

May 13, 2013

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, May 13, 2013, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Ketchum called the meeting to order at 5:31 p.m. with the following council members present: Terry Harris, Bob Spahr, Daryl Lund, Chad Taylor, and Dennis Dawes. Councilor Pope was absent (excused). Staff present included: Merlin MacReynold, City Manager.

1. **Executive Session**. Mayor Ketchum announced the council would be in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(g) – public employee performance review for approximately 30 minutes and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session.

Mayor Ketchum closed the executive session at 6:08 p.m. and announced the council would take a short recess before opening the regular meeting at 6:09 p.m. Additional staff included: Brian Kelly, Assistant City Attorney; Judy Schave, City Clerk; Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Jim Walkowski, Fire Chief; Eva Lindgren, Finance Manager; Peggy Hammer, Human Resources Administrator; Dennis Osborn, Community Development Director; and Herta Fairbanks, Public Works Director.

2. **Special Business**. Ms. Lewis County Abrielle Sheets introduced herself to the council and talked briefly about her platform, to promote awareness of music education and discovery. Ms. Sheets stated she was honored to serve as an ambassador of this wonderful county, and grateful for the generous support and encouragement she has received.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of April 22, 2013;
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 105960-106081 and Electronic Funds Transfer No. 32013 in the amount of \$338,791.46 dated April 30, 2103; Replacement Payroll Voucher No. 36472 dated April 8, 2013; Draw Payroll Voucher No. 36473 dated April 16, 2013; and Payroll Vouchers No. 36474-36537, Direct Deposit Payroll Vouchers No. 3972-4049, and Electronic Federal Tax Payment No. 123 in the amount of \$692,008.23 dated April 30, 2013;
- c. Pass Ordinance No. 909-B on second and final reading – amending the 2013 budget; and
- d. Set date and time of May 28, 2013, at 6:05 p.m. for public hearing on the city's 2014-2019 Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Spahr and carried unanimously.

4. **Administration Reports**.

a. **Briefing on LEOFF 1 Medical Coverage**. Human Resources Administrator Peggy Hammer reported the city was doing its best to contain medical costs and to prepare for the various requirements coming with the Health Care Reform Act. She noted the city has an opportunity to move its LEOFF 1 retirees to a Medicare Advantage Plan, which will save the city about \$84,000 a year for the 15 retirees who are Medicare eligible.

Ms. Hammer reported they were basically substituting Plan A with the Medicare Advantage Plan, noting the coverage was basically the same. She stated, as soon as a retiree becomes eligible for Medicare, the Advantage Plan becomes their primary. Ms. Hammer reported she would be communicating with the retirees and educating them to make sure nothing happens to interfere with their ability to receive care. She hoped to have things ready and for it to be effective on July 1.

Ms. Hammer reported one of the side benefits to the Medicare Advantage Plan is that all enrollees will be part of the "Silver Sneakers Program," which provides free health club memberships nationwide, and includes Thorbeckes Fitlife Centers.

b. **Update on Airport Ownership**. City Manager MacReynold reported the administration was proceeding down the path to explore whether or not to take complete ownership of the airport property. He noted one of the key elements has been an audit of the airport by the State Auditor's Office, which will take two to four weeks to complete. City Manager MacReynold reported they continue to have positive feedback with regard to any title issues and the interlocal transfer with the county. He stated once they have all the information gathered he would brief the council on the findings.

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c. **Briefing on Chehalis Municipal Code (CMC) Updates**. Community Development Director Dennis Osborn briefly reviewed the items that will be going before the Chehalis Planning Commission for review and recommendations. He noted the topics will include:

- A binding site plan amendment to remove the one (1) year approval time window
- New state categorical exemptions to SEPA
- 2012 building code updates
- Sale and use of Marijuana
- ADU Issues – Conflicts within the CMC
- Procedures for vacating right-of-ways
- Proposed amendments to Capital Improvement Program
- Shoreline Master Program

d. **Request to Change Date of Council Goal Work Session**. City Manager MacReynold requested the council goal work session scheduled for Monday, May 20 be moved to June 24, prior to the regular meeting. He noted due to the timeliness of the Tacoma Rail issue he hasn't been able to devote time to prepare for the work session. The consensus of the council was to move the work session to June 24, at 5:00 p.m.

5. **Council Reports**.

a. **Update From Councilor Dawes**. Councilor Dawes reported he attended the reception for the departing director of the Lewis County Historical Museum, Johanna Jones. He noted a number of people showed up to thank Ms. Jones for her time. Councilor Dawes indicated they already have an interim director on site.

Councilor Dawes reported the Regional Fire Authority Planning Committee meeting for May had been cancelled, noting they have a lot going on, but nothing ready to bring back to the board for consensus. He reported a tremendous amount of progress was being made and everything was going very smoothly. The next committee meeting was scheduled for June 12.

Councilor Dawes reported he had received some email correspondence about the new roundabout on Louisiana Avenue. He hoped the city would explore what we can do, that will lend to the décor and make it attractive. Councilor Dawes requested an update, so the council knows where we are in the process.

Councilor Dawes reported, through the "Make a Wish Foundation," there was a lot of work done to the W.F. West High School tennis courts. He noted a portion of the new blacktop was destroyed when the city's stormwater culvert along Kelly Avenue had to be replaced. He hoped the city planned to restore the blacktop back to the condition it was prior to the repair work.

b. **Update From Councilor Harris**. Councilor Harris reported he attended the recent prayer breakfast, adding it was a wonderful experience. He noted Ms. Lewis County spoke at the breakfast and did a great job.

Councilor Harris reported the Chehalis Community Renaissance Team (CCRT) met and received rundowns from all the different programs they are involved in. He noted, later in week, members of the CCRT and the community would be meeting with PARC, a fundraising organization that has access to foundations and grant money for multiple kinds of projects. Councilor Harris stated the committee hoped to get some resources for some of their upcoming projects.

Councilor Harris reported the Lewis County Solid Waste Advisory Committee was working on their six-year hazardous waste plan. He indicated the last time they turned it in the Washington State Department of Ecology took three years to review the chapter having to do with medical and hazardous waste.

Councilor Harris reported, by working with the county, it will save the city thousands of dollars from having to develop and adopt our own plan. He indicated they just started the process and didn't expect to have anything for the council to review until the beginning of next year.

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c. **Update From Councilor Spahr.** Councilor Spahr asked when the city's organic dump would be open. City Manager MacReynold reported it was already open, adding the permits are \$30.

d. **Recreation Park.** Councilor Dawes reported Recreation Park was looking really nice, and wanted staff to know that it hadn't gone unnoticed.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of May 13, 2013.