



## CITY OF HOQUIAM

City Council Meeting Minutes

May 24, 2021

### CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Winkelman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and councilmember Anderson led the flag salute.

### ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Winkelman and Councilmembers Anderson, Carlstrom, Dick, George, Grun, McMillan, Nelson, Pellegrini, Puvogel, Reid and Ushman. Councilmember Hinchon was absent from the meeting.

Staff in attendance were Police Chief Jeff Myers, Assistant Fire Chief Matt Miller, Fire Representative Rich Malizia, City Attorney Steve Johnson, City Administrator Brian Shay, Finance Director Corri Schmid and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

### COMMUNICATIONS

Congressman Kilmer

Congressman Kilmer will be logging into the meeting around 7:30 to provide an update on legislative affairs.

### CONSENT AGENDA

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

- The City Council Minutes of May 10, 2021;
- The Regulatory Committee Report recommending approval and payment of claim check numbers 96163 through 96351 in the amount of \$1,233,920.47; claim check auto pay and EFT numbers 445 through 451 in the amount of \$24,699.04; and payroll check numbers 29813 through 29839 in the amount of \$187,933.19; payroll ACH and EFT payments in the amount of \$415,372.57 and \$220,979.84 respectively.

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

### OFFICER REPORTS

HFD/RFA Benefit Charge Database and Legal Counsel to Assist with Labor Negotiations for RFA

Included in the council packet was an Officer report from Assistant Fire Chief Matt Miller requesting Council approval to authorize Interface Systems LLC to create a Benefit Charge database for the RFA at a cost of approximately \$10,000; and to authorize retainage of a third party attorney to assist with labor negotiations to begin discussions on a potential draft provisional



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## MAYORS REPORTS

Laser Show – City Anniversary

labor agreement between the RFA and IAFF 315 and IAFF 2639. Councilmember McMillan moved for the approval of this report and his motion was seconded. Following a brief discussion, the motion passed by voice vote.

Due to the restrictions in place for COVID, the City birthday party was cancelled. There is going to be a laser light show at Gable Park/Hoquiam high school on Friday June 4<sup>th</sup> following the High School Graduation. This will be open to the public at no cost. Social distancing will apply as well as masks for those who decide to sit outside their vehicles.

Spray Park

Staff has been discussing when to open the spray park. There are still restrictions in place but we are looking at after Memorial Day weekend. Guidelines will need to be followed and we will need to install some signage.

Summer Hires

Summer hires will be starting soon and will be working on sidewalk projects, as well as other things that we have been trying to accomplish.

Job Revolution Project

Mayor Winkelman spoke about the “Job Revolution”. This is a program where youth can work towards getting their pilots licenses, and learn to work on planes, etc. This would need to be a collaborative program with the Port, City, County and Boeing, as well as working with the College and schools. We need things like this in Hoquiam. Find economies that have high demands – good career paths for them.

Eagle Scout Projects

If there are any ideas for potential Eagle scout projects, please let him know or staff know. There have been several scouts asking about projects they could possibly do.

FEMA – Conditional Letter of Map Revisions

Included in the packet was a Conditional Letter of Map Revision (CLOMR) from FEMA on the proposed levy project and revisions that could be made to the flood map if completed. This could make a big difference on some homeowners’ insurance rates, etc.

## COUNCIL REPORTS



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HBA

Councilmember Carlstrom stated that HBA will be meeting soon and are looking at possibly having a block party the end of June (more than likely in July) in the downtown area that businesses could participate in.

GH Transit

Councilmember Carlstrom asked if the Mayor or Staff could contact GH Transit. They are still not offering weekend service and it is affecting some citizens who depend on the transit to get to work and for transportation. It is important for people to be able to use their services.

### **LEGAL BUSINESS**

#### **Ordinances**

Drug Offenses

An Ordinance relating to drug offenses; amending Section 5A.70.010 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; repealing Section 5A.70.020 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and amending Section 5A.70.030 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the ordinance and his motion was seconded. Councilmember Puvogel asked a question regarding the value of including misdemeanor marijuana; Chief Myers stated we are adopting what the state law is. Following a brief discussion, Ms. Schmid read the ordinance by title a second time and the motion passed by unanimous roll call vote.

### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Congressman Kilmer

Congressman Kilmer joined the meeting. He began by stating it is important for him to be available to the City. He discussed the American Rescue Plan; the number of vaccinations that have been administered in our country; how difficult it is for citizens to find childcare. Due to COVID many people have lost their jobs and there have been changes in the tax credit to extend the child credit. They are also working on resources for the school districts to make up time they have lost in the classroom. There have been many discussions over the past year due to all of the changes and restrictions from COVID. Cities and Counties were required to be on the front lines and that added extra costs to keep people safe. There has been a lot of discussion on an infrastructure bill; wastewater, affordable housing, broadband, all of which are important to Grays Harbor. This could put many people to work



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for now and in the future. He is hoping to introduce a bill to help with the diverse challenges of small communities such as block grants, etc. The flood protection projects are on his top ten list of those he will submit for possible funding as well as the rail separation project and the rehab of the Heron St. Bridge. Several things being looked at, at this time are broadband expansion, childcare, flooding, urban warning systems, housing programs, funding for forest service; thanked each of the Councilmembers for serving in office and he is grateful for the leadership and partnership with the City. He asked that if anyone knows of anybody with issues to please have them reach out to his office.

