

July 12, 2010

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, July 12, 2010, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Ketchum called the meeting to order at 6:07 p.m. with the following council members present: Bob Spahr, Daryl Lund, and Chad Taylor. Councilors Dawes, Harris, and Pope were absent (excused). Staff present included: Merlin MacReynold, City Manager; Mark Scheibmeir, Assistant City Attorney; Judy Schave, City Clerk; Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Peggy Hammer, Human Resources Administrator; Tim Grochowski, Public Works Director; and Ben Smith, City Intern. Members of the news media included Adam Pearson of *The Chronicle* and Paul Walker of KITI.

1. **Consent Calendar.** Councilor Spahr moved to approve the consent calendar comprised of the following:

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of June 28, 2010;
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 97202-97353 and 52010 in the amount of \$313,108.36 dated June 30, 2010; and Payroll Vouchers No. 33727-33839 and 1551-1618 in the amount of \$761,770.26 dated June 30, 2010;
- c. Approve letter to Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority designating Julie Balmelli-Powe as the city's primary representative and Councilor Taylor as the city's alternate representative; and
- d. Set date and time of July 26, 2010, at 6:05 p.m., for a public hearing on the proposed 2010 amendments to the city's development regulations.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Taylor and carried unanimously.

2. **Staff Reports.**

a. **Follow-up on Automobile Sales and Use Tax Issue.** City Manager MacReynold reported Eva Lindgren followed up on Councilor Taylor's request from the last meeting regarding sales and use tax on vehicles sold in the city of Chehalis. He reported Ms. Lindgren contacted the Department of Revenue and confirmed if a private individual sells their own vehicle the sales and use tax would follow to the address of the new location of the vehicle.

City Manager MacReynold reported the sales and use tax on all new and used vehicles sold at, or by auto dealerships that sell vehicles off-site, should be remitted to the locality of where the purchase was made.

City Manager MacReynold reported Ms. Lindgren also had Microflex follow-up with the dealership that was selling vehicles at Kmart a few weekends ago, to ensure they were complying with the proper reporting. Microflex reported back saying they had talked to the person responsible for the sales and use tax filings, adding they were fully aware of the rules relating to the proper sales and use tax reporting. Councilor Taylor stated that was the only thing he had a concern about.

City Manager MacReynold noted the council was also given a copy of Chehalis Municipal Code 5.04.050 – general provisions for business license requirements, just for their information.

Councilor Spahr stated it seemed odd that something that transfers by title wasn't covered under streamlined sales tax.

b. **2011 Budget Schedule.** City Manager MacReynold briefly talked about the 2011 budget preparation schedule, noting the dates for the departments and programs to present their budgets to the committee members was scheduled for September 14, 16, 17, and 20. He stated they were taking the same 'private sector' approach as last year, which was to build constraint budgets based on the revenues, and have the departments put their budgets together within the constraint budget.

Mayor Ketchum asked that the 2010 budget committee be contacted to see if they wanted to participate in the 2011 process. The 2010 committee members included Councilors Taylor, Dawes, and Harris.

c. **NW Chehalis Avenue Follow-up Public Meeting.** Ben Smith announced there would be a public meeting on Thursday, July 15, at 7:30 a.m., in the city hall basement meeting room, regarding the pilot project on Chehalis Avenue. He noted they would be reviewing the results of the recent survey regarding the temporary on-street parking configuration currently

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in place. Mr. Smith stated they would be gathering comments from the public and key stakeholders with regards to moving forward with the implementation of permanent on-street changes as directed by the Chehalis Renaissance Plan.

3. **Council Reports.**

a. **Parking Issues.** Councilor Lund reported he had received a complaint that the Community Farmers Market vendors were taking up most of the parking spaces in the 4-hour lot at the north end of the block. He felt by doing that they were taking parking away from the people who normally shop downtown, and wondered why they couldn't have the vendors park in the free lot up on Franklin Avenue, or behind the library.

City Manager MacReynold indicated he would look into the matter. He stated he wasn't sure who they were or how many there were, but noted if the market opened at noon and they stayed the entire time they were probably spending more than just four hours in the lot. Councilor Lund stated even if they're not there past the four hours they were still taking up parking spots for business people.

City Manager MacReynold stated the market manager had been very amenable to help when issues arise and would talk with her to see if they can take a different approach.

b. **Meetings Attended by Councilor Spahr.** Councilor Spahr reported he attended the Cowlitz-Lewis County Economic Development District Board meeting, noting they were currently working on some procedural amendments to their by-laws.

Councilor Spahr also attended the Board of Directors meeting at the Lewis County Economic Development Council. He reported they had some pretty interesting leads, but were not disclosing any names at this time. Councilor Spahr stated that on July 20, they would be interviewing through employment security for the Rib Eye Restaurant, which was going to reopen again and employ about 72 people. He felt it was a welcome sign for all of us.

c. **Events Attended by Mayor Ketchum.** Mayor Ketchum reported he attended the Lewis County Historical Museum Pie Social at Claquato, and again, bought some very expensive pies. He also attended a groundbreaking ceremony for the Seventh Day Adventist youth school up on the hill above Scheuber Road.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:17 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of July 12, 2010.