

**CITY OF HOQUIAM**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**

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**October 26, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Councilmember Tibbetts led the flag salute after which Mayor Durney called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

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

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Mid-Biennium Budget Review**

Councilmember McMillan moved to open the public hearing at 7:06 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Mr. Folkers provided information to the council regarding the current budget. He stated that all Departments are doing well and that projected revenues seem to be in line.

Mr. Kimble Martin, 321 Emerson, spoke to the council regarding his current water bill. He stated that on his current bill he used less water than the previous bill, but the costs are higher. Mr. Folkers explained that his previous bill was pro-rated as they did not have a complete billing cycle at their new residence. Mr. Martin stated he believes the city is charging too much for the Water, Sewer and Sanitation. A lengthy discussion followed on the differences between the two bills.

Councilmember McMillan moved to close the hearing at 7:26 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**Changes to Truck Route**

Mr. Joe Dugay stated he does not believe the changes to the truck route on the Bay and 22<sup>nd</sup> street are safe. There are only 2 to 10 trucks per day and since the change, there have been several close calls with head on wrecks. Two years ago, this issue was brought to the Public Safety Committee and they recommended no change at that time. He believes the council should reconsider this.

**Changes to Truck Route**

Mr. Dave Forbes 2216 Aberdeen Avenue, stated that he believes the changes to the route are a good idea.

**Bicyclist Problem**

Mr. Bill Wieland, Hoquiam, stated that he believes there is a problem with bicycles not following the rules when they are

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---

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riding on the roadways. They are turning in front of traffic, riding towards oncoming traffic, etc. He would like to see the city address these issues.

Terry Crowley spoke to the Council regarding several topics such as a wooden boat project and the need for bicycle helmets for adults.

Hillside above Queets

Ms. Pat Mullhouser, 2631 Queets, spoke to the Council regarding her concern for the hillside behind Queets. They had another tree come down on their property over the past week. She asked if there is any kind of testing that can be done by the City. Mr. Shay explained that the hillside property is privately owned and that the residents in that area would need to hire a geologist to come and take a look at the stability. The City cannot go onto the private property.

Greater Grays Harbor Inc.

Mr. Dru Garson representing Greater Grays Harbor Inc. provided information to the Council regarding the accomplishments they have made over the past year and discussed their goals for 2016. He stated that they are looking at being more pro-active on Economic Development during 2016 as well as making changes to their Leadership Grays Harbor program. They recently completed some renovations to the Visitor Center and are also working on their business retention and expansion program.

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Kathy Hoder, representing the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority invited the Councilmembers and citizens to attend a meeting on November 5<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 at the Grays Harbor PUD meeting room regarding a flood prevention master planning effort between for Grays Harbor.

**PROCLAMATION**

Small Business Saturday

Mr. Folkers read a proclamation declaring November 28, 2015, as Small Business Saturday in the City of Hoquiam.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of 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 October 12, 2015;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval of payment of claim check numbers 83064 through 83252 in the amount of \$923,202.40.

Councilmember Grun asked that the minutes be corrected to state that Councilmember McMillan bought up the issue regarding the Century Link lines. The motion for approval of the consent agenda passed by voice vote.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Public Safety Committee  
Alcohol Policy for City  
Buildings and Facilities

The Public Safety Committee made a recommendation that City staff create a policy wherein alcohol at any facilities must be kept in a designated area away from underage children. Councilmember McMillan moved for approval of this recommendation. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

Public Safety Committee  
Purchase of New Ambulance

The Public Safety Committee made a recommendation that the City have the ambulance committee order an ambulance as soon as possible paid for with equipment rental and an interfund loan. Councilmember McMillan moved to adopt report and the motion was seconded. Mr. Folkers stated that there is no money available to make payments on an interfund loan and that there is only approximately \$110,000 available. He further stated that 2016 does not look good for this purchase and that Council should consider looking at it again in 2017. The possible purchase of a new ambulance was discussed at length. Mayor Durney stated it would be appropriate for it to be referred to the Finance Department and Regulatory for review and recommendation to the Council. No action was taken on the motion for adopting the report. Councilmember Grun moved to refer this item to the Finance Department and the Regulatory Committee. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**OFFICER REPORTS**

Boat Launch and Moorage  
Bids

Mr. Shay provided a written report to the Council regarding the recent call for bids for construction of the 9<sup>th</sup> Street Boat Launch and 165 feet of moorage. Contractors were asked to provide a base bid and 7 alternate bids, 6 of which add moorage footage and one which adds protective coating to the pilings. Based on the two bids received from Rognlins, Inc. (\$562,964.75) and Quigg Brothers, Inc. (\$542,532.50), staff recommends that Council either award the bid to Quigg Brothers Inc. which includes the base bid and alternate 5 and 7 or that the City award the full project as designed by Quigg Brothers for a total of \$542,532.50, using the RCO grant and an additional \$21,000 match from the City. Councilmember Grun moved that the City award the full project bid for \$542,532.50 to Quigg Brothers, Inc. The motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

**CITY OF HOQUIAM**  
**Council Meeting Minutes**

**October 26, 2015**

**MAYORS REPORTS**

**Project Updates**

Mayor Durney provided an update to the Council regarding the following projects:

The N Street Paving project is currently underway.

John Gable Park - construction is finished, trees will be planted over the next several months.

Wastewater Treatment Plant - new pumps are currently being bid and bid results will be before the council at the next meeting.

The Jail Expansion is currently underway.

Employment Opportunities: The City is (currently advertising for a Utility Clerk I and a Maintenance I position – recently filled a Permit Tech position in the Building Department and the City is completing the background information, etc., for the Animal Control Officer.

The City has received a grant from the Community Foundation for new playground equipment at the Eastside Fire Station

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

**Mayor's Ball**

Councilmember McMillan reminded Council of the upcoming 125<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Mayor's Ball which will be Saturday, November 14<sup>th</sup> at the Hoquiam Elks. Councilmembers received their invitations in their boxes. Tickets are \$10.00 each and available through him or Tracy Wood.

**Hoquiam Shows Its Best**

Councilmember Dickhoff stated that the Hoquiam Business Association would like to extend their thanks for those who attended the recent Hoquiam Shows Its Best auction and dinner.

**LEGAL BUSINESS**

**Ordinances**

**One-Way Street to Two-Way Street**

An Ordinance relating to streets and alleys; designating a portion of 22<sup>nd</sup> Street from Simpson Avenue to Bay Avenue, and a portion of Bay Avenue from 22<sup>nd</sup> Street to 23<sup>rd</sup> as two-way; and amending 7.80.010 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. 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 for approval of the ordinance passed by unanimous roll call vote.

**Resolutions**

**Amendment to Personnel Policy**

A Resolution adopting amendments to the City of Hoquiam Personnel Policies & Procedures Manual, amending Section

**CITY OF HOQUIAM**  
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---

**October 26, 2015**

11.60, pertaining to the reimbursement for meals. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the resolution and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, the motion for approval of the Resolution by voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Queets Avenue

Councilmember Grun asked if city could offer any assistance to help residents on Queets Avenue. Councilmember Tibbetts stated that the city cannot perform work on private property.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Update on Various Items

Mr. Dave Wilson, 1501 C Street, Hoquiam, stated that it was encouraging to hear what is being done around town.

Bottling Plant and Helmets for Children

Terry Crowley, 703 Simpson, suggested that the City might want to look into creating a bottling plant for the City water. It could provide some needed revenue. He also stated he would like to the bicycle helmets law for children enforced.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Motion to Excuse Absent Members

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

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:45 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. .

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JACK DURNEY – Mayor

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MIKE FOLKERS – Finance Director

