

June 26, 2017

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, June 26, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Dennis Dawes called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with the following council members present: Daryl Lund, Dr. Isaac Pope, Bob Spahr, and Chad Taylor. Councilors Terry Harris and Tony Ketchum were absent (excused). Staff present included: Jill Anderson, City Manager; Caryn Foley, City Clerk; Rob Gebhart; Fire Captain; Bill Hillier, City Attorney; Trent Lougheed, Community Development Director; Judy Pectol, Finance Manager; Rick Sahlin, Public Works Director; Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; and Patrick Wiltzius, Wastewater Superintendent. Members of the news media present included Natalie Johnson from *The Chronicle*.

1. **Special Business – Chamber Way Bridge Update.** Frank Green, a project engineer with the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT), stated the project was awarded to Quigg Bros., Inc. out of Aberdeen with a bid of just over \$10.9 million. A design-build delivery method is the process being used for the project, which process provides an accelerated schedule. Instead of WSDOT designing the project and then selecting a contractor, the contractor actually does the design, which allows them to start constructing elements of the project before design is completed. The construction plans minimize closures and construction impacts to the traveling public on I-5, Chamber Way, and the ramps. Closures will be limited to nighttime hours, generally 10:00 to 11:00 pm to morning. I-5 will be closed a maximum of eight times, Chamber Way three times, and the ramps four times throughout duration of the contract. Mr. Green stated that Quigg Bros. proposed constructing a detour bridge to again help minimize impacts to the traveling public. The detour bridge will be constructed north of the existing bridge, and then the new four-lane bridge will be constructed. He noted there will be no closures during the Seattle-to-Portland Bike Ride, Chehalis Garlic Fest & Craft Show, the Southwest Washington Fair, and some restrictions during the holiday season. The design will be very similar to the LaBree Road Bridge. The new overpass will include four lanes with five foot shoulders and an eight foot sidewalk on the south end of the bridge. The two inside lanes will be turn lanes onto the freeway ramps.

Councilor Spahr asked if the new bridge would accommodate six lanes on I-5. Mr. Green stated it would.

Mayor Dawes asked about the projected timeline for getting the third lane through Chehalis. Mr. Green stated that to replace Chamber Way, some Connecting Washington projects had to be moved, and he believed the widening project was around 2021.

Mr. Green noted construction will begin by July 31 this year and is to be completed by end of October next year.

Mayor Dawes wondered, somewhat tongue-in-cheek, what had more of an impact on getting the project moved forward – the bridge getting hit to the point that the temporary bridge had to be installed or within a few days of the temporary bridge going up, the other span being hit, but fortunately, not damaged.

2. **Consent Calendar.** Councilor Taylor moved to approve the consent calendar comprised of the following:

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of June 12, 2017;
- b. June 15, 2017 Claim Vouchers No. 119349-119506 and Electronic Funds Transfer No. 520171 in the amount of \$721,229.70.
- c. Amendment 1 in the amount of \$24,210 from the Department of Ecology for Additional Funding for the Coal Creek Sewer Extension Project; and
- d. Lewis/Grays Harbor County Ambulance Transport Contract with American Medical Response Ambulance Service, Inc., to expire September 1, 2019.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Lund and carried unanimously.

3. **Ordinance No. 972-B, Second and Final Reading – Amending the Chehalis Comprehensive Plan Dated 2011.** Trent Lougheed noted no public comments had been received on the update.

Councilor Spahr moved to pass Ordinance No. 972-B on second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pope and carried unanimously.

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4. Ordinance No. 973-B, First Reading – Amending the 2017 Budget. Judy Pectol noted most of the changes relate to requirements from the State Auditor's Office that change account numbers. As far as dollar values, the amendment includes increased estimated revenues and appropriations for things related to grants for projects not completed in 2016. Other changes include small things such as donations to specific items.

Councilor Spahr asked if there was a rational reason that the Auditor's Office made changes to account numbers. Ms. Pectol stated in her opinion, no.

Councilor Spahr moved to pass Ordinance No. 973-B on first reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pope and carried unanimously.

5. 911 Communications Center Feasibility Study. City Manager Anderson distributed a proposal from ADCOMM Engineering Company that will complete the study. She stated the handout was not included in the agenda packet.

