



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Pellegrini lead the flag salute.

Mayor Durney asked for a moment of silence in honor of our veterans and military personnel.

ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Durney and Councilmembers Swope, Dickhoff, Grun, Weidl, Hyde, McMillan, Moir, Nelson, Pellegrini, Winkelman and Carlstrom. Absent from the meeting was Councilmember Shumate.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Budget and Ambulance Fee

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, spoke to the Council regarding the Article in Daily World concerning the budget and costs of ambulance service. The article indicated that more of the ambulance costs will be passed on to the users. He would like to see the council wait on the budget until the citizens have a chance to learn more about this. None of the citizens have had a chance to review the budget. He has looked at it and he believes there are things that could be shuffled around without passing on more of the costs to the citizens.

Giving Tree

Ms. Katie McMillan, Queets Ave, Hoquiam, spoke to the council regarding the giving tree she would like to put in the lobby of City Hall. She would like to put the tree up the day after Thanksgiving and leave it up through December 15th.

Parking Ordinance

Mr. Rick Pitt, Executive Director, PUD, Simpson Avenue in Montesano, spoke to the council regarding the parking ordinance that will come before the council later in the meeting. The PUD is asking for a 36 foot length drop off zone in front of their building where the meeting room is located. Mayor Durney asked if a two-hour limit would accomplish what they are trying to do. The PUD would like to make it a "drop off point" and Mr. Pitt asked for Council support.

Ambulance Fee

Ms. Blanche LaCroix, 105 Broadway, Hoquiam, spoke regarding the article in the paper on the ambulance fees. Mayor Durney explained that this is not necessarily part of the budget



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

but is just one thing that is being proposed for consideration by the council.

Timber Sale Money

Mr. Larry Lytle, 1522 Minor, Hoquiam, asked questions regarding timber sale money collected by the city. Mr. Shay stated that there is \$2M in the watershed reserves which will be used for water projects. Mr. Lytle asked what the plans for the pond and treatment plant are. Is the city planning on trading with the Port? Mayor Durney explained there are a lot of different things that could happen in the future but there are no definitive plans at this time.

Tax and Fee Increases

Mr. Wes Reames, 1624 Marion Street, Hoquiam, voiced his opinion against the proposed tax increases. In the recent November elections, the people spoke no new taxes. Those affected the most by this are the elderly, weak and unemployed. He hopes the City can find other solutions instead of raising the taxes.

**Medical Costs for
Employees and Fee
Increases**

Ms. Judy Reames, 163 Prospect Avenue, Hoquiam, stated that the people cannot afford to pay anymore taxes. The way she understood the article in the paper was that the insurance would be billed, then the person would be billed for anything beyond that. Mayor Durney explained that these are proposals. She is concerned that the elderly will avoid calling the ambulance because they cannot afford it. She believes the city should cut the medical premiums given to the employees before a raise in fees is passed on to the citizens. The City could also look into furlough days.

Mr. Dave Hansen, 509 7th St., Hoquiam, spoke regarding a business proposal he is thinking about. Mayor Durney suggested that Mr. Hansen put his suggestions in writing and submit to Mr. Shay.

**Medical Costs for
Employees and Fee
Increases**

Ms. Judy St. Claire, Hoquiam, reviewed city employee medical premiums compared to what people must pay for their Medicare. She stated that since negotiations are currently happening with the unions, ask employees to pay the same as what people pay for Medicare. She would like to see the ambulance proposal put on hold until the citizens can review and have time to discuss. Mayor Durney stated again that any time the city council raises a rate or changes a rate, those are done with resolutions or ordinances. They are on the agenda ahead of time. There are several proposals at this time being



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

discussed but none have been voted on. There will be further opportunity to discuss these. Mayor Durney stated that the medical premiums for the employees are done in negotiations – that is between the unions (bargaining units) and the City.

Ambulance Fees

Mr. Jeff Wetzel, 39 N. Street, Hoquiam, stated that he gets worried when he hears that the City might pass a budget when the revenues and expenditures are not finalized. He also spoke regarding the proposal on a possible increase to Ambulance Fees and billing. His concern is that when this was instituted it was sold to the citizens that by paying this fee they would always have a “free” ambulance ride. It will be hard to convince the Senior Citizens to call the ambulance if they know that they are going to receive a bill. The City could look at the firefighting force and reduce costs by supplementing with a volunteer force. He also stated his opinion on fluoride. He would like to see who voted which way on some of these issues. He also suggested that City staff ask the State about their 20 year bridge plan which was originally presented in 1993.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Hyde moved for the approval of items a through c as presented and the motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the consent agenda were as follows:

- The City Council Minutes of October 25, 2010;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 70494 through 70702 in the amount of \$1,159,180.47;
- A Request for Approval and Acceptance and Release of Retainage & Bonds for MJ Hughes for work completed on the North Fork of the Little Hoquiam Dam Removal;

