

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes

March 23, 2015

CALL TO ORDER

Police Chief Jeff Myers led the flag salute and Mayor Durney called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Durney and Councilmembers Anderson, Dickhoff, Diehm, Grun, McMillan, Nelson, Pellegrini, Pennant, Simera, Swope, Tibbetts 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, Assistant Finance Director Maureen Smedley and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

PROCLAMATION

Mayor Durney issued a Proclamation honoring Rick Strom for his many years of service to the youth in the community through his work with Boy Scouts and youth sports.

**PUBLIC HEARING –
Moratorium on Wholesale
Liquefied Petroleum Sales
and Storage**

Councilmember Dickhoff moved to open the hearing regarding a moratorium on Wholesale Liquefied Petroleum Sales and Storage at 7:04 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, Hoquiam, thanked the Mayor and City Council for taking a stand on the crude by rail proposals.

Ms. Liz Ellis, 424 McKinley Avenue, Aberdeen, stated that the Mayor's proposed moratorium was incredibly welcome and most encouraging. She said there are many reasons why oil and gas should not be shipped or stored in Grays Harbor and she spoke in support of the proposed amendment to the zoning. She asked that council also consider adding gas and coal to the language of the proposed amendment

Mr. Alan Richrod, Aberdeen, stated that Grays Harbor could be a place where the world comes to see sustainable energy. He thanked the Mayor and City Council for putting the moratorium in effect.

Ms. Robin Moore, 1019 Monroe, Hoquiam, stated that the definitions need to be worked on. Mayor Durney explained that the resolution was tabled and that the Council can bring it back from the table to work on the definitions if that is what they choose to do. It is currently on the table and the Council can make their decision on how they would like to proceed.

Mr. Arnie Martin, 631 Chenault, suggested that there is some urgency to address the changes. The Environmental Laws of the State suggest that Imperium and Westway are not currently vested until the Draft EIS is issued. If you wait past June you can't stop their proposals. He asked that Council move forward on this.

Following no further public comment, Councilmember McMillan moved to close the hearing at 7:17 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS

There were no public comments or written communications.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember McMillan moved to approve 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 City Council Minutes of March 9, 2015;
- The Regulatory Committee Report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 81719 through 81878 in the amount of \$272,164.55.

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

MAYORS REPORTS

PDC Forms

Mayor Durney reminded Council that their 2014 PDC Forms are due April 15, 2015. You can go on line and do them. If you have any problems contact Tracy.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Council of Governments

Councilmember Pellegrini stated that COG met last week and is in the process of doing some revisions to the bylaws for transitioning into officer positions/administrative sub council. They also discussed priorities on transportation issues.

Employee Barbeque

Councilmember McMillan reminded Council of the Employee BBQ hosted by the Council. Councilmember Diehm will be accepting \$25 donations to support the barbeque which is held the end of August.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Ordinances

Temporary Suspension of Sign Code

An Ordinance relating to the regulation of signs; temporarily suspending Subsection (7)(i) and (8)(viii) of Section 10.05.130 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code to allow for the placement of sandwich board signs during the period of the emergency closure

of the Simpson Avenue Bridge; and establishing an effective date. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the ordinance and the motion was seconded. Councilmember McMillan explained that this would allow for the businesses down Simpson closer to the bridge to put out signs to indicate they are open. Councilmember Winkelman moved to amend the ordinance to read “scheduled closure” not “emergency closure”. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Following the second reading by title, the main motion as amended, passed by unanimous roll call vote.

OLD BUSINESS
Zoning Amendments

Councilmember Pellegrini moved to bring the Resolution regarding the Zoning Code Amendments off the table back to the floor. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Councilmember Pennant asked if everyone had reviewed the letter from Quinault President Sharp regarding the vesting of Imperium and Westway. Staff stated that not all councilmembers received the letter – that only a few were provided to certain council. A lengthy discussion on timeframe of making amendments, etc. followed. Councilmember Pellegrini stated that there needs to be language that does not zone those businesses that are currently located there out of business. He would like to have staff bring something to council that can be reviewed. Councilmember Winkelman stated that we also do not want to stop the expansion, sale, or possible mergers of current businesses and voiced his concern of definitions. He does not want to push something through in a week or two without review. A workshop was suggested and Councilmember Dickhoff moved to hold a workshop on April 20th to review and amend the definitions to be provided back to staff. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

COMMUNICATIONS
Zoning Amendments

Mr. Dave Forbes, 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, thinks that council needs to take time to review, have input from the citizens, really pay attention as this is critical to the citizens of Hoquiam and all of Grays Harbor.

Mr. Arnie Martin, 631 Chenault, stated that he unfortunately didn’t make his point well on the urgency for the Council to move forward on this. If it is done before the draft EIS is issued, the permits for the Imperium and Westway expansions can be stopped.

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Mr. Frank Gordon, Grays Harbor County Commissioner, thanked the Council and Mayor and complemented them on the process they are following.

Ms. Robin Moore, 1019 Monroe, stated that the Governor has said we are in drought conditions. If it remains hot and dry the Council might want to ban fireworks for the upcoming summer.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Councilmember McMillan moved to recess at 7:52 p.m. for 7 minutes and reconvene in Executive Session for approximately 20 minutes. No action will probably be taken following the executive session.

ADJOURNMENT

Council was called back to order in regular session at 8:38 p.m. Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting and the motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JACK DURNEY – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – Council Secretary

