

April 28, 2014

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, April 28, 2014, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Dawes called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. with the following council members present: Terry Harris, Bob Spahr, Daryl Lund, Chad Taylor, and Tony Ketchum. Councilor Pope was absent (excused). Staff present included: Merlin MacReynold, City Manager; Bill Hillier, City Attorney; Judy Schave, City Clerk; Dennis Osborn, Community Development Director; Rick Sahlin, Public Works Director; and Allyn Roe, Airport Manager.

1. **Executive Session.** Mayor Dawes announced the council would be in executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) – acquisition of land, and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – potential litigation for approximately one hour and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session.

Mayor Dawes closed the executive session at 4:59 p.m. and announced the council would take a short recess before opening the regular meeting at 5:03 p.m. Additional staff included: Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Judy Pectol, Finance Manager; and Don Schmitt, Street Superintendent.

2. **Consent Calendar.** Councilor Taylor moved to approve the consent calendar comprised of the following:

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of April 14, 2014;
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 108925-109097 and Electronic Funds Transfer No. 32014 in the amount of \$563,466.76 dated April 15, 2014; and
- c. Authorize city manager to execute agreement with HDJ, PLLC, for project management services for the National Avenue Salzer Creek Bridge Scour Project in the amount of \$39,750.

Councilor Lund seconded the motion.

Councilor Harris asked if the agreement with HDJ covered all of the costs, including the permitting fees. Public Works Director Rick Sahlin reported the agreement only covered the management of the project itself, adding the grant would cover all of the permitting fees, design work and the construction of the project. He noted the grant would cover their cost and also left an opening in the length of time for the project to go back and ask for more money from the Federal Highways, if necessary.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. **Administration Reports.**

a. **Quarterly and March Financial Report and Quarterly Sales and Use Tax Report.** Finance Manager Judy Pectol reported the beginning fund balances stated in the quarterly report were still preliminary, noting they still had some interest allocations for the year ending December 2013. She stated some funds had larger beginning balances than expected, but overall, everything looked good and they were still on track for the year.

Mayor Dawes stated the sales tax was still showing a gradual increase, which was good to see. Ms. Pectol agreed.

b. **Update on Chehalis Avenue Road Improvement Project.** Mr. Sahlin reported bids were opened on March 27 for the Chehalis Avenue Road Improvement Project. He noted the city received six bids and all were lower than the lowest bid from the previous bid process in 2013. Mr. Sahlin stated the administration is working with the consultant to get everything approved through the Washington State Department of Transportation, and hoped to be back before the council on May 12 with a recommendation to award the bid to the lowest responsible bidder.

c. **Update on Citizen Comments from April 14 Council Meeting.** City Manager MacReynold reported, at the last council meeting, Norm Goodbla talked about his concerns with reference to a private water system on Armstrong Road. A meeting was set up to meet with Mr. Goodbla and Jim Holding, another resident on the private water system. City Manager MacReynold reported they had a very productive discussion and identified some options for the residents to consider.

April 28, 2014

City Manager MacReynold reported the public works department would be drafting a letter for his signature that will be sent to the residents on the private system, laying out the options discussed. He indicated Mr. Goodbla and Mr. Holding really liked the option of a hold-harmless agreement and having the city begin to read the individual meters. City Manager MacReynold stated the administration will look at upgrading the meters and, in the long-term, work with the residents to do a Local Improvement District and have it become part of the city's system. He indicated they would be meeting with all of the property owners to discuss the options identified.

City Manager MacReynold reported he would be meeting with Mark and Julie Japhet on Thursday to discuss the retroactive water assessments on their two properties with regard to the Federal Emergency Management Administration home elevation program requirements. He stated he would report back on their discussion at the next council meeting.

#### **4. Council Reports.**

a. **Update From Councilor Lund.** Councilor Lund reported he attended the monthly Regional Fire Authority Joint Oversight Board meeting.

b. **Update From Mayor Dawes.** Mayor Dawes stated he attended a traffic safety meeting where there appeared to be a move that may conflict with the actions we're taking with regard to the rail line acquisition. He reported Genesee & Wyoming Railroad gave a presentation at the meeting and talked about rail line corridor improvements from Blakeslee Junction out to Grays Harbor. He noted it didn't appear to impact us that much until they started talking about wanting to increase their speed through that corridor. Mayor Dawes believed there was only one way for them to do that, which is to either look at purchasing the line that we're looking at, or do some large improvements on the 5 mph curve that would most likely involve buying a lot of property in order to straighten out the track.

Mayor Dawes reported he asked City Manager MacReynold to set up a meeting with Genesee & Wyoming to have them come and give the same presentation to the council, so they can ask some questions. He noted Genesee & Wyoming was asked if they had seen the grant application to see what it involved. They stated they had not. Mayor Dawes indicated the grant application had to be turned in by 5:00 p.m. last Friday.

Mayor Dawes reported he attended the Business After Hours at Dick's Brewery. He also attended a ribbon cutting at the new Texas BBQ Grill, adding the samples tasted pretty good.

Mayor Dawes reported the Riverside Fire Authority Joint Oversight Board is moving forward, but things will be slowing down a bit as both Chehalis and Riverside Fire Authority go through the process of replacing their chiefs.

5. **Continue Executive Session.** Mayor Dawes announced the council would reconvene back into executive session pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) – acquisition of land, and RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) – potential litigation for approximately one hour and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned 5:57 p.m.

---

Mayor

Attest:

---

City Clerk

#### **SUGGESTED MOTION**

**I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of April 28, 2014.**