

July 25, 2011

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, July 25, 2011, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Ketchum called the meeting to order at 5:45 p.m. with the following council members present: Terry Harris, Dr. Isaac Pope, Bob Spahr, Daryl Lund, Chad Taylor and Dennis Dawes. Staff present included: Merlin MacReynold, City Manager; Bill Hillier, City Attorney; Judy Schave, City Clerk; Kelvin Johnson, Fire Chief; Bob Nacht, Community Development Director; and Peggy Hammer, Human Resources Administrator.

1. **Work Session - Chehalis-Centralia Airport Second Quarter Report.** Airport Manager Allyn Roe and City Representative Dan Foster briefly updated the council on some of the major activities that were currently underway. Mr. Roe noted one of the recent developments was every five years they are required by the FAA to select an engineering consultant to have on file to handle all of the FAA associated construction projects and equipment purchases for the airport. He indicated they went through a 'request for qualifications' process and received five firms, which were narrowed down to three. Mr. Roe reported the Airport Board recently selected W.H. Pacific Engineers as their new engineering firm, noting they had worked with them on past projects. He noted the firm also represents the Toledo and Packwood Airports, as well as others here in the northwest. Other projects the airport is working on include:

- Approach lighting
- Established an interlocal with the city of Chehalis for the development of wayfinding kiosks
- Received \$170,000 grant from the FAA on a reimbursement status to cover a dump truck/snow plow that the board purchased
- Fencing project at the south end - completed in March
- Runway paint project
- Replaced instrumentation on weather equipment that tells them how high the clouds are
- Working with Pacific Cataract and Laser Institute on a new hangar facility
- Working on landscaping improvements; hired landscape architect to come up with a design for the roundabout

Councilor Harris asked how much they were looking at spending on the roundabout project. Mr. Roe stated about \$40,000, noting they have made two attempts at applying for 09 funding, but were denied both times. He indicated the roundabout was currently filled with ground rock and weeds.

Councilor Dawes wondered if there was anyone licensed in the city that could spray the weeds, adding it would be nice to remove them until a project comes through. Mr. Roe stated they hired an additional laborer for the summer to spray the right-of-way in the area of the development near the airport.

City Manager MacReynold noted there was a lot of activity around all of our properties relating to the issue of weeds. He added in the most recent budget amendment they included two temporary positions for the facilities and parks crew, which has really helped a lot. Councilor Dawes noted they were also getting a lot more inmate labor as well, which was good to see.

Councilor Dawes brought up the issue of whose responsibility it was to mow the dike located around the airport. Mr. Roe reported the airport was responsible for that, adding the one area near the freeway was very difficult to maintain because of the recent enhancements done to the levee. He indicated, at the end of the season, they generally contract with Lewis County to come over and mow it. Councilor Dawes stated the grant to purchase the snow plow equipment was great and suggested they look into a future grant to purchase some equipment to help with their mowing needs. Mr. Roe indicated they unfortunately didn't have a grant for that type of equipment, noting they were looking into getting some equipment with a side flail mower; however, they could not currently support it.

Mayor Ketchum closed the work session at 5:54 p.m. and announced the council would take a five minute recess before reopening the regular meeting at 6:00 p.m.

2. **Property Maintenance Issue on 8th Street.** Rick Strange (72 SW 8th Street) reported he was representing his mother regarding her property located on 8th Street, which they purchased from Robin Fuller in 2004. Mr. Strange noted the issue they were having had to do with two tanks located on the old "Fullers" grocery store property that held vegetable oil and animal fat residue. He reported Mr. Fuller had an easement, and still does, to clean the two tanks out; however, upon closing the store the tanks were never cleaned out. Mr. Strange indicated one of the tops of the tanks was crushed while doing some

July 25, 2011

cleaning on the property, which made them aware that the tanks were not empty.

Mr. Strange went on to briefly describe issues they were currently having with the new owners of the 'Fuller' property, such as: runoff onto his mother's property; and most recently, closing the road while they unload their trucks. He suggested the new owners still had not adequately brought the building up to code in the manner in which they get rid of their water or have their sanitation pipes going through the building.

Mayor Ketchum asked City Manager MacReynold to work with staff to see what angle the city could take. Bob Nacht reported the issue was brought to his attention earlier in the day and he had not yet had the opportunity to discover which part was civil and which part was code related.

3. **Thanks to City for Paving Alley.** Jim Wilson (210 N Market Boulevard) stated he wanted to thank the city's public works department for paving the alley behind his home last week. He thought they did a wonderful job, adding he and his vehicle really appreciated it.

