

August 25, 2014

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, August 25, 2014, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Dawes called the meeting to order at 4:30 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; Brian Kelly, Assistant 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) – purchase or acquisition of land for approximately 30 minutes and there would be no decision following conclusion of the executive session.

Mayor Dawes closed the executive session at 5:04 p.m. and announced the council would take a four-minute recess before opening the regular meeting at 5:08 p.m. Additional staff included: Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Judy Pectol, Finance Manager; Peggy Hammer, Human Resources Administrator; and Don Schmitt, Street Superintendent. Members of the media included Dameon Pesanti from *The Chronicle*.

2. **Public Hearing on the Establishment of a Transportation Benefit District (TBD).** Mayor Dawes closed the regular meeting at 5:08:52 p.m. and opened the public hearing.

City Manager MacReynold reported the administration received direction from the council at the previous meeting to bring back the necessary documents to establish a TBD. He noted the proposed ordinance identified the city council as the board to the TBD, to make decisions about possible funding alternatives for local streets and roads, based on the city's six-year transportation plan.

There being no public comment, Mayor Dawes closed the public hearing at 5:10 p.m. and reopened the regular meeting.

3. **Lewis County Celebration.** Lewis County Commissioner Edna Fund invited the council to attend an open house on September 10, 2014, from 3:00 to 7:00 p.m. to celebrate Lewis County's induction into the Historic State Registry.

4. **Proclamation.** Mayor Dawes presented Arnie Guenther with a proclamation expressing support of September as "Prostate Cancer Awareness Month" in the city of Chehalis.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of August 11, 2014; and
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 110064-110213 and Electronic Funds Transfer No. 72014 in the amount of \$614,454.55 dated August 15, 2014.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Lund and carried unanimously.

6. **Administration Reports.**

a. **July Financial Report.** Finance Manager Judy Pectol reported the telephone tax continued to stay below what was budgeted; however, on the positive side, licenses and permits and goods and services both had big increases. She noted they should see some additional increases in goods and services next month, now that the pool is open and doing well.

Ms. Pectol reported a majority of the expenditure accounts that are over budget in the general fund are due to some expenses that came in earlier than anticipated for the year.

Ms. Pectol reported on the utility funds, noting she was encouraged to see the connection fees up significantly. She stated the new construction should also increase their utility revenues in 2015.

Ms. Pectol reported, for the first time, the council would see revenue for car rentals listed in the budget. She noted the

August 25, 2014

airport collected \$770 in car rental fees for the month of July.

Councilor Lund stated in fun, "It would have been nice to have been told they had car rentals at the airport because some of his friends who have Lear jets might have stopped in to visit him if they knew they could pick up a car at the airport."

7. Council Reports.

a. **Update From Councilor Spahr.** Councilor Spahr stated he toured the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatics Center on August 14, noting it was a great facility and a real gift to the community. He also took his grandson to Ripon, California, over the weekend to wrestle in his fourth Schwingfest, noting he came in first in his division.

b. **Update From Mayor Dawes.** Mayor Dawes reported he attended the opening day ceremonies of the Southwest Washington Fair on August 12 and had a chance to work in the Lewis County Historical Museum booth. He also toured the new pool facility and attended the opening to the public on August 15.

Mayor Dawes reported he attended the Traffic Safety Coalition meeting on behalf of Councilor Taylor, noting one of the items for discussion was how they rate traffic projects. He stated he found it odd that they listed improvements to the rail lines as the number one priority for Lewis County. Mayor Dawes believed there would be a lot more discussion on this topic at their next meeting and suggested they might see something else listed as the number one priority, such as the Chamber Way thoroughfare from National Avenue to the west side of the freeway.

Mayor Dawes reported he also attended the Chehalis Garlic Fest and Craft Show, noting it's amazing to see the number of people it brings in from out of the area.

Mayor Dawes reported he attended the donor reception for the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatics Center on Sunday, August 24, adding it was very well attended and they did a good job of recognizing a lot of the donors. He stated the city can't say thank you enough to the 500 donors and the Chehalis Foundation for bringing the facility to our community.

