

August 22, 2016

The Chehalis city council met in regular session on Monday, August 22, 2016, in the Chehalis city hall. Mayor Dawes called the meeting to order at 5:00 p.m. with the following council members present: Terry Harris, Dr. Isaac Pope, Bob Spahr, Daryl Lund, Chad Taylor and Tony Ketchum. Staff present included: David Fleckenstein, Acting City Manager/Airport Manager; Bill Hillier, City Attorney; Judy Schave, City Clerk; Glenn Schaffer, Police Chief; Ken Cardinale, Fire Chief; Judy Pectol, Finance Manager; Peggy Hammer, Human Resources Administrator; Rick Sahlin, Public Works Director; and Don Schmitt, Street/Stormwater Superintendent. Members of the media included Justyna Tomtas from *The Chronicle*.

1. **Update on ChehalisFest.** Lewis County Historical Museum Executive Director Andy Skinner reported the festival has typically been 'volunteer' driven with the Chamber of Commerce being the primary marketing and promotion organization behind the event; however, because they had too much going on with their events schedule this year they asked if the museum and the Chehalis Community Renaissance Team would be willing to take on the role of marketing, promotion, and gathering sponsorships. He noted they ended up changing some of the promotional materials and sponsorships, but overall, considered the event to be very successful. Mr. Skinner reported they had a 42 percent increase in funds raised over last year for the breakfast and lunch combined, and the car show expanded from 45 cars last year to 86. He noted the museum rose upwards of \$4,500 after all of the sponsorships were received and the expenses were paid.

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

- a. Minutes of the regular meeting of August 8, 2016;
- b. Claim Vouchers No. 116572-116732 and Electronic Funds Transfer No. 72016 in the amount of \$437,125.26 dated August 15, 2016; and
- c. Award National Avenue TIB Arterial Preservation Project to Granite Construction in the amount of \$366,080 and authorize the city manager to execute a contract agreement for the same; and authorize city manager to execute Supplemental Agreement Number 1 with Skillings Connolly, Inc., to include construction management services for the National Avenue TIB Arterial Preservation Project.

Councilor Pope seconded the motion.

Councilor Spahr asked for an explanation on the supplement agreement with Skillings Connolly, Inc., noting the original agreement was for \$53,000 and the supplemental agreement is for an additional \$52,000.

Street/Stormwater Superintendent Don Schmitt reported the original agreement was strictly for the design of the project. He noted it's typical to approve a supplemental agreement for construction management after the project has been approve and awarded.

Councilor Lund asked if there's someone local who can do engineering on city projects.

Mr. Schmitt reported there are local engineers that do design some city projects; however, they like to spread the work around and sometimes it's based on availability.

Councilor Lund stated we have an eight percent unemployment rate in this county and he would like see our dollars stay local.

The motion carried unanimously.

3. **Administration Reports.**

a. **July Financial Report.** Finance Manager Judy Pectol reported things are looking good, but there are a couple of revenues she's concerned about and she's watching those.

b. **Recap on 2016 Chip Seal Program.** Mr. Schmitt reported the chip seal program was pretty uneventful this year, noting they oiled approximately nine lane miles with no major breakdowns. He stated one of the good things that came out of this

August 22, 2016

year's program is that Lewis County was able to renegotiate their oil contract (which the city piggybacks on) and got a 36 percent reduction.

Mayor Dawes inquired about the stop light at the corner of Market Boulevard and 2nd Street that had been taken down to be repaired.

Mr. Schmitt reported they were able to secure an antique Crouse-Hines light and used the guts of it to rebuild the stop light, adding it's scheduled to go back up the following morning.

c. **Briefing on New Fire Training Site.** Fire Chief Ken Cardinale briefed the council on the new fire training facility located within the Chehalis Regional Water Reclamation Facility. He noted they worked with a local company who came within the amount they had budgeted, which was \$8,000; however, after they got into it they determined the modifications needed would cost an additional \$4,000. Chief Cardinale indicated he had been in discussions with Lewis County Fire District 6 about the training site, adding after the additional cost was determined he contacted Commissioner Kirk Johnston to ask if his offer to help was still on the table and they were more than generous to supply the additional \$4,000.

Chief Cardinale reported the training facility is made up of shipping containers that are modified for use by the fire department for training. He noted the facility is basically a mockup of a two story home with a staircase for access. Chief Cardinale stated they're looking at installing a fire department connection and sandpipes and are currently in the process of designing an adjustable roof prop for practice ventilation on both residential and commercial structures. He noted the new facility will allow for limitless training, to include:

- IDLH/SCBA (Endangered Life and Health)
- Search and Rescue
- Hose Evolutions
- Team Building
- Above Ground Work
- V.E.S. – Vent-Enter-Search
- Roof Ventilation
- Working with Multiple Agencies
- May-Day Training (Man Down Inside)

Chief Cardinale suggested the new training site will help reduce on-the-job injuries, adding the more they can train the more they can prepare personnel to deal with the threats that are out there. He noted the site will be used by all of the local fire agencies, including Riverside Fire Authority (RFA) and Lewis County Fire District 5 and 6.

Chief Cardinale reported, for training purposes, they'll be loading the containers with the typical types of furniture found in both residential and commercial structures. He noted they've also secured some donations from Home Depot and Palmer Lumber, to include windows, doors, and locks that they can no longer sell.

Councilor Lund asked if they plan to include funding in next year's budget to procure more containers to make the facility larger.

Chief Cardinale reported, before they purchase any more containers, they first want to see how many evolutions they can do and develop a plan on how they want to grow. He noted they don't have a projection for next year, but they may have something in future budgets.

Councilor Lund felt the current facility was small and thought they would want to go bigger.

Chief Cardinale stated they're looking at adding a third story, but they first want to see how their personnel respond to it.

Councilor Lund thought it was a good idea and didn't want them to have to wait too long to make it bigger for better training.

August 22, 2016

Chief Cardinale reported they're not looking at a lot of money with the containers, noting the expense is in the modifications. He stated rather than just adding more containers they want to add different aspects that are useful for training.

Acting City Manager David Fleckenstein reported he and Chief Cardinale talked about the project early on because of the proximity to the airport. He noted one of the limiting factors in expanding is that any live burns would create an obstruction for the airport, which limits some of the actual training that can take place there.

Chief Cardinale reported they'll be using their smoke generation machines to generate that type of environment, and the sun will heat up the containers so they won't have to reinvent that. He noted the other limiting factor is the site may be used for future expansion of the wastewater facility, which is why they went with portable containers.

Chief Cardinale stated they would be talking with RFA and Fire District 6 in the future to see if they can secure some real estate, either by donation or purchase, to build a permanent regional training facility. He noted they're very excited about the new training facility and what it will bring.

4. Council Reports.

a. **Update from Councilor Lund.** Councilor Lund reported the Joint Oversight Board met with Fire District 6 to discuss functional consolidation and working together on different projects. He noted he also attended the SW Washington Fair, adding it turned out pretty good this year.

b. **Update from Councilor Pope.** Councilor Pope reported the Fraternal Order of Eagles would be having a bingo fundraiser for Penny Playground on August 27.

c. **Update From Mayor Dawes.** Mayor Dawes reported their next meeting with Fire District 6 would be on September 14, noting at that time they will start the review process on the different options as far as working together on fire service in the future. He also attended opening day of the fair and worked in the Lewis County Historical Museum fair booth.

d. **Update on Park and Ride Situation.** Mayor Dawes suggested the camping issue at the park and ride on Main Street is getting worse and suggested they need to stop it before it gets any bigger.

Acting City Manager Fleckenstein reported the administration is still looking into the situation, noting they ran a couple of proposals by the City Attorney earlier in the day. He believed they had a solution and would be discussing it with City Manager MacReynold when he returns.

City Attorney Hillier reported he's been out of the office, so any delay on the situation is on his part.

Police Chief Glenn Schaffer reported they've been visiting the site daily, as well as a couple of other sites in town. He noted the request sent to the City Attorney's Office had to do with parking regulations and creating further limitations. Chief Schaffer stated he plans to meet with City Manager MacReynold to talk about the options, to include restricting overnight parking in those lots.

Mayor Dawes stated they need to do something because it's not getting any better; if fact, it's getting worse.

Councilor Lund stated he's upset that this hasn't been taken care of yet and citizens are also getting upset about it.

Acting City Manager Fleckenstein stated he agreed, adding there has to be a long-term solution.

Mayor Dawes requested an update in two weeks, adding he hoped they would have a plan in place and the situation would be taken care of. He noted John Panesko, who attended the meeting two weeks ago, had a very legitimate concern about the activity that's been happening on his property.

August 22, 2016

Chief Schaffer stated the administration is concerned about it too, adding he can only work with the ordinances that we have. He suggested after he talks with City Manager MacReynold, and gets direction, they'll be able to change some of the parking ordinances and post signage.

Mayor Dawes stated staff does not need council action to take care of parking issues. He noted when he broached City Manager MacReynold about it a couple of months ago he told him he would be willing to work with the rest of the council to get ordinances passed to take care of it.

City Attorney Hillier reported they have addressed the fact that staff is authorized to make these decisions today and they're headed down that road.

Councilor Taylor asked if staff could also address the issue on the sidewalk that goes under the bridge near the park and ride and comes out near Riverside Road. He noted pretty much every time they ride their bikes in that area there's a good gathering of people that are sitting or sleeping on the sidewalk, and bathing in the creek.

City Attorney Hillier reported that property belongs to the Washington State Department of Transportation.

Chief Schaffer stated, in spite of it being WSDOT property, there are things the city can look at, such as littering and harassment, but we can't do anything about them being there.

Mayor Dawes suggested they had a similar issue under the Chamber Way Bridge near the railroad, noting the homeless were digging out areas and the city had to go in and post signs. He stated it's a tough issue and he hates having to pass ordinances to address it, but it's a quality of life issue and the city needs to do what we can.

5. Ordinance No. 961-B, Second and Final Reading – Amending Title 17 of the Chehalis Municipal Code Dealing with Allowable Fence Height. Acting City Manager Fleckenstein reported there were no changes to the proposed ordinance being presented, which passed on first reading on August 8.

Councilor Spahr moved to pass Ordinance No. 961-B on second and final reading.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Taylor and carried unanimously.

6. Special Council Work Session. Mayor Dawes reminded the council about the special work session on Monday, August 29, at 5:00 p.m. to review the utility rate study.

7. Special Thanks to WSDOT. Councilor Harris stated he wanted to personally thank WSDOT and all of those involved for getting the Chamber Way overpass corrected as rapidly and professionally as they did. He noted it was pretty remarkable.

There being no further business to come before the council the meeting adjourned at 5:34 p.m.

Mayor

Attest:

City Clerk

SUGGESTED MOTION

I move that the council approve the minutes of the regular city council meeting of August 22, 2016.