4. **Consent Calendar.** Councilor Dawes moved to approve the consent calendar comprised of the following:

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of July 11, 2011, and the special meeting of July 18, 2011;
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 62011 and 100451-100595 in the amount of \$320,922.15 dated July 15, 2011; and
- c. Adopt Resolution No. 12-2011 on first and final reading, amending Section 2 of Resolution No. 1-98 relating to membership on the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Taylor and carried unanimously.

5. **Administration Reports.**

a. **Second Quarter and June Financial Reports.** City Manager MacReynold reported he was very encouraged by the quarterly report, adding the ending fund balances were all in the right direction. He noted there were a couple that weren't quite as good, but for the most part he felt the city was looking okay.

City Manager MacReynold talked briefly about the water, wastewater and stormwater funds, noting they were seriously going to have to look at those funds and bring back some recommendations to the council about some increases next year.

City Manager MacReynold reported the sales tax revenues were not as good as last month, but they were still moving in a positive direction. He noted if things continue to be consistent, with reference to sales tax revenues, we should end up at the \$3 million projected by the end of the year.

City Manager MacReynold reported on the expenditures for the general fund, noting he had to compliment the management team for keeping their budgets under budget.

City Manager MacReynold reported on the wastewater fund, adding it was not bringing in the revenues that were projected. He stated even though the department was currently under-spending, it was something they needed to watch. City Manager MacReynold felt some of it will be driven by increased costs, which is why they need to seriously look at wastewater adjustments next year.

City Manager MacReynold reported, like the wastewater fund, the water and stormwater funds are not meeting the projected revenues, but continue to be under-spent on the expenditure side.

6. **Council Reports.**

a. **Update from Councilor Dawes.** Councilor Dawes reported he had a chance to attend the following events.

July 25, 2011

- Music in the Park on July 22
- The Chamber Business After Hours event on July 23
- A Health Forum sponsored by Lewis County on July 6
- The Pioneer Pie Social (fundraiser) for the Lewis County Historical Museum on July 16
- The 2010 audit exit conference, along with Councilor Harris, on July 21

Councilor Dawes reported he and Councilor Spahr attended the North Lewis County Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee meeting on Wednesday, July 20. He noted they continued to receive reports and encouraged everyone to go online and read them. Councilor Dawes reported things was coming together, noting one of the interesting things they found was that when they totaled up all of the fire calls for the various departments in Lewis County, 92+ percent were EMS calls. He stated it was amazing when you start adding up all the apparatus and personnel, adding maybe there is a way to do it better.

b. **Update from Councilor Spahr.** Councilor Spahr reported he attended the Cascade Country Cook-off and Classic Car Show over at Stan Hedwall Park, noting they ended up with lousy weather for the event. He stated they had a lot of people participating, but just not a lot of people attending.

c. **Update from Councilor Taylor.** Councilor Taylor reported he attended a joint transportation meeting with the City of Centralia, noting one of the topics on the agenda was to discuss how often they should meet and if they should start incorporating different topics and invite different councilors to attend, since most of the transportation issues had been handled. It was decided that they would start focusing on different topics throughout the year, adding their next meeting was scheduled for October.

d. **Update from Councilor Lund.** Councilor Lund reported, in the early 1960s at Point Defiance Park, they started what's called Camp 6, which was a historic logging museum. He recently learned that the museum, owned by Western Forest Industries Museum, Inc., in Tacoma, Washington, who also owns Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad in Mineral, Washington, was closing. Councilor Lund reported their Board of Directors decided to sell off, or give away Historic Camp 6. He wondered if the city might work with the Chehalis Renaissance Team, or someone, to see if we can obtain some of the items for our local logging museum. Councilor Lund suggested, with the great visibility from the freeway, we could set up a display near the Steam Train and Veterans Museum to give people another reason to stop in.

Councilor Lund reported there was talk that someone in California might be buying it, adding it would be sad to see the logging history from our community go to California. He noted some of the equipment would go to Mount Rainier Scenic Railroad to be put on display.

Mayor Ketchum though it was a good idea, adding perhaps the Renaissance Committee could tie it into what they were doing.

Councilor Spahr asked if he knew what they owned or what they wanted for it. Councilor Lund indicated he didn't, adding he tried to call, but the contact person was on vacation.

Mayor Ketchum asked if there was any objection from the rest of the council to look into obtaining some of the equipment, and there was none.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:27 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of July 25, 2011.