

Chehalis City Council

Meeting Minutes
July 12, 2021

The Chehalis City Council met in regular session on Monday, July 12, 2021. Mayor Dennis Dawes called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm with the following members present: Michael Bannan, Tony Ketchum, Jerry Lord, Dr. Isaac Pope, and Bob Spahr. Councilor Daryl Lund participated via Zoom. Staff present included: Jill Anderson, City Manager; Tammy Baraconi, Planning and Building Manager; Kiley Franz, City Clerk; Erin Hillier, City Attorney; Randy Kaut, Interim Police Chief; Brandon Rakes, Airport Operations Coordinator; and Chun Saul, Finance Director.

1. **Approval of Agenda.** A motion to approve the agenda was made by Councilor Ketchum. The motion was seconded by Councilor Bannan and carried unanimously.

2. **Port of Chehalis Update.** Randy Mueller, CEO, provided an update on the activities at the Port of Chehalis. A project to help ease the flooding of roads in the port district has been approved. A memorandum of understanding with Twin Transit is being drafted for a hydrogen vehicle refueling station. Randy Mueller informed the Council that he would be leaving his position as CEO of the Port at the end of November. Mayor Dawes inquired about a Japanese firm that produced wood pellets that had previously expressed interest in the port. Mr. Mueller informed the Council that many interested businesses had ceased communications with the onset of COVID-19, that firm being one of them.

3. **Citizens Business.**

- a. Mayor Dawes informed the Council that Leah Vanesse had requested to move to the July 26th meeting.
- b. Jenny Collins, Chehalis Foundation Director, explained that a fundraiser would be held at Lintott-Alexander Park on July 30th from 5:00 pm to 8:00 pm. There will be refreshments and a silent auction. Councilor Pope explained that Lintott-Alexander Park was the pilot program for the Chehalis Foundation; he praised the Chehalis Foundation's effort to support the City and the School Districts.

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

- c. Minutes of the regular City Council meeting of June 28, 2021; and
- d. June 30, 2021 Claim Vouchers No. 132013 – 132124 and Electronic Funds Transfer Check Nos. 1379 – 1409, and 15 in the amount of \$313,798.68; and
- e. June 30, 2021, Payroll Vouchers No. 41688-41724, Direct Deposit Payroll Vouchers No. 13539-13668, Electronic Federal Tax and DRS Pension/Deferred Comp Payments No. 347-350 in the amount of \$869,479.97; and
- f. Resolution No. 10-2021, First Reading – Setting a public hearing on Monday, August 3rd at 5:00 pm regarding petition to vacate portions of right-of-way on SE Adams, 12th Street, and the undeveloped alley between 11th and 12th Streets.

The motion was seconded by Councilor Pope and carried unanimously.

5. **Consideration of Early Work Agreement for Tract 8 at 1800 NW Louisiana Avenue to KEM Northwest, LLC, a Washington Limited Liability Company.** Brandon Rakes explained that the Council had recently approved the lease of Tract 8 to KEM Northwest. The early work agreement was proposed in hopes of being able to fill both Tract 8 and Tract 9 at the same time.

A motion to approve the acceptance of the Early Work Agreement for Tract 8 at 1800 NW Louisiana Avenue by KEM Northwest and authorize the City Manager to execute the documents was made by Councilor Ketchum. The motion was seconded by Councilor Pope and carried unanimously. Councilor Bannan abstained from the motion.

6. **Administration Reports.**

a. **City Manager Update.** City Manager Anderson informed the Council that Laura Fisher had been hired for the Permit Technician position in the Community Development office. There will be Party in Park at Lintott-Alexander Park and Music in the

Park at Recreation Park, both of which will take place on July 30th. A celebration for the completion of work at the sports complex and Penny Playground will take place on August 6th at 5:30 pm.

7. Councilor Reports/Committee Updates.

- a. **Mayor Dawes.** Mayor Dawes went to an open house for Betty Brook's retirement, he attended a growth management committee meeting, and he met with Jill Anderson and Lilly Wall regarding the grand opening of Penny Playground and the sports complex. Mayor Dawes asked if there was an effort by the Police Department to inform the citizens of the new state laws that limit police response. Interim Chief Kaut explained that the police would still be responding, but their actions may be limited upon arrival.

8. **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 and RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) – Sale/Lease of Real Estate, not to exceed 6:15 pm and there may be action taken following conclusion of the executive session. Mayor Dawes closed the regular meeting at 5:31 pm. and the executive session began at 5:35 pm. Following conclusion of the executive session at 6:08 pm, the regular meeting was reopened and was immediately adjourned.


Dennis L. Dawes, Mayor


Kiley Franz, City Clerk

Approved:

Initials: 