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

OFFICER REPORTS

**Set Public Hearing Date –
1316 Lincoln Abatement**

Staff submitted a request for Council to set a public hearing date for the assessment of costs for the abatement of 1316 Lincoln Street. Councilmember McMillan moved to set a hearing date of December 13, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. as requested. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

MAYORS REPORTS

Transmission Line Break

Mr. Shay reported on the transmission line break over the weekend. This is another illustration of priority need for



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

replacement of the transmission line. Mr. Shay stated that due to the location of the break it could only be repaired during low tide. Mr. Shay and the Mayor both recognized the Water Department personnel for their work and also recognized the help provided by Rognlins. Mr. Shay also stated that the city has been utilizing the intertie agreement with the City of Aberdeen which is providing fluoridated water. Mayor Durney spoke briefly about the age of the transmission line and that staff is working at getting grants, etc., to help with these repairs.

**Set Public Hearing Date –
CDBG**

Mayor Durney asked that Council set a public hearing date for November 22, 2010, as a requirement of the CDBG. Councilmember McMillan moved to set hearing for November 22, 2010, at 7:00 p.m. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

Mayor Durney stated that he would not be here for the meeting of the 22nd and Council President Moir will act as Mayor pro-tem.

**LEGAL BUSINESS
ORDINANCES
2011-2012 Biennium
Budget**

Councilmember McMillan moved to bring the motion back to the floor to consider passage of the 2011-2012 Budget Ordinance. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. A discussion was held concerning possible amendments to the budget. Councilmember Grun made a motion to continue the budget ordinance to the next regular council meeting. The motion was seconded. Following a discussion on the ambulance fund and further discussion on the proposed budget, a voice vote was taken on the motion to postpone. The voice vote was undeterminable and the Mayor called for a roll call vote which passed by a vote of 8 to 3, with Councilmembers McMillan, Moir and Nelson voting no.

**2011 Ad Valorem Tax
Levies**

An Ordinance relating to ad valorem tax; setting and levying the ad valorem tax levies for the General Fund and the Ambulance Fund of the City of Hoquiam, for fiscal year 2011. Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title. Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of the ordinance. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion concerning the tax levy, the ordinance was read a second time after which the motion passed by a roll call vote of 9 to 2 with Councilmembers Grun and Weidl voting no.



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

Reverse Escort Fees

An Ordinance relating to size and weight of vehicles and the fee for police escorting of over-height, over-width, or over-weight vehicles on and across bridges and streets of the City of Hoquiam; and amending Section 7.64.050 to the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember Moir moved for the adoption of this ordinance. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion regarding these permits, Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time after which the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Parking Ordinance

An Ordinance relating to parking; amending Section 7.80.050 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and amending Section 7.80.120 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember McMillan moved to refer this Ordinance back to the Public Safety Committee for further review. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Councilmember Nelson stated that the Public Safety Committee would hold a meeting the first Monday in December.

RESOLUTIONS

**2011 General Levy
Increase**

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, determining that the City of Hoquiam requires an increase in property tax revenue from the previous year and further requiring a majority vote by the City Council of Hoquiam. Councilmember Moir moved for adoption of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed by roll call vote.

**Greenhouse Gas Reduction
Policy**

A Resolution of the Mayor and City Council of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, adopting a Greenhouse Gas Reduction Policy. Councilmember Hyde moved for adoption of the Resolution. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

Fee Resolution

A Resolution establishing a Community Services Fee Schedule. Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of the Resolution. The motion was seconded. Mr. Folkers explained that the changes reflected deal with the Police Escort fees. Mayor Durney asked that the Council consider a friendly amendment to remove items no longer done by the Community Services Department. Councilmember McMillan moved to approve an amendment to remove the obstacle course, the dunk tank and the carnival booth rentals from the Resolution. The motion was seconded. Councilmember Winkelman moved to add a friendly amendment to the original amendment to remove the words Shorebird on the runs, and list them as fun runs with



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

November 8, 2010

a fee of \$5.00 with no t-shirt and \$15.00 with t-shirt. The motion to add the friendly amendment to the amendment passed by voice vote. The motion to approve the amendment passed by voice vote. The main motion, as amended, passed by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

It was announced that the Council will hold a budget workshop on Wednesday, November 17th at 6:30 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Gable Park

Councilmember McMillan stated that Gable Park looks great with the new paving and recent upgrades.

College Football at Stadium

Councilmember Dickhoff stated that the NW Community College Football League was very happy with the use of Olympic Stadium and the support provided by our staff for their event.

Excuse Absent Member

Councilmember McMillan moved to excuse the absent members who requested to be excused. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Adjournment

Councilmember Moir moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:34 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary