

March 11, 2019

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, March 11, 2019, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Dennis Dawes called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with the following council members present: Terry Harris, Tony Ketchum, Daryl Lund, Dr. Isaac Pope, and Bob Spahr. Chad Taylor arrived at 5:01 pm. Staff present included: Jill Anderson, City Manager; Ken Cardinale, Fire Chief; Caryn Foley, City Clerk; Bill Hillier, City Attorney; Trent Lougheed, Community Development Director; Brandon Rakes, Airport Operations Coordinator; Rick Sahlin, Public Works Director; Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Judy Schave, HR/Risk Manager; and Patrick Wiltzius, Wastewater Superintendent. No members of the media were present.

1. **Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce Update.** Executive Director Alicia Bull stated the chamber sits on property owned by the city, which the chamber leases, and she thanked the council for that support. She distributed a list of several 2018 activities, and the 2019 Visitors Center Marketing Plan showing how the chamber plans to use the lodging tax funds awarded by the council. She also presented the 2019 chamber business directory and a list of chamber-sponsored events. She noted that the chamber includes the city's logo on all posters/event information because of the city's sponsorship level. Recreation Park will again be the official stop for this year's Seattle to Portland bike ride, along with several other events and activities. In 2019, the chamber will work on a Choose Local Visitor Guide to include dining, shopping, playing, etc. They plan to revamp the chamber's website, and update their pad maps. She thanked those that came to the chamber banquet, as well as for the lodging tax funds awarded to the chamber. She stated it was exciting that Centralia was contributing the same amount as Chehalis. She thanked Councilors Ketchum and Lund for serving on the chamber board.

2. **Chehalis Basin Board.** Lewis County Commissioner Edna Fund distributed a copy of the "Flood Damage Reduction Actions Previously Considered" that was put together by the Chehalis Basin Board. It included a history dating back to 1931 of what had happened through the years to deal with flooding. Mayor Dawes stated there was still a lot of work to do, but having everyone on the same page provided optimism to get something done.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of February 25, 2019;
- b. February 28, 2019 Claim Vouchers No. 125133-125228 in the amount of \$173,694.96;
- c. February 28, 2019, Payroll Vouchers No. 40720-40755, Direct Deposit Payroll Vouchers No. 10462-10564, Electronic Federal Tax and DRS Pension/Deferred Comp Payments No. 224-228 in the amount of \$786,365.64;
- d. Interlocal Agreement with Lewis County for backup building inspection and plan review services; and
- e. Maintenance Agreement with Lewis County Water & Sewer District #4.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Lund.

Councilor Spahr asked if Lewis County Water and Sewer District actually pertained to water. Patrick Wiltzius stated it did not. It was a title given by the county even though it doesn't relate to water.

The motion carried unanimously.

4. **Administration Reports.**

a. **City Manager Update.** City Manager Anderson stated a strategic planning session was held March 7. She noted 53 accomplishments were identified by the participants for work over the last six months. Participants also reviewed some opportunities, threats, and weaknesses, which were all used to put together objectives for the next six months. She thanked the council and management team for their active participation. City Manager Anderson passed out buttons to promote the Penny Playground project. She noted it was fun to see the schools participating in the promotion.

5. **Councilor Reports/Committee Updates.**

a. Councilor Taylor stated Twin Transit was holding a special meeting tomorrow. He thought things were moving in a positive direction.

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b. Mayor Dawes attended the I-5 Mixer and a mayors meeting. He, along with Council Taylor, met with Jean Fairgrieve who has been very interested in the goings-on at Twin Transit. She provided a lot of valuable insight. Mayor Dawes attended the strategic planning session that the city manager spoke about, as well as a .09 committee meeting. One was for an \$800,000 grant to the Port of Chehalis for a rail spur for a multi-county grain storage facility. Other grants were approved for recommendation to the county for Vader and Winlock. Another application that may be coming before the committee relates to a study by the University of Washington for a bio-refinery on IPAT property near TransAlta. Lastly, he attended a commissioners' meeting regarding Twin Transit. He was happy to report that the question about whether or not the boundaries of Twin Transit were expanded was put to rest – they have not been expanded.

c. Councilor Pope asked Mayor Dawes to again explain the difference between the funding for Penny Playground and taxes, as he did at the last meeting. Mayor Dawes stated there were some comments on Facebook that the council was choosing one department over another to do the project. The money being used for the Penny Playground is coming from grants that cannot be used for any other purpose. Other funds are lodging tax funds that are generated from hotel/motel taxes that are used for tourism. Very little, if any, General Fund money would be used for the project, other than some used in the initial planning.

6. **Executive Session.** Mayor Dawes announced the council would take a short recess and then be in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) – Collective Bargaining, not to exceed 6:15 pm and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session. Mayor Dawes closed the regular meeting at 5:24 pm. The executive session began at 5:31 pm. Following conclusion of the executive session, the regular meeting was reopened and immediately adjourned at 6:16 pm.

Dennis L. Dawes, Mayor

Caryn Foley, City Clerk

Approved: 3/25/2019
Initials: cf