

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Special Meeting Minutes

January 12, 2015

CALL TO ORDER Councilmember Pellegrini 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, Diehm, Grun, McMillan, 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, Finance Director Mike Folkers and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

COMMUNICATIONS

5th Ward Council Vacancy Brenda Carlstrom introduced herself to the Council and has expressed her interest in the vacant 5th Ward position.

Ron Tibbetts introduced himself to the Council and has expressed his interest in the vacant 5th Ward position.

Barb St. Louis introduced herself to the Council and has expressed her interest in the vacant 5th Ward position.

Recent Flood and Slides Commissioner Frank Gordon complimented the City for their efforts over the past week dealing with the flood and during the free dumpster/clean-up event held on Saturday.

Martin Luther Kind Event Robin Moore, 1019 Monroe Street, invited everyone to attend a Martin Luther King event at Amazing Grace Lutheran Church in Aberdeen next Monday, January 19th, from noon to 1:00.

Recent Flood and Slides Virginia Pennington, 3126 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, expressed her frustration with the drivers going through the flood waters on Monday. This caused wakes to come into the homes along Aberdeen Avenue. Chief Myers stated that they did everything they could do to stop people from going through the water and streets, but people were going around the barriers.

Recent Flood and Slides Pat Mullhouser, 2631 Queets Avenue, thanked everyone in the City who helped those affected by the flooding and slides. She commended them for their good work.

Recent Flood and Slides Don Straun 712 7th Street commended everyone who helped on Saturday and commended them for their work. He expressed his displeasure with the city for their response. Mayor Durney stated that the staff did what they could and were working hard.

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- Recent Flood and Slides** Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, spoke regarding the cost for the cleanup of the slides out to Woodlawn and Beacon Hill Drive. He asked if the State was going to help with any assistance. Mr. Shay stated that the City has met with County EMS. There needs to be \$9.4M between the 9 counties to qualify for disaster relief. The City has currently expended over \$320,000 for clean up to this point and are estimating an additional \$150,000 for fixing road.
- Damage Assessment Forms** Mayor Durney stressed the importance of every citizen or business who incurred damage to fill out the form for damages. This is what the damage assessment is based on.
- Recent Flood and Slides** Jack Wandler, 209 29th Street, expressed his frustration with the City and the drainage. He stated the drains were not working. Mr. Shay stated that every drain had the water wash debris and leaves into them. There was over 11 inches of rain in a very short time and the drains were overwhelmed by the volume of water.
- Recent Floods and Slides and Rate Increase** David Wilson, 1501 C Street, noted the rate increase for sanitation rates. He also stated that he appreciates the work done here by everyone, but felt the drains were plugged and not operating correctly.
- Recent Flood and Slides** Robin Barchon, 2139 Sumner, also expressed her frustration with the storm drains being plugged. She stated that she has called in the past due to the drains running slow. She hopes the city will give the citizens a break on bills and late fees as many of them have lost so much.
- Damage Assessment Forms** Staff informed those in attendance that the Damage Assessment forms are on line as well as available to pick up at City Hall and the Hoquiam Library.
- City Staff** Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, stated that he feels the city crews have done an amazing and marvelous job.
- CONSENT AGENDA** Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of items a through d on the Consent Agenda as presented and the motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the agenda were as follows:
- The City Council Minutes of December 8, 2014;
 - Regulatory Committee recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 81135 through 81334 in the amount of \$1,315,043.97; ACH and EFT Deposits in

the amount of \$364,933.61 and \$186,914.52 respectively; and payroll check numbers 27268 through 27299 in the amount of \$165,439.40;

- A notice from Hometown Sanitation regarding an increase in Solid Waste Rates effective February 1, 2015;
- Notice of Completion – Nova Construction (Downtown Pedestrian and Safety Improvements)

A brief discussion regarding the rate increase followed. Mr. Folkers explained that this increase will only be a few cents to the citizens and is due to the increase for disposal at the transfer station. Following this discussion, the motion to approve the consent agenda passed by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

Ambulance Fund Cash Deficit

Mr. Folkers provided a written report to the Council regarding the 2014 Ambulance Fund Cash Deficit. The deficit at the end of 2014 is \$82,473.65. He presented three options to the Council for consideration: Borrow the funds and pay it back over the next three years; Use fund that have been set aside for future ambulance purchases; or raise taxes. Councilmember McMillan moved to choose option two – and utilize the funds that have been set aside for future purchases as recommended by Finance Director Folkers. His motion was seconded and following a brief discussion passed by voice vote.

