

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Special Meeting Minutes

November 17, 2014

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Moir led the flag salute and Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:14 p.m.

ROLL CALL

In attendance were Mayor Durney and Councilmembers Anderson (entered at 7:05), Dickhoff, Diehm, Grun, McMillan, Moir, Nelson, Pellegrini, Pennant, Simera, Swope and Winkelman.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Food Ball

Mayor Durney announced that the Hoquiam School District won the food ball!

Shorebird Meeting

Mayor Durney spoke briefly regarding a recent meeting with the Fish and Wildlife and the Audubon Society regarding the Shorebird Festival. He also thanked the City staff for doing more with less. He thanked the public works staff who worked overnight this past weekend on a major break. He is very proud of the quality of the staff we have and what they get done.

Mayor Durney also spoke briefly about the budget. The City needs to run things as a business. There are rules and laws that govern how funds can be spent. In this budget the Council has had to deal with things they haven't had to charge for in the past.

2015-2016 Budget

Councilmember Pellegrini moved to adopt the budget as presented. The motion was seconded. Councilmember Moir moved to amend the budget to change the reserves from \$811,000 for 2 year budget to \$711,000. \$60,000 of the difference will be set aside to purchase a police vehicle and \$40,000 set aside towards the purchase of an ambulance. The motion to amend was seconded and passed by voice vote. Councilmember McMillan moved to amend the budget and move \$40,000 from the general capitol reserve fund to cover the cost of the replacement of the Library roof. The motion to amend failed for lack of a second. Further discussion was held regarding the Cemetery endowment fund and the vacant position at the cemetery. Also discussed was the LEOFF 1 retiree benefits. If the costs for those expenses come in higher than anticipated, that cost will be taken out of the general fund. The main motion to approve the budget as amended passed by a roll call vote of 11 to 1 with Councilmember Grun voting no.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances

Utility Taxes

An Ordinance relating to utility taxes; amending Section 4.88.010 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and creating an effective date. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption 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 a roll call vote of 11 to 1 with Councilmember Grun voting no.

2015-2016 Budget

An Ordinance adopting the annual budget of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, for the fiscal biennium 2015-2016. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to approve the Ordinance and the motion was seconded. Councilmember Moir moved to amend the ordinance as necessary to reflect the changes to the budget that were passed earlier in the meeting and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time after which the main motion, as amended passed by a vote of 11 to 1 with Councilmember Grun voting no.

Ambulance Cancellation Fees

An Ordinance relating to charges for ambulance service; amending Subsection (9) of Section 1.45.080 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and creating an effective date. Councilmember Dickhoff 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 to approve passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Salary Ordinance

An Ordinance fixing the compensation of the officers and employees of the City of Hoquiam from and after January 1, 2014; and repealing Ordinance No. 2013-24. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Mr. Folkers explained that the ordinance changed due to the 1.5 % raise for firefighters for 2014. Mr. Folkers read the Ordinance by title a second time after which the motion to approve passed by unanimous roll call vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Cancel November 24, 2014 Meeting

Councilmember Moir moved to cancel the regular meeting of November 24, 2014. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Councilmember Moir

Mayor Durney thanked Councilmember Moir for his time that he has served on the City Council and invited everyone to stay following the meeting for refreshments.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Budget

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, does not believe enough information was given to the public or council regarding the budget. He would like to see comparative studies between cities on costs for utilities, etc. He also asked what would happen to someone if their neighbor called an ambulance for them and they refused transport. Would that person be responsible for paying the cancellation fee. Staff stated that they would not be charged unless they were the ones who called.

Robin Moore, stated that 4% is not too much to pay for the privilege of living in Hoquiam.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McMillan moved for adjournment of the meeting at 8:15 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary

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