

February 8, 2005

CALL TO ORDER: Mayor Pro Tem Bensen called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Members present: Bensen, Doyle, Loving, Montgomery and Straathof. Staff present: City Administrator Aarstad, Police Chief Bowers, Finance Director Patrick, Librarian Perkins, Administrative Assistant Sheahan, and City Attorney Thomas.

A motion was made by **Councilors Doyle/Loving** to excuse **Councilor Aslett** and **Councilor Valentine** from tonight’s meeting. All approved. Motion carried.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Doyle** to approve the minutes of January 27, 2005 Council meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

AUDIT OF BILLS:

Councilor Straathof presented the bills. The largest bill was for work on the Goldenrod Bridge construction project in the amount of \$541,820. A motion was made by **Councilors Straathof/Montgomery** to approve vouchers 42658 – 42778 in the amount of \$626,131.96. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Current Expense	\$ 44,311.74
Current Expense Cumulative Reserve	11,731.98
Fire Equipment Cumulative Reserve	943.19
City Street	548,559.99
Library	4,216.53
Parks & Recreation	5,384.00
Cemetery Fund	198.85
Stadium Fund	5,256.24
Sewer Fund	5,529.44
Total	\$ 626,131.96

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

There were no public comments.

OFFICER REPORTS:

Library Director Perkins distributed the Library 2004 Annual Report. There were 81,260 people visiting the library during 2004. She noted that circulation was up 11% over 2003; the web site had 15,833 visits in 2004 (7,161 more than 2003); and they distributed 27,000 IRS tax forms. The library also offers four online database products with full-text magazine and newspaper articles, historical census records for genealogy research, and automotive repair manuals including wiring diagrams. The library received several grants that will go towards purchases to be made in 2005. The grants include a Target Reading grant for bilingual and Spanish-language children’s materials; LSTA/Preservation grant to preserve the local historical newspaper (Burlington Journal) collection; a Rotary International Language Learning Lab featuring laptops; and AV equipment and instructional materials for learning languages, especially English and Spanish.

Police Chief Bowers announced that the Police Department has converted to a new dark navy blue uniform as the previous uniform color is no longer available. Officers like the new color and style as well as the comfort level of the new uniforms.

Police Chief Bowers noted that his department received a grant from Canfield & Associates to purchase tazers and provide tazer training. The training will take place tomorrow.

City Administrator Aarstad reminded Councilmembers that the Community Forum regarding planning for the future is this Thursday at 6:30 p.m. Anyone needing a ride should contact him.

February 8, 2005

City Administrator Aarstad noted that tickets for the EDASC Economic Forecast Dinner will be placed in councilmember mailboxes at City Hall in the next couple of days. The dinner is scheduled for February 17, 2005 at McIntyre Hall.

SPECIAL PRESENTATION:

CANFIELD & ASSOCIATES – INSURANCE SERVICES.

Mr. Paul Harrison gave an overview of the services provided to the City of Burlington by Canfield & Associates. Canfield provides insurance services to members of Cities Insurance Association of Washington (CIAW). The City of Burlington is a member. Canfield & Associates have been providing services to the City for many years. He noted that Canfield works in conjunction with a local insurance provider (Wallace & Associates) as our local contact. Canfield also offers workshops to the city in a variety of topics to educate city staff and elected officials. These workshops can reduce risk to the city through education.

UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

There was no unfinished business.

NEW BUSINESS:

AGREEMENT WITH VOLUNTEERS OF AMERICA, NORTH SOUND 2-1-1.

City Administrator Aarstad stated that the North Sound 2-1-1- program will create a public resource to refer and connect local citizens in need of health and human services located within our regional community. The City of Burlington dedicated \$917 in the 2005 budget specifically for this purpose. A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Straathof** to approve the contract with funds dedicated in the 2005 budget and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City of Burlington. All agreed. Motion carried.

CONTRACT AGREEMENT WITH DAN SLATTERY TO PROVIDE ELECTRONIC HOME MONITORING.

Police Chief Bowers noted that this contract offers a competitive alternative to the Sheriff's Office service of electronic home monitoring of persons who would otherwise be incarcerated at the Skagit County Jail. The cost to the City will be \$13.50 per day for basic monitoring or \$18.50 for alcohol monitoring and an application fee of \$10 per client application. The cost of incarceration at the County Jail is currently about \$65 per day. He explained that often clients who are required to serve time under a sentence from two cities at the same time. This agreement will also allow the City to also share the cost with the other city for clients using electronic home monitoring. He noted that not all convicted clients qualify for electronic home monitoring. A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Montgomery** to approve the contract for electronic home monitoring and authorize the Mayor to sign on behalf of the City of Burlington. All approved. Motion carried.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

There was no Executive Session.

ADJOURNMENT:

A motion was made by **Councilors Doyle/Straathof** to adjourn the meeting at 7:31 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Richard A. Patrick
Finance Director / City Clerk

Roger "Gus" Tjeerdsma
Mayor