

Town of La Conner
Town Council Meeting
April 12, 2016 – 6:00 p.m.

The meeting of the La Conner Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Hayes.

Present: Councilmembers Leaver, Stokes, Brunisholz, Chamberlain and Bruch.

Also present: Administrator Doyle, Finance Director DeGoede, Public Works Director Lease, WWTP Operator Wynn, Fire Chief Fohn and Sergeant Howell.

Approval of Agenda:

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the agenda with the addition under New Business, a Resolution for the Appointment of Parks Commissioners. Seconded by Councilmember Leaver. Carried 5-0

Approval of Minutes:

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the minutes of March 22,, 2016. Seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Carried 5-0

Approval of Accounts Payable:

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve checks 18369 through 18449, 201293 in the amount of \$174,621.59. Seconded by Councilmember Bruch. Carried 5-0.

Approval of Payroll:

Councilmember Leaver moved to approve payroll checks 4381 through 4398, 201292, and direct deposits in the amount of \$52,772.92 as presented. Seconded by Councilmember Brunisholz. Carried 5-0.

Community Comments:

Michael Handorf, of 618 Tillinghast Drive, expressed his support for approving the renewal of the Ball Field lease. Last year the Little League replaced the rotting wood in the dugout, painted it and the shed. This year there will be four teams using the field.

Chamber Report:

La Conner Chamber Director, Heather Carter, was not able to attend the meeting. Administrator Doyle will distribute her report by e-mail to Council.

Revenue and Expenditure Reports:

Mayor Hayes noted the sales tax was a bit up this month as well as the Hotel Motel.

Planner's Report:

Administrator Doyle was appointed by the County, a position on the Technical Advisory Committee for EMS. The Code Enforcement Position will be advertised again as there were no applicants qualified in the last publishing. There were discussions on the conflict regarding the ALS transport services, the local BLS services and affordability.

Public Works:

Public Works Director Lease discussed the extra costs for the elevator repair. He estimated another \$30,000 would be needed in the budget to get it done under the revised estimates. The elevator is non-operational at this time and can no longer be repaired. The only option to get it running again is to completely re-modernize it. Administrator Doyle will check into the possibility of letting the elevator go, but the building was permitted as ADA accessible, so he believes it has to maintain as that.

Safe Routes to School project has not started yet. Even if the Tribe does not get done, our next year's budget will include the speed bumps, reader boards and crosswalks on Maple Avenue.

Fire Department:

Fire Chief Fohn explained the recall on the new fire truck that will require a trip to Oregon for repairs. It involves the sub-frame not meeting specifications and requiring welding and re-enforcement plates. This is the fourth recall on the new truck and the most significant.

WWTP:

There were discussions on raising the Ultraviolet electronic inside the holding tank to prevent inundation from high tides from the Channel. Mayor Hayes noted it has been a long time since the last WWTP tour. Finance Director DeGoede will schedule a tour for any Councilmembers that are interested.

Mayor's Report:

Councilmember Brunisholz expressed his dislike of the political signs in and out of Town. It was determined the political signs in the right of way is legal. The only restrictions the Town can enforce are the duration and size of the signs, which is already reflected in our code. Sheriff Howell stated the only time he has ever removed a sign was due to a safety hazard.

Council Committee Reports:

Utility Committee:

Councilmembers Brunisholz and Bruch held a meeting regarding the Town bidding for the City of Mount Vernon's yard waste.

Flood/Dike:

Administrator Doyle is finishing up the language on the easements. Most of the easements will be with Drainage District 15 who has the right of way to most of the area needed. Easements needed from the Lervick Family are nominal.

1985 Aid Van Bid Results:

Public Works Director Lease was very happy with the bid of \$2,000.

Tuttle Engineers – Amendment/Extension of Engineering Agreement:

Public Works Director Lease explained this is just a general contract for on call services. Any projects would go before Council.

Councilmember Chamberlain moved to approve the extension of the Tuttle Engineers Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Stokes. Carried 5-0

Ball Field Contract:

Administrator Doyle presented the 5 year contract for the Hedlin Ballfields. The starting lease payment is \$7,200 with subsequent annual increases determined by the CPI rate. Councilmember Stokes expressed his disagreement and noted it would actually be 10,200 with the extra money the Town pays for the upkeep.

Councilmember Brunisholz moved to approve the five year contract for the Maple Avenue Ball Field. Seconded by Councilmember Bruch. Carried 4-1 with Councilmember Stokes voting nay.

Terre-Source Compost Consultant Contract:

WWTP Operator Wynn explained the process in obtaining a Solid Waste Permit includes a biology analysis. Terre Source is familiar with the Town's composting operation and is qualified for this. This permit is required in order to bid for the City of Mount Vernon's solid waste. If we are awarded the bid for the solid waste, we have the potential of saving \$47,000 in the first year.

Councilmember Chamberlain moved to approve Terre-Source Compost Consultant Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Stokes. Carried 5-0

GEO Engineers Construction Contract:

Administrator Doyle explained that the Town needs to obtain approval for the BioOp Door 2 Option for FEMA's National Flood Insurance Program. He is doing Buildable Lands analysis. By hiring GEO Engineers to do a Town wide biology analysis, it would remove the extra cost to the builder. The Buildable Lands analysis will also be a part of the Town Comprehensive Plan. The beginning cost for this would be \$4000. There will be additional costs later.

Councilmember Leaver moved to approve the GEO Engineers Construction Agreement. Seconded by Councilmember Brunisholz. Carried 5-0

Utility Account Water Adjustment:

Public Works Director explained during the Morris Street Project, the water meters close to the homes were relocated on the right of way. The old meter at 205 Morris Street was never removed after the installation of the new meter, which finally rusted out and leaked. This is not the fault of the property owners as they didn't know the old meter existed. The adjustment to the water portion of the account is \$180.62.

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the water adjustment to 205 Morris Street. Seconded by Councilmember Bruch. Carried 5-0

Port of Skagit County Interlocal Agreement for the N. 3rd Street Project:

Public Works Director Lease explained he will be managing the Town's portion of the project. This interlocal agreement only covers the portion adjacent to the right of way from State Street up to the drainage ditch. Director Lease recommended that the Council approve the agreement on condition that he accepts the Statement of Work Attachment A of the Agreement.

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement for the N. 3rd Street Project with the Port of Skagit County with the condition that the Public Works Director approves of Attachment A. Seconded by Councilmember Brunisholz. Carried 5-0

Resolution – Appointment of New Parks Commissioners:

Mayor Hayes announced the appointment of Martin Howard and Anne Taylor to the Parks Commission.

Councilmember Stokes moved to approve Resolution 517, the appointment of Martin Howard and Anne Taylor to the Parks Commission. Seconded by Councilmember Bruch. Carried 5-0

Mayor Hayes requested suggestions for one more appointment for the Art's Commission and the Planning Commission.

Community Comments:

No Community Comments.

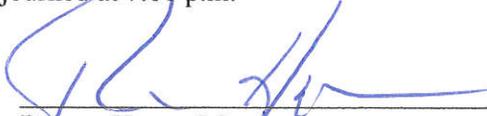
Mayor/Council Roundtable:

No Comments

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:01 p.m.



Maria DeGoede, Finance Director



Ramon Hayes, Mayor