Mayor Winkelman thanked Congressman Kilmer and encouraged any citizen or council to reach out to his office. Councilmember Puvogel spoke briefly about the rise in lumber prices, some of which is due to the mills not being operational. Congressman Kilmer stated that lumber is at a high price now – but we need more housing; “Yes in my backyard” is what we need to be thinking of. This would add to the jobs in wood product industry and timber industry. Councilmember Ushman raised her concern with early learning, such as preschool. There is a significant gap in those who can attend and those who do not have that opportunity because the spots available are filled by those who have the income for registration or a child with a disability. Middle income families have no space or place to send their children to pre-school. Congressman Kilmer stated that the American Rescue Plan includes early learning providers and child education providers to help with that. In addition, the increase in child credit should help with childcare expenses and early childhood education. The tax credit was also expanded to \$3600 for children six and under and \$3000 for children seven to seventeen. This credit expansion is hoped to cut childhood poverty in half in our country.

### **LEGAL BUSINESS**

#### Ordinances

#### Parking on Ontario Street

An Ordinance relating to parking on Ontario Street; and amending Section 7.80.030 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code. Ms. Schmid stated there was a correction to the title of the Ordinance to change “Spencer St.” to “Ontario St.”. Councilmember Puvogel moved to adopt the Ordinance as corrected and his



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### Legal Holidays

motion was seconded. Following the second reading, the motion to approve passed by unanimous roll call vote.

An Ordinance relating to Legal Holidays, amending Section 1.22.021 of the Hoquiam Municipal Code; and establishing an effective date. Councilmember McMillan moved for adoption of the ordinance and his motion was seconded. Councilmember McMillan moved to amend the Ordinance to remove Section 5, and making the effective date as June 1<sup>st</sup> of 2021; his amendment was seconded. Councilmember McMillan stated that renaming the Friday following Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day to celebrate this holiday is fine but not as a paid holiday. Councilmember Puvogel stated he could not support this amendment. He feels it is really important that these are recognized holidays for the message that it delivers to our community. Councilmember Ushman stated she could not support the amendment either. She believes we need to be inclusive of everyone and Juneteenth is part of that. Councilmember Anderson also expressed that we need to show inclusiveness of everyone in Hoquiam, the friendly city that we are. Councilmember Carlstrom asked if the City can support this as a holiday without making it a paid holiday. Mr. Johnson stated that State statute makes it a legal holiday statewide, but it is not a paid holiday within the City unless the City ADOPTS it as a legal holiday. If you pass the ordinance and make it a legal holiday then it becomes a paid holiday. Councilmember Puvogel stated that the issue seems to be due to cost. Councilmember McMillan stated that we can recognize this with a Mayor's proclamation, which would not be a paid holiday. Councilmember Reid stated she has voted against this due to the cost. Following further discussion, the amendment failed by a vote of 6 to 5, with Councilmembers Dick, Grun, McMillan, Nelson and Pellegrini voting yes. Ms. Schmid read the ordinance by title a second time, after which the motion to approve the Ordinance failed by a vote of 6 to 5 with Councilmembers Puvogel, Ushman, Anderson, Carlstrom and George voting yes.

### Other Legal

Landfill Permit Conditions -  
Parametrix

Included in the packet was a proposed scope of work and fee estimate for continued environmental monitoring services at the Hoquiam landfill from Parametrix. Ms. Shay explained that this is not budgeted, and the proposed cost will be slightly over



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	<p>\$55,000. We have been required to test per the county for over 25 years. This is a requirement at this time, not an option. Councilmember McMillan moved to approve the proposal from Parametrix and his motion was seconded. A brief discussion followed wherein the testing requirements were discussed. Councilmember Pellegrini explained what we are testing for, after which the motion to approve passed by voice vote.</p>
<b>OLD BUSINESS</b>	
Naming of New Park	<p>Mayor Winkelman encouraged council to look at names for the new park. Councilmember Puvogel moved to refer naming of the Park to Historical Committee. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.</p>
Employee Appreciation Barbeque	<p>Councilmember McMillan reminded Council to turn in their money for the Barbeque</p>
Sanitation of Buildings	<p>Mayor Winkelman briefly discussed air sanitation in the City buildings. He will be asking staff to put together some kind of plan for those working in the buildings as well as attending meetings..</p>
<b>NEW BUSINESS</b>	
Car Charging Station	<p>Councilmember Carlstrom made a motion to have staff look into a car charging station in the city parking lot downtown and the motion was seconded. There was a brief discussion on funding opportunities through grants, possibly recovery funds, etc. Following that discussion, the motion passed by voice vote</p>
Holidays	<p>Councilmember McMillan moved to have staff bring an ordinance to the Council naming the Friday after Thanksgiving as Native American Heritage Day in the City of Hoquiam with an effective date of June 14, 2021. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.</p>
Proclamation for Juneteenth	<p>Councilmember McMillan stated that if the Mayor chooses, that a Proclamation be created to recognize Juneteenth at the next council meeting.</p>



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Excuse Absent Member

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

**COMMUNICATIONS**

Hoquiam Timberland  
Library

Mary Thornton stated that the Library will open for business on June 1<sup>st</sup> except for the meeting room. They will be open from 9:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Tuesday through Saturday. Patrons must wear a mask and social distancing will also apply. A new program being offered is the story trails – one of which is now being installed at Gable Park. This allows for families to enjoy a family adventure in the outdoors.

**ADJOURN**

Councilmember McMillan moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:10 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

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BEN WINKELMAN – Mayor

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TRACY WOOD – City Council Secretary