

Town of La Conner

Town Council Meeting

May 9, 2023 – 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 Taylor, Dole, Chamberlain and Wohleb.

Also present: Administrator Thomas, Finance Director DeGoede, Public Works Director Lease, Planner Davolio, Fire Chief/Code Enforcement Officer Reinstra and Sgt. Montgomery of the Sheriff's Department.

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

Councilmember Chamberlain moved to excuse Councilmember Carlson. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dole. Motion carried 4/0.

Public Comments:

Resident Linda Talman stated the Council Packet was on the website, but was gone today. Finance Director DeGoede will look into it.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of the April 25, 2023 Council Meeting.

Accounts Payable:

	Checks 26012 - 26053	\$123,764.98
Electronic Payments:	#2018109 – US Bank Fees	\$655.38
	#2018110 – Invoice Cloud Fees	\$154.60
	Total	\$124,574.96

Payroll of May 5, 2023	Checks	5714 - 5720	\$3,438.01
Electronic Payments:	#2018104	AWC Benefit Trust	\$14,004.22
	#2018105	Deferred Comp	\$2,241.00
	#2018106	PERS Retirement	\$10,325.29
	#2018107	Teamsters Benefit	\$6,972.80
	#2018108	Payroll Taxes	\$7,686.61
		<u>Payroll Auto Deposit</u>	<u>\$23,533.93</u>
		Total Payroll	\$68,201.86

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

Revenue and Expenditure Reports:

Mayor Hayes noted there is only about \$2,000 difference less than last year for the Sales Taxes, but Hotel Motel has slightly increased. However, costs are rising and affecting our budgeted projects as well as labor. An example is the security cameras increased \$4,000 since last quoted during our budgeting. Public Works Director Lease explained new energy codes on commercial buildings required Mechanical Engineering Designs for the HVAC's planned for Maple Hall and the Fire Department. This alone will increase each project by \$5,000, which does not include structural or electrical costs.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Hayes asked Planner Davolio for an update on the adult businesses in Town. Planner Davolio explained there are two industrial locations that will be available to these businesses. One is at the North end of Town at the

Port and the second one on the South end of Town. The Planning Commission is currently working out the regulations for such businesses. The Town has to provide allowable spots for the businesses to avoid lawsuits.

Mayor Hayes also requested Administrator Thomas and Public Works Director Lease to explain the ADA parking issues at Maple Hall. The front of Maple Hall does not meet construction height requirements for implementing ADA parking, however, we don't meet the required number of spaces either. The main issue is access for the Senior Center. If the Seniors can't park close with easy access, they go back home.

Department Head Reports:

Sheriff's Department:

Sgt. Montgomery announced his retirement and introduced Sgt. Holmes as his replacement beginning in June.

Council Committee Reports:

WAB Meeting: Councilmember Taylor reported the discussions included the 30-year Swinomish Tribe development plan and the increases expected in Town. Also, the Tribe is looking at a possible sewer line extended to Thousand Trails.

Emergency Management Commission: Councilmember Dole noted they had their first meeting and discussions included long and short-term plans.

Communication Committee: Councilmember Chamberlain reminded everyone on May 20th, the Communication Committee will be at the Library from 11am to 2pm for the public input.

Parks Commission: Councilmember Wohleb explained they will not continue pursuing grants for Maple Park due to low ranking, and citizens have indicated they want to keep it open space. Also, to meet the DNR requirements of our lease, the Commission is working on a kayak launch at the Jordan Street Park.

Resolution 622 - Appointment of Hallie Walls to the Art's Commission:

Mayor Hayes read the Resolution appointing Hallie Walls for the student position on the Art's Commission, commencing June 2, 2023.

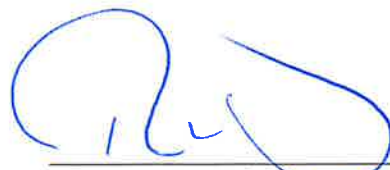
Councilmember Taylor moved to approve Hallie Walls appointment to the Arts Commission. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 4/0.

Mayor Roundtable:

Administrator Thomas requested available dates from Councilmembers for the upcoming retreat.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 6:38 p.m.


Maria DeGoede, Finance Director


Ramon Hayes, Mayor