

August 12, 2019

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, August 12, 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, Bob Spahr, and Chad Taylor. Staff present included: Glenn Schaffer, Acting City Manager; Caryn Foley, City Clerk; Trent Loughheed, Public Works Director/City Engineer; Brandon Rakes, Airport Operations Coordinator; Chun Saul, Finance Director; and Mark Scheibmeir, City Attorney. Members of the news media included Will Rubin of *The Chronicle*.

1. **Discover! Children's Museum (DCM) Update.** Allyn Roe, President and Larry McGee, Vice President, provided an update on Discover! Children's Museum. Mr. Roe stated DCM still has plans to develop a museum on city-owned property near Home Depot and have raised \$2 million of the \$3 million goal. Several grants were applied for, but unfortunately those were not successful. DCM recently hired a consulting group to solidify its message and begin one-on-one asks from local individuals. DCM has held off doing that, and he noted all contributions received to-date have come unsolicited. DCM continues to work with Reliable Enterprises to house a Head Start preschool in the museum.

Larry McGee stated many grant funders are focusing on homelessness and health. DCM continues to be in contact with the new state Department of Early Learning to find the best examples of preschools. He noted that professionals say that if a child isn't reading at grade level at the end of 3rd Grade, their future can be predicted and often it isn't good. As a result, DCM is looking at alternatives to expand the amount of preschool the museum can accommodate without reducing exhibit space. Mr. McGee stated the process was taking longer than anyone wanted, but the group is in it for the long-haul. He noted they see the museum as a county-wide project and will be seeking support county-wide.

Councilor Spahr asked where the group's contributions have come from and where people can make donations. Mr. McGee stated they were wide-ranging – anywhere from \$5,000 to \$100,00. Contributions can be made by contacting him or Mr. Roe and through DCM's website – discovermuseum.org. He added the group received \$45,000 from last year's Rotary auction.

Mayor Dawes stated the group received a \$1 million grant from the state and asked if there was a sunset on the grant. Mr. Roe stated they need to make sure it is re-appropriated in the next cycle.

Mayor Dawes stated it was his understanding that some grantors don't support capital campaigns. Mr. McGee stated that was correct, in fact they just met with a representative from PSE who would like to support the museum once it is up and running.

Mayor Dawes knew the group had been working on the project for several years and have been asked to hold off on fundraising because of other community projects. He thought the museum could be a very valuable asset for the surrounding community. Mr. McGee stated the group could easily get a loan but does not want to add that debt load to the museum.

2. **Introduction of Guest.** Will Cummings introduced himself and stated he was attending the meeting to earn a Boy Scout merit badge.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of July 22, 2019;
- b. July 31, 2019 Claim Vouchers No. 126410-126540 in the amount of \$456,371.27;
- c. July 31, 2019, Payroll Vouchers No. 40927-40980, Direct Deposit Payroll Vouchers No. 11011-11135, Electronic Federal Tax and DRS Pension/Deferred Comp Payments No. 250-254 in the amount of \$848,114.37;
- d. Accept National Avenue Slide Restoration Project as complete and release retainage to Gill Construction after all statutory requirements have been met;
- e. Accept Airport Pump Station Project as complete and release retainage to Rognlin's, Inc. after all statutory requirements have been met; and
- f. Debt management and post-issuance compliance update for fiscal year ended December 31, 2018.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Lund and carried unanimously.

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4. **Ordinance No. 1000-B, Second and Final Reading – Amending the 2019 Annual Budget.** Chief Schaffer stated there were no changes to the ordinance since first reading.

Councilor Harris moved to pass Ordinance No. 1000-B on second and final reading. The motion was seconded by Councilor Taylor and carried unanimously.

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

a. Councilor Harris thanked the Chamber for hosting the candidate debates last week.

b. Councilor Spahr stated at the last meeting he announced his daughter was promoted to an Army Corporal, but in fact she was promoted to Colonel.

c. Mayor Dawes attended ribbon cuttings for Safe Cover Roofing and A Plumbing Doctor. The last Music in the Park event was the largest crowd ever, the fair begins tomorrow, and the Recreation Park groundbreaking will be held August 26 at 3:00 pm.

6. **Executive Session.** Mayor Dawes announced the council would take a short recess and then be in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – Litigation/Potential Litigation, not to exceed 5:45 pm and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session. Mayor Dawes closed the regular meeting at 5:22 pm. The executive session began at 5:24 pm. Following conclusion of the executive session, the regular meeting was reopened and immediately adjourned at 5:43 pm.

Dennis L. Dawes, Mayor

Caryn Foley, City Clerk

Approved: 8/26/2019

Initials: cf