

Town of La Conner
Town Council Meeting
April 13, 2021 – 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: Councilmember, Leaver, Stokes, Chamberlain and Wohleb.

Also present: Administrator Thomas and Finance Director DeGoede, Public Works Director Lease, WWTP Operator Wynn, Planner Davolio, Asst. Fire Chief Avery and Sgt. Willard of the Sheriff's Department.

This meeting was held electronically on Zoom. Information to join by Zoom was posted at Town Hall, the published Agenda in the La Conner Weekly News and on the Town Website.

Councilmember Leaver moved to excuse Councilmember Brunisholz. Motion seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Motion carried 4/0.

Public Comments:

Residents Leann and Troy Bushey commented on an article in the paper titled "New Youths Sport Site and Adult Team Project." They are concerned about the lack of parking access by the softball field that is just behind their home, as well as the late night games. They suggested two other fields for the project that are not being used, and would be cheaper to fix up.

Resident Rick Dole supported the Busheys' comments.

Mayor Hayes noted he received several letters on the same issue and will forward them on to Council.

Councilmember Leaver read a letter he received from resident Jana Gage regarding public gatherings and public places. She stated the Town of La Conner does not own the street ends and parks, the citizens and tax payers of La Conner do. They should be left open freely for public gatherings excluding no activities that build community.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of March 23, 2021

Accounts Payable:	23966 – 24025	\$102,834.54
Auto Payments:	201681 Parking Meter Processing Fees	\$208.92
	201682 CC Payment Processing Fees	\$159.00
	<u>201697 Leasehold Taxes</u>	<u>\$1,394.83</u>
	Total April 13, 2021 Claims	\$104,597.29

Payroll of April 5, 2021	Checks 5365 - 5373	\$21,204.02
Auto Payments:	DCP #201692	\$2,291.00
	PERS #201693	\$11,180.54
	PR Taxes #201694	\$8,451.75
	<u>Payroll Auto Deposit</u>	<u>\$27,992.42</u>
	Total Payroll	\$71,119.73

Councilmember Chamberlain moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 4/0.

Chamber Report:

Chamber Director Carter will be announcing the winner of the Daffodil Photo Contest tomorrow. We are now in the Tulip Festival with full bloom expected in the next two weeks. The tulips and the La Conner sign in Gilkey Square have been really popular. She would like to continue it through the summer with river rock or other plants. Love La Conner advertising is back at SeaTac Airport for April, May, and June.

Revenue and Expenditure Reports:

Mayor Hayes noted Sales Taxes are strong but the Hotel Motel Taxes are low, which was expected due to the temporary closure of the Country Inn.

Planning:

Planner Davolio has been actively involved with the updates for the Shoreline Management Plan. It will be before the Planning Commission next week and before Council next month.

Public Works:

Public Works Director Lease confirmed new locks and updated security systems have been installed at Public Works, Town Hall, and the Sheriff's Office.

Fire Department:

Assistant Fire Chief Avery alerted Council on upcoming expenses. The repair of the Fire Boat is imminent, but the other one can wait for the budget next year.

Sheriff's Department:

Sgt. Willard stated the Tulip Festival traffic is ramping up and there has been an increase of collisions along McLean and Bradshaw roads. They are expecting a very busy weekend and have staffed for it.

Mayor Hayes reminded Council of the previously discussed concept of a citizen's patrol, administered by the Sheriff's Office.

Administrator:

Administrator Thomas included the Purchase and Sale Agreement in the packet with the addition of the closing options. All the documents from the Town, Elizabeth Koudal and Land Gentry are now in escrow waiting for closing.

Councilmember Chamberlain moved to approve the Purchase and Sale Agreement for the Hedlin Property. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 4/0.

Administrator Thomas is also looking into a Development Block Grant opportunity for up to \$30,000. He proposed to put the funds toward a planning study for the Triton/Moore-Clark Properties and the First Street Extension, to bring them closer for development.

Council Committee Reports:

Arts Commission:

Councilmember Leaver shared the La Conner Art Walk has been published in the Skagit Talks.

The First on First will feature Music in May with several buskers performing and in June the theme is Eat your Way through La Conner. He will also be hosting a car show on June 20th, Father's Day, on the School soccer field.

Parks Committee:

Councilmember Wohleb shared there will be a Park's Committee Meeting tomorrow morning. They invited several citizens that were interested in helping design a survey on the newly acquired park on Maple Avenue.

Agreement – La Conner Arts Foundation:

Administrator Thomas noted he revised the compensation for the years 2021 through 2023.

Councilmember Leaver moved to approve the La Conner Arts Foundation Agreement. Motion seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Motion Carried 4/0.

Agreement – Frontline Facility Cleaning:

Public Works Director Lease explained this agreement is for the cleaning of the Maple Hall facility and the Garden Club facility. Finance Director DeGoede also noted due to the increase in cleaning charges, all events will need to pay for cleaning. The Garden Club rentals will be impacted the most.

Councilmember Leaver moved to approve the Frontline Facility Cleaning Agreement. Motion seconded by Councilmember Stokes. Motion carried 4/0.

Amended Agreements – C. Johnson and SRV Construction:

Public Works Director Lease explained these amended agreements are to extend the emergency on-call agreements for both companies. He has two, in case one can't make it he has the option to call the other.

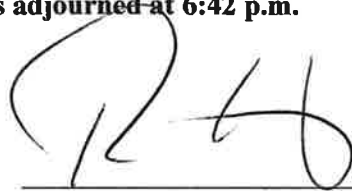
Councilmember Stokes moved to approve both the C. Johnson and the SRV Construction amended agreements. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 4/0.

Council discussed how reflective the camouflaged cell tower is.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.



Maria DeGoede, Finance Director



Ramon Hayes, Mayor