Chief Schaffer stated that approximately two years ago he addressed the council on matters pertaining to the Lewis County 911 Dispatch Center. Issues and challenges on both performance and equipment still exist today, which concerns have been widely publicized. Steve Mansfield is the third director in several years, and Chief Nielsen and Chief Kytta meet with Mr. Mansfield regularly on behalf of all the fire and police chiefs in the county. Some progress is finally starting and the jurisdictions still continue to be dedicated to working on improvements with the current Center. Back when these concerns were first expressed, and countless times since, the administration has been asked why the city doesn't just start its own 911 center. This would allow the city to have control of costs and decisions, and to be able to tailor the center to specific needs. It would also be costly. A feasibility study would determine if a 911 center could be created for Chehalis, Centralia, and Riverside Fire Authority. ADCOMM Engineering Company would conduct the study. Chief Schaffer noted they had done three studies for the county's 911 Center, so they are familiar with the jurisdiction's needs and services provided. The study would provide options to determine the best manner in which to proceed, will answer the question of whether a 911 center for Chehalis and Centralia is reasonable to pursue, and provide some idea of the cost. If it's not reasonable, the idea can be put behind the jurisdictions and they can then focus attention on the current system. The cost of the study is \$46,000 and is set to take six months to complete. The city's share is \$13,800.

Councilor Pope asked if the study would include a physical setting for a center. Chief Schaffer believed the study included everything.

Councilor Spahr asked about the prior studies completed by ADCOMM on the existing 911 Center, specifically whether there had ever been a rate study. Chief Schaffer stated the studies were done in 1981, 1998, and 2005.

Mayor Dawes stated the center once operated with an administrative and operations board, but those have since gone away. It seemed that was when the problems started multiplying. He stated it would be nice to make what we have work, but if we can't make it work, we owe it to our citizens to get something that is going to work and something we can have some definite influence on.

Councilor Taylor moved that the City Council allocate \$13,800 for the city's portion of the cost to complete a feasibility study of a combined 911 communications center. The motion was seconded by Councilor Lund.

City Manager Anderson asked the council to amend the motion to authorize the city manager to sign the agreement for services with ADCOMM. Councilor Taylor moved to amend his motion to include authorizing the city manager to sign the agreement for services with ADCOMM. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilor Taylor asked if there was or if there could be a document that authorized the city manager to have authority to sign documents for items approved by the council. City Manager Anderson stated that action is typically included in the motion. She stated she was probably being over-cautious in light of the state auditor's office reviewing the minutes of council meetings and comparing those to expenditures.

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Bill Hillier stated the council-manager form of government implies that the city manager has the authority to sign documents, but the council could pass an ordinance saying any budgetary expenses authorized by the council can be signed by the city manager.

Mayor Dawes recalled that legal contracts based on council-approved funds have always been signed by the city manager. Bill Hillier agreed, noting the mayor's signature is usually only required on transferring real estate.

6. Administration Reports.

a. **Finance Report.** Judy Pectol indicated the city was doing fine. Various grant funds have been received from the Recreation Conservation Office, transportation grants, and a few small grants. The Wastewater Fund has spent more than 100% of what was budgeted, but again, that is due to grants started last year. She noted they are still awaiting the final GO Bond payment from the county that will go into the Airport Fund.

b. **City Manager Update.** City Manager Anderson reported she attended the Association of Washington Cities conference, which was well worth the time and investment. Topics ranged from the future of the world, civility, tips for how to issue financial bonds, and the fact that the state has yet to reach a budget agreement.

7. Councilor Reports/Committee Updates.

a. **Councilor Spahr.** Councilor Spahr stated an update would be coming from the fire consolidation subcommittee at another time. He attended an event in Eugene, Oregon. He was surprised and happy to see there was no protesting at the Saturday market like there usually is.

b. **Mayor Dawes.** Mayor Dawes stated at the last meeting they talked about the number of readings of resolutions. Caryn Foley stated there is a resolution that speaks to the order of business for council meetings. Changes were made by the council, but she thought those changes should be updated by resolution, which she will confirm with the city attorney. Ms. Foley will provide a more detailed update to the council through the weekly report.

Mayor Dawes and Councilor Pope attended a meeting with the city manager, and county staff and Commissioner Jackson regarding the interlocal agreement for permitting in the Urban Growth Area. It was a good conversation and he believed there would be an agreement in place by September. The council fire consolidation subcommittee met with District 6 representatives where they heard the results of a study about facilitating a citizen's task force on area fire and EMS services. Mayor Dawes also attended Business After Hours at Linex on Kresky Avenue.

8. **Executive Session.** At 5:39 pm, Mayor Dawes announced the council would be in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) – Sale/Lease of Real Estate; and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – Litigation/Potential Litigation not to exceed 7:00 pm and there would be no decisions following conclusion of the executive session. Mayor Dawes recessed the regular meeting and the council convened into executive session at 5:41 pm. Mayor Dawes reopened the regular meeting at 6:46 pm and there being no further business to come before the council, the meeting was immediately adjourned.

Dennis L. Dawes, Mayor

Attest:

Caryn Foley, City Clerk

Approved: 7/10/2017

Initials: cf