

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes

October 27, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Diehm led the flag salute and Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

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

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

PUBLIC HEARING
2015-2016 Budget

Councilmember McMillan moved to open the public hearing on the 2015-2016 Budget. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mr. Folkers reviewed information in the budget after which Councilmember Moir moved to close the hearing at 7:35 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

Greater Grays Harbor Inc.

Mr. Dru Garson, the new Executive Director of Greater Grays Harbor, Inc. introduced himself to the Council and provided background on his past experience. He reviewed plans for the upcoming year,

Riverside Building

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, WA, stated that the improvements to the Riverside Building look very nice. He stated that the Council did a good job getting the owners to make the improvements. He also spoke about the proposed raise and changes to Ambulance fees. The citizens cannot afford these raises. He would like to see comparison between other cities on the rates their citizens pay.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember McMillan 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:

- The City Council Minutes of October 13, 2014;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of Claim check numbers 80737 through 80922 in the amount of \$2,094,881.46; ACH and EFT deposits in the amount of \$343,322.25 and \$182,550.73 respectively; and payroll check numbers 27167 through 27202 in the amount of \$170,735.57.

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

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Ambulance Transport Rates – Regulatory

The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation that the City of Hoquiam adopt miscellaneous transport rates for EKG's, IV's, Oxygen and Cervical Collars. Councilmember Moir moved for adoption of the committee report and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion the motion for approval passed by voice vote.

Ambulance Non-Transport Fees – Regulatory

The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation that the City begin charging for all non-transport calls. Councilmember Moir moved for adoption of the report and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, Councilmember Grun moved to postpone voting on this motion until the next meeting. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Ambulance Bill Write-offs Regulatory

The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation that the City do away with the Ambulance Bill Write-offs for Hoquiam residents. Councilmember Dickhoff moved to adopt the report and the motion was seconded. A discussion followed on the types of calls, the average bill and the revenues this would generate. Councilmember Grun moved to postpone voting on this motion until the next meeting, but his motion failed for a lack of second. The main motion to approve the committee report passed by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

Hoquiam Register of Historic Places

Mr. Charlie Quigg has requested a one month extension to complete the work on the Riverside Building. Council had previously given the project a deadline of October 31, 2014. Staff recommends that the Council approve the one month extension to Resolution 2014-08 to allow Quiggs to complete the construction at 1508 Riverside Drive. Councilmember McMillan moved to approve the extension. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

Drug Take Back Program

Chief Myers provided an update to the Council regarding the Drug Take Back program. The City has participated in this program since 2010. The Police Department recently received a drug take back box so that citizens can participate in this program throughout each week. The box was donated by another police department and has been installed in the lobby of the Police Department and will be available 7 days a week.

MAYOR REPORTS

Proposed Budget

Mayor Durney spoke briefly about the budget that has been presented to the council. The budget is balanced so if Council makes any additions or changes, the funding for those would need to come from somewhere else. He spoke briefly about the Ambulance service and proposed changes on fees. It is like any business, costs and fees need to be adjusted. He does not like the vacant positions not being filled and that will require reorganization within some of the Departments. The Department Heads have worked hard with administration to bring a balanced budget before the Council for their review and approval.

Rain Derby Tickets

Mayor Durney reminded those who have purchased Rain Derby tickets to get them turned in by Friday the 31st.

Summerhaven Project

Summerhaven is underway, they have sold some lots and construction should begin soon.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Haunted Hoquiam

Councilmember Winkelman reported that Haunted Hoquiam went well. He reminded Council and citizens that Small Business Saturday is the Saturday after Thanksgiving and hopes everyone will support the local businesses.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances

Fireworks Ban

An Ordinance relating to the sale or discharge of consumer fireworks; repealing Section 5.20.020, 5.20.030, 5.20.040, 5.20.050 and 5.20.060 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and amending 5.20.015, 5.20.065 and 5.20.070 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and providing effective dates. Councilmember Moir moved for adoption of the Ordinance and the motion was seconded. Councilmember Winkelman stated that he is not in support of this Ordinance. He moved to amend the effective date to the 25th of December 2015 and the motion was seconded. The motion to amend passed by voice vote. Councilmember Moir briefly discussed why he proposed this ordinance. He believes that the fireworks being used are unsafe. Councilmember Pennant spoke in support of the proposed ban. Wherein Councilmembers Simera, Winkelman and McMillan spoke in opposition. Following the second reading, the motion for approval of this Ordinance failed by a vote of 10 to 2 with Councilmembers Moir and Pennant voting for passage

Ambulance Service Fees

An Ordinance relating to charges for ambulance service; and amending Subsections (3) and (5) of Section 1.45.080 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and creating an effective date

Councilmember Dickhoff moved for adoption of the Ordinance and the motion was seconded. A motion was made to remove the amend the ordinance to remove the revisions under Subsection (6) as this was postponed by the Council earlier in the meeting. The motion to amend was seconded and passed by voice vote. The main motion, as amended, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

RESOLUTIONS

Ambulance Billing Policies and Procedures

A Resolution adopting Ambulance Billing Policies and Procedures for the City of Hoquiam. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the Resolution and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

Ambulance Service Indigent Care Policy

A Resolution adopting an Indigent Care Policy for Ambulance Service for the City of Hoquiam. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the Resolution and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, the motion for approval passed by voice vote.

Authorizing the Application for a CDBG Planning Only Grant

A Resolution authorizing the submittal of an application for a CDBG Planning Only Grant for the City of Hoquiam. Councilmember Dickhoff moved for adoption of this Resolution and the motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Flood Insurance

Councilmember McMillan spoke briefly about flood insurance and asked that the City look into getting the levies certified. He suggested contacting the legislators to help alleviate the burden flood insurance is putting on homeowners.

Hotel Extended Stays

Councilmember Winkelman spoke regarding the extended stays at hotels. He believes the Ordinance recently passed by the council is now hurting some well run businesses and asked if staff could look at possible changes.

NEW BUSINESS

Watershed Meeting and 125th Anniversary

Councilmember McMillan asked that watershed meet to talk about timber harvesting. He also reminded Council and staff that the City will have their 125th anniversary next year. He would like to see some money put aside to do some kind of celebration.

Treatment Plant Project

Councilmember Grun asked for an update on the proposed treatment plant project. Mr. Shay stated primary focus will be on the oxidation ditch and the clarifier.

PUBLIC COMMENT

30 Day Restriction on Hotel Stays

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, stated he is not in support of the 30 day restriction being put on hotel stays. He spoke to many of the owners in the area and none of them were aware that the Council was passing the Ordinance to restrict extended stays.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Durney announced that there will be an executive session to discuss labor negotiations. The session will last approximately 20 minutes and no action will be taken following it.

Councilmember McMillan moved for a 5 minute recess at 8:20 p.m. after which council will reconvene in executive session. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

ADJOURNMENT

Council came back to order in regular session at 8:48 p.m. Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn and the motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary

