

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Special Meeting Minutes

February 23, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Councilmember Tibbetts 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, Pellegrini, Pennant, Swope, Tibbetts, and Winkelman. Absent from the meeting were Councilmembers McMillan, Nelson and Simera.

COMMUNICATIONS

**CERT Training for
Emergency Response**

Joseph Brand, Board member of Re-Vision Hoquiam spoke to the Council regarding CERT training for community members. Volunteers who take the training could assist the Public Safety personnel where needed.

Oil by Rail

Lisa Chappel, Hoquiam, spoke in opposition to have oil by rail in and bulk storage in our community. She is concerned by the recent incidents with derailments and explosions. She asked Councilmembers their opinion on this issue.

Tami Domike, Mary Riley, Dianne Wolf and Linda Orgel also spoke in opposition to this project.

Mayor Durney explained what the city is allowed and not allowed to do. The City cannot deny permits for allowable uses. He also reminded the public that the Council adopted a resolution months ago regarding safety of oil by rail. Current staff serve on a committee at the State regarding safety aspects/restraints on oil. The City does not have the authority to end the project. Mr. Shay stated that originally it was thought that a draft report would be issued on the EIS in March but it is taking much longer to do the analysis and review. The draft is currently planned to be issued in June. There will be two meetings where the public can come and ask questions regarding the Draft. The consultant has also been asked to put together a document on frequently asked questions/ and answers to assist those who would like to review the draft report.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Dickhoff moved to approve 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 February 9, 2015;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of claim check number 81505 through 81702 in the amount of \$1,764,047.57; ACH and EFT deposits in the amount of \$347,671.16 and

\$177,077.17 respectively; and payroll check numbers 27300 through 27332 in the amount of \$164,638.

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

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council of Governments

Councilmember Pellegrini provided a brief report on the recent COG meeting and stated that they are currently in the process of rewriting the by-laws.

National League of Cities

Councilmember Dickhoff stated she will be attending the National League of Cities conference in Washington D.C. next month.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances

**Business and Occupation
Tax**

An Ordinance relating to Title 4, Licenses and Taxation, of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; amending Section 4.83.030 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to approve the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Staff explained that the change to this ordinance is removing marijuana from definition of agricultural products and farmers. Mr. Folkers read the ordinance by title a second time after which the motion for approval passed by unanimous roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Slide Area

Councilmember Grun spoke briefly about the Queets hillside. He asked if the city was going to remove the trees lying against hillside. Mr. Shay stated that most of that property is privately owned so the city will not be removing anything. Mr. Shay provided a brief report on the recent submittal to the Department of Transportation. There was \$1.72 M clean-up costs as well as overtime for Police, Fire and Public Works. What is not covered by the State will need to be absorbed in budgets. Staff is currently working with the homeowners of the condemned houses on the hill to get them removed. The City is looking at putting in a retaining wall to help protect the road in the future. Lead geologist from State/OSO determined homes on the hill and homes below the hill were dangerous. Homeowners who have gone back have done so at their own risk. A memo was drafted and was distributed to those living on Queets telling them that they were in a potentially dangerous slide zone and that they were living there at their own determination. They were told they should contact their own expert to determine the safety of their homes. There will also be expenses from brushing the logging road and adding gravel to it to get people in and out of Beacon Hill after the slide. Further discussion followed on any possible assistance from the Federal Government or the State for

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assistance to the homeowners. Mr. Shay stated that unfortunately there was not enough reported damage to meet the threshold required by FEMA for a disaster declaration.

EXECUTIVE SESSION
Labor Negotiations

Mayor Durney announced that there would be a brief executive session lasting for approximately 20 minutes. No action will be taken following the session. He called for a three minute recess after which the council will convene in executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Council reconvened in regular session at 8:20 p.m. after which Council made a motion to adjourn the meeting. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary

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