

May 24, 2007

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Tjeerdsma called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Aslett, Bensen, Doyle, Valentine, Straathof and Montgomery. Staff present: Aarstad, Sheahan, Thomas and Tingley.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Doyle** to approve the minutes of the May 10, 2007 Council meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Councilor Bensen presented the bills. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Aslett** to approve vouchers 49419 – 49681 in the amount of \$542,250.56. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Current Expense	\$ 48,975.01
Current Expense Cumulative Reserve	6,763.10
City Street	136,724.29
Library	200.00
Parks & Recreation	11,332.55
Cemetery Fund	97.39
Local Capital Improvement Fund	234,183.99
Sewer Fund	26,120.99
Sewer Cumulative Reserve	43,362.94
Storm Drainage Utility	34,490.30
Total	\$ 542,250.56

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Buildings & Grounds Supervisor Tingley reported that the air conditioning unit located in the computer server room in the Police/Court building needs to be replaced. After meeting with air conditioning service representatives, it has been determined that the server room should have its own AC unit that runs independent from the rest of the building. Since we've installed a computer server and more equipment in that room, the air conditioning has been unable to adequately cool that area which has caused some problems with computer service. The estimate to replace and install a unit that can accommodate the generated heat is \$11,000 plus tax. This includes about \$7,500 for the air conditioning unit which will be installed in the ceiling and \$3,400 for additional electrical work to accommodate the unit. He asked for Council approval for purchase and installation of a new unit (including additional electrical work). Funding would come from the Legislative emergency fund as this was expense was not anticipated in the 2007 budget. A motion was made by **Councilors Aslett/Bensen** to approve expending funds from the Legislative Emergency Fund for replacement/repair of the AC unit at the Police/Court Building.

Library Director Perkins announced that the Library opened their doors to the public at 11:00 a.m. Wednesday May 23, 2007. Without any announcement of the opening, the Library had 500 visitors. As of 5:30 p.m. today there had already been 540 visitors (the library is open until 8:00 p.m.) She shared visitors' comments and reactions when they saw the inside of the library for the first time. One patron stated that she was "absolutely bedazzled and amazed." Another patron had tears in her eyes as she looked around the new library. **Library Director Perkins** thanked the Council for the new library.

May 24, 2007

Library Director Perkins announced a volunteer training session will be held at 10 a.m. and 6 p.m. on May 30th. Volunteers will be trained to give tours and help patrons use the new self check out system and other equipment. She noted that special music and performers are being lined up for the Grand Opening Celebration which is scheduled for Saturday June 16, 2007. **Councilor Montgomery** thanked **Library Director Perkins** for her work in planning the new library and getting it up and running.

City Administrator Aarstad distributed a memo from Dave Brookings, Skagit County Assistant Public Works Director. In the memo Mr. Brookings suggests that the Board of County Commissioners should consider imposing a moratorium for all solid waste handling facilities within the County until the Board resolves several issues. The issues include resolution of the Cimarron contract; receipt of the engineering analysis and a decision made on the various options; amendments are made to the Solid Waste Management Plan and Skagit County Code 12.18 to reflect the Board of County Commissioners desire that the County owned facility be the primary designated site. He asked that the issue of the moratorium be strongly considered by the Municipalities Committee. Council was in favor of recommending such a moratorium to the Board of County Commissioners and asked that as Chair of the Municipalities Committee **Councilor Bensen** relay this information to the Committee and the Board of County Commissioners.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Tjeerdsma stated that the proclamation regarding Rotary International Week will be presented at the next council meeting.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no Unfinished Business.

NEW BUSINESS:

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES AGREEMENT WITH PACIFIC INTERNATIONAL ENGINEERING, PLLC FOR FEMA BASE FLOOD ELEVATION TECHNICAL SUBMITTAL.

City Attorney Thomas stated that this contract with Pacific International Engineering, PLLC will provide the technical submittal to FEMA, in accordance with FEMA guidelines, which will form the basis of the appeal of the proposed FEMA revised base flood elevations. We anticipate FEMA will base its revised flood elevations on the flawed technical work performed by the Seattle District, Corps of Engineers. That technical work relies on overstated historic data that skews the hydrologic analysis. PI Engineering has previously started from zero and produced its own complete hydrologic and hydraulic analysis of the Skagit system; but PI Engineering's work tasks overseen by the County did not include the final production of the flood elevation maps. PI Engineering is uniquely qualified to do this work, and in fact is FEMA's technical contractor in Region IIX. This work will not start until we know for sure what FEMA's preliminary flood maps look like. We anticipate financial assistance from the other members of the Skagit River Impact Partnership. The City of Mount Vernon has already indicated a willingness to pay its fair share. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Aslett** to approve the professional services agreement with Pacific International Engineering, PLLC. All agreed. Motion carried.

Councilor Loving arrived at the council meeting at 6:17 p.m.

FINDINGS OF FACT AND CONCLUSIONS OF LAW RE: MOTORCARS LIMITED REQUEST TO ESTABLISH AUTOMOBILE DEALERSHIP AT 1749 SOUTH BURLINGTON BOULEVARD.

May 24, 2007

City Attorney Thomas presented Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law relating to the decision by City Council to deny Mr. Jeff Benham's request for a Conditional Use Permit. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Doyle** to approve the Findings of Fact and Conclusions of Law regarding denial of Conditional Use Permit #2-07. Voting in favor were **Councilors Bensen, Loving, Valentine, Aslett and Doyle**. Voting against were **Councilors Straathof and Montgomery**. Motion carried.

Mayor Tjeerdma noted there were several visitors in the audience and asked that they step to the microphone to introduce themselves and tell Council why they are attending tonight's meeting. The students noted they were from Western Washington University and are observing the City Council meeting as part of a class. **Mayor Tjeerdsma** thanked them for attending the council meeting.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was not an Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Councilors Aslett/Montgomery** to adjourn the meeting at 6:21 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richard A. Patrick
Finance Director / City Clerk

Roger "Gus" Tjeerdsma
Mayor