Mayor Dawes reported the Centralia-Chehalis Chamber of Commerce is planning a membership BBQ and ribbon cutting at the Gail and Carolyn Shaw Aquatics Center on September 8, at 5:30 p.m. He wondered if it would be possible to move the starting time of the September 8 council meeting up to 4:30 p.m., so they can attend the ribbon cutting. The consensus of the council was to move the council meeting start time to 4:30 p.m.

8. Ordinance No. 933-B, First Reading – Dedicating Four Percent (4%) of Annual Sales and Use Tax Revenue Budgeted by the City to Road Improvements, Maintenance, and Preservation Projects. City Manager MacReynold reported the proposed ordinance was discussed at the previous meeting and was being presented for council consideration.

Councilor Ketchum moved to pass Ordinance No. 933-B on first reading.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Taylor and carried unanimously.

9. Ordinance No. 934-B, First Reading – Establishing a Transportation Benefit District within the Corporate Limits of the City of Chehalis Specifying the Maintenance and Preservation of Existing Transportation Improvements, Providing for Additional Transportation Improvements, and Creating a New Chapter 11 of the Chehalis Municipal Code Entitled "Chehalis Transportation Benefit District." City Manager MacReynold reported this was another recommendation from the work session that council requested be brought back for their consideration. He noted the ordinance did not include any discussion about funding, and the governing board according to the ordinance would be the city council.

Councilor Ketchum stated this has been an ongoing project for eight plus years and he was glad to finally see it before the council. He noted he would be very supportive of a \$20 vehicle license fee and believed the ordinance was a good stepping stone towards that. Councilor Ketchum thought it was a good option to consider.

Councilor Harris moved to pass Ordinance No. 934-B on first reading.

August 25, 2014

The motion was seconded by Councilor Spahr and carried unanimously.

10. **National Avenue Salzer Creek Scour Mitigation Project Agreements.** City Manager MacReynold reported this project has been discussed numerous times. He noted it was important to remember that we received a grant to cover 100 percent of the project.

Councilor Ketchum asked if they would have to wait for the state to approve additional funding to do the actual work. Public Works Director Rick Sahlin reported during the course of the project the city is allowed to go back to the state four times to ask for additional grant funding, adding this particular request is for the design work and permitting. He stated once they get to construction and know what it will entail they'll go back to the state to ask for additional funding to get the project done.

Councilor Spahr asked if Mr. Sahlin could briefly describe what bridge scouring is. Mr. Sahlin reported bridge scour happens when you have water that washes away the soil at the pillars or the footings of the bridge. He noted the Salzer Creek Bridge on National Avenue has four or six sets of columns that the water is washing away, and eventually it will fail.

Art Schoonover, Design Project Manager for HDR Design, PLLC, reported he worked for the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) for 30+ years in both engineering design and construction, and after that he went to work for a consultant doing project management. He noted he's been involved with many bridge scour projects. Mr. Schoonover stated typically when you have high flows of water it moves the soil in such a way that it constricts or increases the velocity of the stream, which digs holes around the piers and eventually it causes the piers to fail and the bridge to fall into the water.

Mr. Schoonover stated it was very important that they move forward on this project because National Avenue is one of the city's main thoroughfares. He reported the engineering and design is necessary to open up the channels to prevent the scouring from continuing. Mr. Schoonover noted in this day and age there are a lot of environmental and permitting issues that need to be addressed, which tend to escalate the cost. He reported the National Avenue project was pretty straightforward and believed it could be done under budget.

Councilor Harris moved that the council authorize the city manager to execute the Local Agency Standard Consultant Agreement between the city and ESA Virgil-Agrimis in the amount of \$135,935 for architectural/engineering consulting services; Supplemental Agreement No. 01 between the city and HDJ Design, PLLC in the amount of \$2,016; and Local Agency Agreement Supplement No. 1 between the city and WSDOT in the amount of \$65,735, increasing the grant funding for the National Avenue Salzer Creek Scour Mitigation Project.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Spahr and carried unanimously.

There being no further business to come before the council, the meeting adjourned 5:41 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of August 25, 2014.