MAYORS REPORTS

Flood and Slide Update

Mayor Durney stated how proud he was of all of the many employees and volunteers who have helped each other. He thanked the city employees who were out there doing what they do. Police, Fire, Public Works, Administration, everyone. He also thanked the contractors for their quick response to the city. He expressed the importance of everyone filling out damage reports

Council of Government

Mayor Durney asked for Council concurrence on the appointment of Councilmember Pellegrini as the City representative on the Council of Government Board.

2015 Council Committee Assignments

Mayor Durney reminded Council that the 2015 Committee on Committees appointments need to be made so Council committee assignments can be done for 2015. Councilmember McMillan moved to roll the 2014 committees over for 2015. The person selected to fill the vacant 5th Ward position will serve on the committees previously appointed to Councilmember Moir. The motion also includes the Council President. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances - Equipment Rental

An Ordinance relating to the Equipment Rental Fund; repealing Ordinance No. 84-26; repealing section 1.76.050 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; amending Sections 1.76.030 and 1.76.060 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and providing an effective date. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time after which the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

Mayor Durney congratulated CoryMorris on his appointment as the new editor of the Vidette.

RESOLUTIONS

Interfund Loan

Mr. Folkers asked to remove this resolution from the agenda as it is no longer needed due to the action taken by the Council regarding the ambulance fund deficit.

Legislative Priorities

A Resolution of the City Council of the City of Hoquiam, Washington, listing issues important to our City and in support of the 2015 Legislative priorities of all Washington cities. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the resolution and the motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Fiscal Transfer

A Resolution authorizing a fiscal transfer. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the resolution and the motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

OTHER LEGAL

Municipal Services Agreement

Council was provided with a copy of a Municipal Services Agreement between the City of Hoquiam and Greater Grays Harbor Inc. The agreement is for one year at a cost of \$1,200.00 and includes promoting business growth, promoting tourism, and other economic development as outlined. Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of this agreement and to authorize the Mayor to sign any necessary documents. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Contract with Berglund Schmidt and Associates – Culvert Replacement Project

Council was provided with a copy of an Engineering Scope of Work and Fee Estimate with Berglund Schmidt and Associates for the Watershed Culvert Replacement project. Two culverts will be replaced with fish passage friendly bridges in the Hoquiam Watershed. Berglund Schmidt will prepare the design drawing and technical specifications for the bid package by February, 2015. Cost of the contract is \$68,400. Councilmember

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McMillan moved to approval of this contract and to authorize the Mayor to sign any necessary paperwork. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

**Local Declaration of
Emergency**

Council was presented with a Local Declaration of Emergency due to recent flooding and landslides as well as damage to several roadways. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the declaration and the motion was seconded. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to amend the declaration to add a timeframe of 60 days. The motion to amend was seconded and passed by voice vote and the main motion, as amended, passed by voice vote.

**Labor Agreement -
AFSCME**

Presented to the Council was a one-year Labor Agreement with the AFSCME Union. Councilmember McMillan moved for acceptance of the contract. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**OLD BUSINESS
Council Vacancy**

Council was reminded that they should consider filling the 5th Ward Council Vacancy at the next meeting.

30 Day Motel Stays

Councilmember Winkelman asked if staff could provide a modified version of ordinance allowing 30 day or less stays in motels. Mr. Johnson again stated that the Ordinance that the Council passed in 2014 follows State law.

Gable Park Slide

Mr. Shay reported that it has been estimated that the removal of the slide at Gable Park could cost up to \$65,000 to remove.

**NEW BUSINESS
Excuse Absent Member**

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

Finance Ambulance

Councilmember McMillan asked staff to look at the costs to finance a new ambulance and provide a report at the next meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:20 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary

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