

May 28, 2009

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Brunz called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council members present: Aslett, Bensen, Doyle, Edmundson, Loving, Montgomery and Valentine. Staff present: Cavanaugh, Martin, Sheahan, Thomas, Thrumer, and VanWieringen.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Valentine** to approve the minutes of the May 14, 2009 Council workshop and Council meeting. All agreed. Motion carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Councilor Aslett presented the bills. A motion was made by **Councilors Aslett/Edmundson** to approve vouchers 55488- 55567 in the amount of \$221,237.81. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Current Expense	\$ 44,865.64
City Street	19,065.22
Parks & Recreation	6,317.64
Cemetery Fund	151.97
Stadium Fund	3,130.50
Local Capital Improvement Fund	3,619.51
Sewer Fund	5,172.98
Sewer Cumulative Reserve	32,679.10
Storm Drainage Utility	106,235.25
Total	\$ 221,237.81

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mr. Mark Kramer, 506 S. Cherry Street, complimented the City on the new Walnut Street Park. He noted that he and his wife took a picnic lunch to the park over the weekend and had a very pleasant experience in a quiet park.

Mr. Steven Riessler, (attorney for property owner adjacent to Fred Meyer) spoke regarding the Fred Meyer fuel station. He came to meeting expecting a meeting this date, and was very surprised to find out that Fred Meyer fuel station was not on tonight's agenda. He noted he is not disappointed with the City, but rather the representatives of Fred Meyer for not notifying him that the scheduled hearing had been delayed.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Finance Director Thrumer reported on Skagit County Solid Waste Rate Study. He stated that he along with representative from other cities served on a committee to determine new rates to meet future capital and debt service. He noted that the current rates for municipalities is \$82/ton, the proposed rate is \$88/ton. Private companies and individuals currently pay \$83/ton, the proposal is for \$89/ton. This would not affect the City budget as the City has we have a contract with Waste Management. The City would see increased revenue based on increased franchise fee. The County has not increased the rate for several years. He noted that surrounding counties are paying more than \$100/ton. The proposal also includes a tie to the CPI (Consumer Price Index) that would allow for rate changes each year. The proposal must be adopted by the Solid Waste Governance Board, which Mayor Brunz is a member. The new rates could be effective in 2010. **Councilor Aslett** asked that **Finance Director Thrumer** provide a single page version of tonight's report. **Mayor Brunz** stated that he may be asked to vote on the proposed rate changes at an upcoming Solid Waste

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Advisory Board Meeting. **Councilor Loving** asked if the rate increase would help make the solid waste transfer station more efficient. **City Attorney Thomas** stated that currently the system is using its reserves for operations. The rates should have been adjusted on a routine basis, but were not. This rate increase is to prevent using reserves and to increase the reserves to plan for future development/replacement. He asked for a consensus from the Council as to how he should vote on the proposed rates. Council consensus was that **Mayor Brunz** should vote in favor of the proposed rate increase.

Councilor Doyle left the meeting.

Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh stated that his crew worked on re-gluing the rubber mat to the water park. The water park will open for use beginning this Saturday. He announced the addition of the Jerry Schreuder's Skagit Jazz group on Friday night of Berry Dairy Days. The jazz group will play at Skagit River Park from 5 to 7 p.m.

Councilor Doyle returned to meeting.

Interim Fire Chief Staheli stated that the Fire Department's new state of the art fire engine is currently under construction and should be ready for delivery to the City near the end of the summer. He noted that Volunteer Firefighters have taken the lead on design and equipment for the engine. There have been several promotions within the volunteer ranks from Captain to Battalion Chief. Standard Operating Procedures are currently being updated as well as consolidation of the Operations and Safety Manual into one document. Department training has been changed to more hands-on basic training at least through the end of the year. There are positive things going on at fire station; moral is up-beat amongst full-time staff and volunteers.

Police Chief VanWieringen stated that the COPS grant application for the police officer position #27 may not be funded as the number of funding requests greatly outnumbers the amount of funding available. **Resource Officer VanDyken** will start his position as Resource Officer on July 1, 2009.

Mayor Brunz left the meeting.

City Attorney Thomas presented an interlocal agreement with Skagit County for work by consultants that City of Burlington had under contract. The work has been done by the City consultant for Skagit County; Skagit County has submitted payment to the City. The City cannot complete the transaction until Council approves this interlocal agreement. A motion was made by **Councilors Aslett/Bensen** to approve the interlocal agreement with Skagit County. All agreed. Motion carried.

Mayor Brunz returned to meeting. **Councilor Edmundson** left the meeting.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Martin stated that he attended a meeting with WSDOT regarding high-speed rail corridors, one of which runs through Burlington. He stated there may be a possibility of funding to design/replace the Burlington Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) Bridge over the Skagit River between Burlington and Mount Vernon.

