

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

**November 13, 2017**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Dickhoff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Winkelman led the flag salute.

**ROLL CALL**

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Dickhoff and Councilmembers Anderson, Carlstrom, Forkum, Grun, Nelson, Pellegrini, Pennant, Simera, and Winkelman. Absent from the meeting were Councilmembers Livingston, Swope and Wilson.

Staff in attendance were City Librarian Mary Thornton, City Attorney Steve Johnson, City Administrator Brian Shay, Finance Director Corrine Schmid and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**Property Tax Revenues**

Mayor Dickhoff stated that there is a public hearing for Property Tax Revenues. Ms. Schmid provided some background information on the requirement for a public hearing after which Councilmember Pellegrini moved to open hearing at 7:04 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Finance Director Schmid explained that this is the first public hearing and the second hearing will be November 27, 2017. After the second hearing council will be asked to adopt the levy. It is due to county by November 30<sup>th</sup>. Ms. Schmid reviewed the projected revenues and stated that these are based on the same figures as last year as the final numbers have not been received from the County at this point. Ms. Schmid stated that she requested the information in early October and they should be received within a few days. Following a brief discussion on the figures that were presented and the projected revenues.

Gary Nelson, Port of Grays Harbor, provided information to the Council regarding the proposed site construction for BHP and stated that the City would see an increase in revenues upon the construction completion in approximately 3 years.

Mr. Mike Vellani, 301 Brant Lane, Hoquiam, stated that he had questions regarding road and street improvements in Hoquiam. Mayor Dickhoff stated that this is a public hearing on the Property Tax Revenues and he could ask his questions or make suggestions on the road improvements and repairs under communications at the end of the meeting.

Councilmember Pellegrini moved to close the hearing at 7:17 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

**My Town Coalition**

My Town Coalition has asked to reschedule and will not be making a presentation tonight.

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Kyle Pauley, Sign Code                      Kyle Pauley, Hoquiam Business Association asked if there would be a report on the proposed changes to the sign code. Staff stated that it has been recommended that Staff draw up a draft ordinance with the changes recommended from HBA which will be sent back to the Planning Commission for their review.

Gary Nelson, Port of Grays Harbor                      Gary Nelson, Port of Grays Harbor provided information to the Council regarding the proposed pot ash facility and stated that BHP had requested a reduction in the permitting fees. Mr. Nelson stated that he has concerns with the process used to determine the shorelines permit fees. This fee structure discourages large investments for businesses in our area. He believes the city should look at the fee schedule and charge fees to recover reasonable costs. He feels the fee structure is aggressive and not really competitive with other areas. He would be willing to work with the regulatory committee to make a fee schedule that would encourage development in our industrial areas.

Fee Schedule    Mr. Arnie Martin, 601 Chenault, stated that he doesn't believe the fees are too much especially for the companies that are making the proposals for business development.

**CONSENT AGENDA**                                      Councilmember Grun moved to approve consent agenda item a as presented and the motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the consent agenda were as follows:

- Hoquiam City Council Minutes of October 23, 2017;

The motion for approval passed by voice vote.

**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

Regulatory Committee -  
Shoreline Permit Fees                                      The Regulatory Committee made a recommendation to the Council that the City adhere to the Shoreline Permit Fees as stated in Resolution 2010-28. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to accept the committee report and the motion was seconded. Councilmember Winkelman stated that he does not feel he is ready to take action on this at this time as the Port has provided further information to be considered. This is a significant project and we should be recovering reasonable expenses. He does not want companies to feel that the City is not interested in them moving here. Councilmember Forkum asked if this issue should be sent back to the regulatory committee. Councilmember Pennant stated that rail traffic is going to be inconvenient to everyone. Seems to be that there will be a lot of money made here and the City has a fee schedule. Mayor Dickhoff stated that if council decides to vote against acceptance of the report, you could hold a workshop and

invite those interested parties to provide information. Following further discussion, the motion to approve the Regulatory recommendation failed by voice vote.

Planning Commission – Non-Conforming Uses     The Planning Commission made a recommendation that staff be directed to rewrite HMC Section 10.01.100 2(a) as proposed by the City Attorney. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to accept the report and recommendation. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Planning Commission – Sign Code     The Planning Commission made a recommendation that staff be directed to adjust the sign code by considering the HBA suggestions, including the City Attorney’s suggested language relating to non-commercial speech signs, and present a draft of those changes back to the Planning Commission. Councilmember Pellegrini moved to accept planning commission report and recommendation. The motion was seconded and following discussion on the second review by the Planning Commission, the motion passed by voice vote.

**MAYOR REPORTS**

911 Fee Format     Mayor Dickhoff asked Mr. Shay to explain the proposed budget increase from the Administrative Board for 911 services. Mr. Shay stated that there is a proposal going before the board at their next meeting – next Tuesday, which would increase the fee being paid by the City from \$95,000 to either \$149,000 or \$175,000 dependent upon which formula the board adopts. The city had only budgeted \$95,000 for 2018 for this fee. The increase is due to radio tower improvements, union negotiations and other items outlined. The Mayor is asking Council direction as to what they would like her to say and how they would like her to vote at the next meeting. The consensus of the council was that changing funding/fee formula is not acceptable and that they need to scale that budget increase back. The Mayor will be attending the Board meeting and does have a vote on this issue.

Consolidation Efforts     Mayor Dickhoff stated her frustration on the proposal made per the Mayors of Aberdeen, Hoquiam and Cosmopolis on possible consolidation of certain functions for the three cities. Mayor Dickhoff stated she believes the duties of the Finance Director, City Administrator and City Attorney could be consolidated as well as Fire and Police Services. She also believes the duties of the mechanic could be consolidated and shared. She stated that as Mayor you should be looking out for the benefit of your citizens.

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AWC Regional Meeting            Mayor Dickhoff thanked those councilmembers who attended the AWC regional meeting.

Veterans Day                    Mayor Dickhoff thanked the councilmembers who are Veterans for their service.

**COUNCIL REPORTS**

Youth Soccer                    Councilmember Winkelman spoke briefly about the past weekend soccer games. Several of our local youth soccer teams have made it to the State Quarter Finals!

Use of City Facilities            Councilmember Forkum stated that she has talked with Superintendent Mike Villarreal about our Stadium and other youth fields and the District is in agreement that we should be marketing these facilities.

**OLD BUSINESS**

Permit Fees                      Councilmember Carlstrom made a motion to refer the permit fees schedule back to the Regulatory Committee for further review. The motion was seconded. Council requested that staff review the permit fee scheduled before the next Regulatory meeting. Following a brief discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

**NEW BUSINESS**

Needed Road Repairs            Councilmember Forkum asked if staff could do some repair work on the pot holes on West Eklund.

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Consolidation                    Ms. Thornton, City Librarian, stated that she had found an article from the 1920's wherein Sam Benn stated that the three cities should be one entity.

Permit Fee's                      Gary Nelson, 617 Chenault, stated he would be happy to provide any information the Regulatory Committee might need. The fee schedule needs to be reviewed to try and attract more business to our community.

Sign Code                         Kyle Pauley, 603 B Street, Cosmopolis, stated that he would be happy to meet with staff and help in any way to draft a new sign code.

BHP Proposal                    Mr. Arnie Martin, Chenault, spoke briefly regarding the proposal for possible construction and operations by BHP. He stated that the city should not underestimate the size of this project. There will be large buildings in the view scape, increased use of the decrepit railroad tracks and more load and wear and tear on our bridges and roads.

