

CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes

January 14, 2019

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Dickhoff called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Finance Director Schmid led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Dickhoff and Councilmembers Anderson, Carlstrom, George, Grun, Hinchey, McMillan, Nelson, Patterson, Puvogel, Wilson and Winkelman.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Broadway Avenue Slope
Stabilization Project

Included in the packet was a letter received from the Grays harbor Council of Governments informing the City that we have been awarded \$117,239.00 for the Broadway Avenue Slope Stabilization project. Mr. Shay explained that we can use this funding for pre-engineering.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Grun moved to approve consent agenda items as presented and his motion was seconded. Those items appearing on the consent agenda were as follows:

- The City Council Minutes of December 10, 2018;
- The Regulatory Committee report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 90525 through 90710 in the amount of \$503,539.58; claim auto pay and EFT numbers 258 through 264 in the amount of \$172,016.43; payroll check numbers 28896 through 28924 in the amount of \$175,465.31 for the December 5th payroll; payroll check numbers 28925 through 28953 in the amount of \$186,233.84 for the December 31st payroll; payroll ACH deposit for December 5th payroll in the amount of \$399,365.74; payroll ACH deposit for December 31st payroll in the amount of \$367,747.76; payroll EFT deposit for December 5th payroll in the amount of \$202,497.23; payroll EFT deposit for December 31st payroll in the amount of \$190,409.14; and that payroll and benefits for the month of January 2019 be approved and issued at the proper time.
- A request for Release of the Timber Sale Bond for Sale 2018-01 for Harbor Timber;

The motion to approve the consent agenda passed by voice vote.

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MAYOR REPORTS

Grays Harbor Hospital

Mayor Dickhoff stated that she and Mayor Larson met with GH Hospital addressing recent issues and questions that have come up from Councilmembers and citizens. They will continue to have these discussions with them. She will also continue to serve on the Transit Board and the COG Board.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Student/Pedestrian Crossing
at Central Elementary

Councilmember Hinchin stated that there is concern with the staff at Central regarding the removal of the stop light on Emerson and the safety of the kids now trying to cross Emerson for school. Staff stated that DOT has been contacted regarding the removal of the light. Council briefly discussed the lighted crosswalks. Council can direct staff to send a letter to DOT regarding our opposition to the removal of the light. Councilmember Carlstrom reminded staff that the button on the crossing at the corner of Lincoln and Emerson also needs to be corrected. It is not safe as far as ADA accessibility. Councilmember McMillan moved to direct the Mayor to write a letter to DOT on behalf of the City. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Blind Justice 1st Amendment
Audit

A brief discussion was held regarding the recent video that was posted on YouTube by Mike Nelson/Blind Justice as he completed his 1st Amendment Audit at the Police Station. Mike Nelson, Chief Myers spoke briefly regarding access to the park area and the area that is posted as a secure area/authorized personnel only. The Department recently received a bid for a fence which should eliminate problems with the secure area being accessible. They will also be updating some signage.

Fire Consolidation Feasibility
Study

Councilmember Winkelman stated he recently participated in a meeting with the Company doing the consolidation feasibility study and he has a very optimistic outlook. He is looking forward to participating in this further. Councilmember Puvogel stated that he feels we are going to get objective, comprehensive information from the Company doing the study.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Other

Agreement with HDR –
Water System Plan Update

Included in the packet was an agreement with HDR Engineering to update our Water System Plan. In the past, this plan was required to be updated every 6 years – the requirement is now every 10 years. Councilmember McMillan moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement and the motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion on the utility rates, the motion passed by voice vote.

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Design of North Shore Levee – West Segment Included in the packet was an agreement for Planning and Design for the West Segment of the North Shore Levee with KPFF Consulting and Engineering. Councilmember McMillan moved to authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement and his motion was seconded. Mr. Shay provided some background information as well as an update on the project after which the motion for approval passed by voice vote.

OLD BUSINESS

Sunken Vessels on River Councilmember Hinchin spoke to the Council and staff regarding the issue with the sunken vessels. He asked what the status of the issue was. There have been recent articles regarding the owner of the property having this same issue in other cities. Staff explained that they have been in contact with Department of Ecology regarding the sunken vessels which fall under their authority. The City has charged the property owner with code violations regarding the other issues on his property. Staff is currently working to set up a meeting with the other departments/entities involved to try and come up with a solution to this problem.

Lights for Simpson and Sumner Councilmember McMillan stated that currently there have been 5 lights purchased for the Light Project on Sumner and Simpson. He will continue to work on this.

NEW BUSINESS

Committee on Committee's and Election of New Council President Councilmember McMillan reminded Councilmembers to return their forms regarding their interest on serving on the Council committees to him by the end of the meeting. Councilmember McMillan nominated Ben Winkelman to serve as the Council President for 2019. Councilmember Carlstrom nominated Paul McMillan to serve as the 2019 Council President. Following no further nominations, Councilmember Winkelman was elected by voice vote.

Councilmember McMillan nominated Councilmember Hinchin to serve as the Council position at large on the 2019 Committee on Committees. Following no further nominations, Councilmember Hinchin was elected by voice vote.

Inter-Local Agreement with Mason County – Ambulance Bid Included in the packet was an Inter-local Cooperative Purchasing Agreement with Mason County Fire District #11 for the Type III Ambulance bid received by the City in 2017. Councilmember Hinchin moved to enter into this agreement with Mason County FD #11. His motion was seconded and following a brief discussion, passed by voice vote.

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Greater Grays Harbor Inc. Councilmember Winkelman moved to enter into a service agreement with Greater Grays Harbor Inc. for one-year. His motion was seconded and a brief discussion followed. Councilmember McMillan moved to table this item and send this to regulatory committee for their review and recommendation. The motion to table was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Salary Increase for City Council Councilmember McMillan moved to direct staff to draft an Ordinance to include a 3% increase in Salary for City Councilmembers. The motion was seconded and a brief discussion followed. It was explained that the current council cannot approve a raise for themselves, so this would not be effective until after the next election. The motion passed by voice vote.

Urban Forestry Board Mayor Dickhoff stated that past Mayor, Jack Durney has expressed his interest in serving on the Urban Forestry Board. She asked for council concurrence on this appointment and there were no objections.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Crosswalk Concerns Bob Espisito, 400 Beacon Hill Drive, asked if the safety issues and problems being incurred at the crosswalks are being documented and provided to DOT. Staff stated that they have been making DOT aware of the issues. He asked if a request could be made to DOT for overhead crossing signs or to replace the yellow flashing lights on the current crosswalks with red lights so people would be more apt to stop.

Committee on Committee's It was announced that the Committee on Committee's will meet following this meeting to determine appointments for the 2019 Council Committees.

ADJOURN

Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:50 p.m. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

JASMINE DICKHOFF – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – City Council Secretary