Councilor Edmundson returned to the meeting.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Brunz read the proclamation in honor of the 72nd Berry Dairy Days Festival, June 18 – 21, 2009.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

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NEW BUSINESS:**REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR BERRY DAIRY DAYS TWILIGHT TRACTOR PARADE ON JUNE 19, 2009.**

Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh stated that parade route for the Twilight Tractor parade is the same as in years past. The parade will begin shortly after 7:00 p.m. and travel east on Fairhaven Avenue beginning at Walnut Street. The parade will end at Skagit River Park.

REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR BERRY DAIRY DAYS GRAND PARADE ON JUNE 20, 2009.

Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh stated that parade route for the Grand Parade is the same as in years past. The Road Run will occur prior to the parade which will begin at 11:00 a.m. from Walnut Street east on Fairhaven Avenue and ending at Maiben Park. The street closure request is from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

REQUEST FOR STREET CLOSURE FOR BERRY DAIRY DAYS BERRY COOL CAR SHOW ON JUNE 21, 2009.

Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh stated that as in previous years, the car show will be held along Fairhaven Avenue from Thrifty Foods east to approximately Oak Street. He noted that cars will not be parked east of the railroad tracks. The requested time of closure is from 6:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

A motion was made by **Councilors Aslett/Doyle** to approve the street closure request for the Twilight Tractor parade on June 19, 2009, the Grand parade on June 20, 2009 and the Berry Cool Car show on June 21, 2009. All agreed. Motion carried.

CONTRACT WITH CARLETTI ARCHITECTS, P.S. FOR DESIGN AND DOCUMENTS FOR RESTROOM AT WHITMARSH LOCATION.

Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh stated that it is necessary to hire an architect to design the restroom building for the Whitmarsh location. The area has seen more activity and usage, thus a public restroom facility is needed. Donations for the project will come from NORA and from the Horseshoe Club. The agreement includes all necessary documents before construction begins. He noted that this restroom will be hooked to an on-site septic system, which has been approved by the County. A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Montgomery** to approve the agreement with Carletti Architects, P.S. All agreed. Motion carried.

CONTRACT WITH FABTECH FOR FABRICATION AND INSTALLATION OF LETTERFORMS FOR SILO ON NORTH BURLINGTON BOULEVARD.

Public Works Director/City Engineer Martin stated that this vendor services agreement will facilitate the fabrication and installation of ten letterforms to be located within the roundabout, adjacent to the Silo on North Burlington Boulevard. This was the lowest bid received from various fabricators from Western Washington. The work has been budgeted and funding will come from the North Burlington Boulevard Project 15-06. Total cost including lighting for the letterforms will not exceed \$45,000. Councilors discussed regarding possible rust on the back of the "B" that is in place at the roundabout. Discussion ensued regarding the finish on the letters and if it would rust or not. **Public Works Director/City Engineer Martin** noted that each letter is composed of 5 steel letters. The front letter will be sandblasted, primed and powder coated silver metallic. The other letters will be of steel and allowed to rust. **Councilor Aslett** asked how the farm equipment would be integrated with the silo and letting. **Councilor Edmundson** stated that Parks Foundation suggested the farm equipment could be located at Railroad Park rather than the Roundabout. A motion was made by **Councilors Valentine/Bensen** to approve the agreement with Fabtech for fabrication and installation of letterforms for the North Burlington Boulevard roundabout. All agreed. Motion carried.

RESOLUTION AMENDING THE TRAVEL POLICY TO ALLOW FOR A \$39 PER DIEM – FOR MEALS.

Finance Director Thrumer stated that current City policy allows for a per diem rate of \$39 up to \$64 for meals, based on destination. The proposed resolution, if approved, would

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change the per diem to a flat \$39 per day, regardless of destination. It is estimated that this change would save the City about \$3,000 per year in per diem reimbursements. **Finance Director Thramer** stated that if the amount allowed is anything greater than \$39 per day and the destination was to a location that allowed only \$39 per day, Internal Revenue Service rules would require the employee to pay income tax on the difference in the amounts. This would create more work and possibility for errors, thus the lowest rate was selected. A motion was made by **Councilors Montgomery/Bensen** to approve the resolution amending the Travel Policy for a \$39 Per Diem for meals. All agreed. Motion carried.
(Resolution # 09-2009)

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

The Mayor and Council members adjourned to Executive Session at 7:45 p.m. for the purpose of discussing litigation. The Mayor and Council members returned from Executive Session at 8:16 p.m.

City Attorney Thomas presented an update on Teamsters union negotiations. He stated that the Clerical unit had voted to settle their contract agreement. The Public Works unit will be voting in the near future.

ADJOURNMENT:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m. by **Mayor Brunz**.

Greg Thramer
Finance Director / City Clerk

Edward J. Brunz
Mayor