

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes

May 27, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and Councilmember McMillan led the flag salute

ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Durney and Councilmembers Anderson, Diehm, Grun, McMillan, Moir, Pellegrini, Pennant, Simera, Swope and Winkelman. Absent from the meeting were Councilmembers Dickhoff and Nelson.

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

BUDGET WORKSHOP

Mr. Folkers made a presentation on the 2015-2016 budget. He spoke about declining population and increasing unemployment which have caused a decline in services. He stated that future workshops will be scheduled later in the summer and answered several questions from the audience and the Council. Mayor Durney called for a five minute recess at 8:15.

Council was called back to order at 8:21 p.m.

COMMUNICATIONS

Fire Department Positions

Larissa Rohr, 400 Beacon Hill Drive, expressed to the Council how devastated she is that her position at the Fire Department is being eliminated. She spoke of being hired by the City and the sense of pride she has had in working for the Department.

Lisa Chappell, Hoquiam, also spoke in regards to the elimination of positions at the Fire Department. She hopes there is a way the positions can be saved.

Ricky Walsh, Benton City, WA. Mr. Wallace stated that he is not a local community member, but assists the Unions in the State in their bargaining. He believes the public and others have only listened to one side – that of the City and they should hear the other side also regarding the negotiations.

Debbie Pickar, 1020 Broadway, Hoquiam, stated that she is scared to think we are going to lose four positions. She listens to the scanners and knows how many calls the Department answers. She hopes there is some way the City can save these positions.

Mark Pochuley, Rick Murray, Byron Hyde, Marlin Ask, Stephanie Reime and Jenna Smith also all spoke in support of the Fire positions being saved.

Doug Stankavich, President, local firefighters 315, spoke of staffing levels at the Department and what the loss of these four positions will do. Regardless of comments being made that the Union was not willing to meet, they are.

Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, stated he knows that this is an emotional issue. He does not believe some individuals in attendance tonight or others in the community are aware of how bad the finances are. The citizens are taxed out. At this point – the City has had to look at a different way of balancing the budget as everything they have tried has not worked.

Ms. Robin Moore, 1019 Monroe, spoke against crude oil and spoke in support of saving the fire positions.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of items a and b on the Consent Agenda, as presented and the motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the consent agenda were as follows:

- The Hoquiam City Council Minutes of May 12, 2014;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 79782 through 79956 in the amount of \$495,343.84.

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

OFFICERS REPORTS

Water Transmission Main Replacement

Mr. Shay provided a written report to the Council regarding the recent bid opening on the Water Transmission Main Replacement Project. Three bids were received as follows: Rognlins \$8,645,721.60; Quigg Bros. \$8,916,768.70 and Scarella \$9,692,787.55. All of the bids were lower than the first bids received on April 22nd. Staff recommends that Council accept the bids and award the project to Rognlins, Inc. as the apparent low bidder. Councilmember McMillan moved to accept the bid and award the project to Rognlins. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

MAYORS REPORTS

High School Athletic Teams

Mayor Durney congratulated the Hoquiam Soccer Team for their outstanding year. The Track Team and Softball team are also heading to State this next weekend.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Cemetery

Councilmember Winkelman stated that the Cemetery looked very nice over memorial day and thanked the Boy Scouts for putting out the flags.

HBA

Councilmember Winkelman reminded Council that the HBA forum will be at 5:00 tomorrow.

LEGAL BUSINESS

RESOLUTIONS

Surplus Property

A Resolution declaring certain personal property owned by the City to be surplus items pursuant to Hoquiam Municipal Code Section 1.64.005, 1.64.010 and 1.64.020. Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of the resolution. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Petroleum Transport

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, related to petroleum transport by rail and vessel through the City of Hoquiam, Grays Harbor County, and the State of Washington, urging regulatory agencies to study public safety, environmental and economic impacts of petroleum transport by rail and vessel. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the resolution and the motion was seconded. The Resolution was read in its entirety after which a brief discussion followed. The motion for approval was passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee Meetings

Councilmember McMillan announced that the Public Safety Committee will meet on Monday June 2nd at 5:00 p.m. at the fire station.

Councilmember Grun announced that the Watershed Committee will meet at 6:00 p.m. on the 24th.

Festival Application

Mr. Shay stated that the City has received an application from Grays Harbor Pride to hold a downtown festival on August 23rd.

Excuse Absent Members

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

Relay for Life

Council and citizens were reminded that the Relay for Life will be held at the Hoquiam High School track on Friday and Saturday, May 30th and 31st.

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ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McMillan 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

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