proposal would come from the Real Estate Excise Tax fund. Councilmember Winkelman moved for the approval of this request. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

NSP Grant Update

Mr. Shay presented a written report to the council regarding the NSP Grant. The City accepted a \$448,918 grant in June. \$100,000 will be allocated to the Habitat for Humanity for 2 new homes at 717 Monroe and 1015 Chenault. Staff recommends that the City sell 1112 Washington to Habitat for \$1.00. Councilmember Daniels moved to approve the request.



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Councilmember Moir stated that this is one of the best things that has happened for the City and it is great to give back to the community.

MAYORS REPORTS

**Crossing Bridges Dinner
and 7th Street Theatre**

Mayor Durney reminded Council of the upcoming HBA Crossing Bridges dinner on Saturday. Tickets are on sale now. He also spoke briefly about the recent Star Light celebration at 7th Street Theatre on Saturday night. It is impressive what has been done at the theatre.

**AWC Council Essentials
Training**

Councilmembers were reminded of the upcoming AWC Council Essentials Training in Tacoma on February 12th and 13th. He encouraged any councilmember interested to attend.

Council Packets

Mayor Durney reminded Councilmember that their agendas and packets are available on the Friday before each meeting. He encouraged councilmembers to pick them up and review them over the weekend to allow for time to contact staff if you have questions and to be prepared for the meetings.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances

Salary Ordinance

An Ordinance fixing the compensation of the officers and employees of the City of Hoquiam from and after January 1, 2010; and repealing Ordinance No., 09-01. Councilmember McMillan moved for the adoption of the Ordinance. The motion was seconded and following a brief explanation from Mr. Shay on how the salary schedule steps work, Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Parking and Parking Fines

An Ordinance relating to parking and parking fines; amending Chapter 7.86 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and amending Section 7.80.140 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time after which the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Parking

An Ordinance relating to parking; and amending Section 7.80.050 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

Moir moved for the adoption of the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Mayor Durney entertained a motion to amend the ordinance to change the wording from J to 9th to J to 8th, as J street is no longer a through Street. Councilmember Moir moved to approve the amendment as presented. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Following a brief discussion, Councilmember Grun moved to table the ordinance. The motion failed for lack of a second. Following its second reading, the main motion, as amended, passed by a vote of 9 to 2, with Councilmember Grun and Wiedl voting no.

Resolutions

**Assessing Abatement Costs
516 8th Street**

A Resolution confirming the report of the Building Department specifying the work done and the itemized and total cost of the work done to demolish and abate a portion of the roof at the building located at 516 8th Street, Hoquiam, Washington; and ordering that the total charge shall be the amount of \$1,989.08; and further ordering that the charge shall be assessed against the property and recorded on the assessment roll of Grays Harbor County. Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**Assessing Abatement Costs
510 Ontario**

A Resolution confirming the report of the Building Department specifying the work done and the itemized and total cost of the work done to demolish and abate the building(s) located at 501 Ontario Street, Hoquiam, Washington; and ordering that the total charge shall be the amount of \$33,146.06; and further ordering that the charge shall be assessed against the property and recorded on the assessment roll of Grays Harbor County. Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

OTHER LEGAL

Jail Facility Agreement

Staff presented Council with a Jail Facility Agreement with Lewis County Jail for housing of prisoners from the Hoquiam Police Department and Municipal Court. Councilmember McMillan moved for the adoption and the motion was seconded. Chief Myers explained that it will be less travel time and a safer area to travel. Mr. Johnson will work on cleaning up the typos and finalizing the agreement with Lewis County if the Council approves. The motion passed by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010

Levee Street

Council requested that before the ordinance for designate Levee Street as one-way traffic comes to the council that the businesses on that Street are notified of the proposed change.

Cemetery Report

Councilmember Winkelman stated that he had previously asked for a report on the tree removal and other things at the cemetery. Mr. Folkers stated that finance is currently working on finalizing the year end to have a better picture as to where the cemetery is at this time. Mr. Shay also stated that we have tagged approximately 160 alders to be removed as well as a row of cherry trees on top loop. New trees will be planted to replace these. There are also some repairs needed to the building by the cell tower.

NEW BUSINESS

Excuse Absent Members

Councilmember McMillan moved to excuse the absent member. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

7th Street Theatre

The improvements to 7th Street Theatre are great and the function on Saturday was well attended.

**Hometown Productions
LLC**

Mr. Shay reported that he, Tracy Wood, Al Dick and Mike West met with representatives of Hometown Productions, LLC today and toured the stadium. They are very impressed with the stadium and excited about holding the concert in Hoquiam this summer. During their visit, staff was able to arrange a visit to 7th Street Theatre and they are very interested in possibly holding events there as well.

Hoquiam/Aberdeen Games

Councilmember McMillan reminded everyone that Hoquiam is playing Aberdeen in Basketball this week.

Adjournment

Councilmember Moir moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:11 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

January 25, 2010
