



CITY OF HOQUIAM

City Council Meeting Minutes

JUNE 28, 2021

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Winkelman called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. Councilmember Grun Led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

In attendance at the meeting were Mayor Winkelman and Councilmembers Anderson, George, Grun, Hinch, Mcmillan, Pellegrini, Puvogel, Reid and Ushman. Absent from the meeting were Councilmembers Carlstrom, Dick and Nelson.

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

COMMUNICATIONS

Blue Zone

Representative for the Blue Zone Presentation have asked to reschedule to another meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Grun moved to approve 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 June 14, 2021;
- The Regulatory Committee Report recommending approval and payment of Claim Check numbers 96352 through 96559 in the amount of \$735, 231.47; Claim auto pays and EFT numbers 452 through 458 in the amount of \$159,212.88; Payroll Check numbers 29840 through 29866 in the amount of \$180,825.85; Payroll ACH and EFT's in the amount of \$427,792.70 and \$224,157.99 respectively; and that Payroll and Benefits for the month of June be approved and issued at the proper time.

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

MAYOR REPORTS

Emergency Executive Order
Banning Fireworks

Mayor Winkelman stated that earlier today he had issued an emergency executive order banning the use of fireworks in the city of Hoquiam due to the hot weather, through July 5, 2021. He is now rescinding the executive order he issued earlier, as his authority as Mayor cannot create a misdemeanor. DOE has



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declared a draught in Grays Harbor due to the recent hot weather and the City has temporarily closed access to the Watershed. In discussions with the fire department they recommended an emergency with no use of fireworks. Emergency call volumes go up with the hot weather for both police and fire. Even safe and sane fireworks can cause fires. Fireworks in the city limits has been discussed several times in the past by the Council. He encouraged Council to have some method to address this situation if this happens in the future.

Free Movie Night and Laser Show at Immanuel Baptist Businesses

Mayor Winkelman announced that there will be a free movie night on July 3rd for citizens at Immanuel Baptist and a free Laser Show on July 4th at Immanuel Baptist Church. He encouraged citizens to attend these events in lieu of setting off fireworks. Assistant Fire chief Miller spoke briefly about the increase in call volumes during the 4th and during periods of high heat. Chief Myers also stated that Police calls increase during these times too.

OFFICER REPORTS

Behavioral Health Police Navigator

Chief Myers provided a brief summary of the Behavioral Health Police Navigator position description proposed for adoption under Resolutions, later in the meeting. The Departments for Hoquiam, Aberdeen and Cosmopolis submitted a grant request for 2021-2022 funding to the Washington Association of Sheriffs and Police Chiefs to create a full-time navigator position to incorporate mental health professionals into the department's mental health field response planning and services. Currently there is no such program or service to perform this function on behalf of law enforcement in our area. Staff is requesting that Council approve the job description pending the notification of the success of the grant.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Safe and Sane 4th of July

Councilmember Puvogel encouraged citizens to have a safe and sane celebration, keeping it smart and responsible.

City Watershed Operations

Councilmember Grun stated that he had spoken with the City Forester today regarding logging operations. The Forester is aware of the dry conditions at the watershed and stated that



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July 12th City Council Meeting

logging is required to shut down due to certain weather conditions such as this

Councilmember McMillan stated that the next meeting on July 12th be moved to 5:00, after which Council would convene for a Council retreat to discuss the RFA and the Downtown Revitalization Plan. Mayor Winkelman has offered the Grand Central building for the meeting and we will still provide a zoom link for those who are not comfortable meeting in person. Councilmember Reid stated that the Public Safety Committee met before the Council meeting today and discussed speed limit reductions in certain areas. She would like to have the Council also discuss this at the retreat.

LEGAL BUSINESS Resolutions

Behavioral Health Police Navigator Position

A Resolution adopting a position description for the position of "Behavioral Health Police Navigator". Councilmember Puvogel moved for the approval of the resolution and his motion was seconded. Councilmember Puvogel thanked the Chief and the others who were involved in the creation of this position to work with and serve those in our communities. Chief Myers stated that this position would be a Hoquiam employee, civil service exempt, and work with the 3 cities to serve approximately 27,000 people. The ideal person would have a background in behavioral health/substance abuse issues, who understands the system, the dialog, how they can navigate the different systems in place to connect these people with the services that they need. They would be a key team member of the 3 departments and work closely with public safety departments. The motion for approval of the Resolution passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds

Included in the Council Packet was a notice from the State of Washington Office of Financial Management notifying the City that it is eligible to receive Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds from the Federal American Rescue Plan Act. The City is required to provide certain information to the OFM and complete the forms attached to the notice and signed by an authorized representative. Councilmember McMillan moved to authorize



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Council Meeting of July 12, 2021

the city to accept the funds and authorize the Mayor, City Administrator or Finance Director to sign on behalf of the City. Councilmember Ushman asked what these funds would be used for and Mr. Shay responded that there are certain eligible uses for the funds. These uses could be discussed at the retreat. The motion to accept and authorize signature of the documents passed by voice vote.

Committee Meetings of July 12, 2021

Councilmember McMillan moved to change the time of the meeting on July 12th to 5:00 p.m. in the City Council chambers, after which the Council will hold a retreat to discuss goals, the RFA, and the Downtown Revitalization Plan. Chief Myers can also provide an update on new laws taking affect the end of July and other topics deemed appropriate by council or staff. The motion passed by voice vote.

Councilmember Reid asked if the Committee meeting times for that evening would be changed. Councilmember McMillan moved to cancel Regulatory for July 12, 2021 and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Excuse Absent Members

Councilmember Puvogel moved to excuse the absent members who notified staff and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Councilmember Puvogel commented that Push Rods was held this past weekend and everyone attending were excited to be there.

ADJOURN

There were no public comments and Councilmember Hinchon moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:46 p.m. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

BEN WINKELMAN – Mayor

TRACY WOOD – City Council Secretary