

July 27, 2006

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Tjeerdsma called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Members present: Bensen, Doyle, Loving, Valentine, Straathof and Montgomery. Staff present: Aarstad, Cavanaugh, Harmon, Patrick, Perkins, Sheahan, and Thomas.

A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Montgomery** to excuse **Councilor Aslett** from tonight’s meeting. All agreed. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

A motion was made by **Councilors Doyle/Valentine** to approve the minutes of the July 13, 2006 Council meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**AUDIT OF BILLS:**

**Councilor Bensen** presented the bills. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Valentine** to approve vouchers 47129 – 47251 in the amount of \$306,238.91. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Current Expense	\$ 69,174.31
Current Expense Cumulative Reserve	928.14
City Street	106,714.34
Library	5,042.60
Parks & Recreation	17,610.80
Cemetery Fund	271.12
Local Capital Improvement Fund	23,921.98
Parks & Recreation Reserve	58,917.98
Sewer Fund	19,970.92
Sewer Cumulative Reserve	3,686.72
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 306,238.91</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

There were no public comments.

**OFFICER REPORTS:**

**Library Director Perkins** gave an update on the Summer Reading Program; noting that several programs were offered for children this summer. An event was held today at the Community Center that attracted more than 100 children. The Burlington Library summer reading program had more than 180 participants this year. She noted a celebration will be held at 6:30 p.m. next Monday at the Skagit County Fairgrounds with entertainment provided by Cowboy Buck and Elizabeth. This event is sponsored by all the libraries in the county.

**Library Director Perkins** noted that the Friends of the Library Foundation has recently acquired a 501C IRS certification. The foundation officers are Duane Stowe and Al Brown. The Foundation goal is to raise enough funds to provide an endowment that provide continuous funding for library purchases. They will also offer naming opportunities at the library. They are hopeful that local organizations, businesses or families will take the opportunity to provide a large sum to name the conference room, etc. **Councilor Montgomery** asked what the cost would be to name a room. **Library Director Perkins** noted that some libraries charge up to \$50,000. The Burlington Library Foundation has not yet set prices; she’s expecting they will be much less.

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**Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh** announced that the restrooms at Skagit River Park are complete and were open for use during the Evergreen International Soccer Tournament. The weekend tournament gave an opportunity for staff to find out what worked and what needed to be changed or fixed. The contractor will be back to make the necessary changes to the structure. At the next Parks Board meeting, the Board will be discussing a date for a ribbon cutting for the new facility.

**Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh** stated that he recently attended a crime prevention training that was tailored towards parks and found it to be very informative. Usually this training is for building and planning officials; those who are involved in planning public facilities. He found the information very useful and hopes to bring the training session to the city for department heads to learn very useful information for planning facilities that by design would deter crime and vandalism.

**City Administrator Aarstad** noted that the motors driving the fans of the air conditioners at the Fire Station and the Police/Court Building broke down as well as the compressor in the Fire Station. He noted that the Building & Grounds budget does not have enough funds to pay for necessary repairs/replacement. He asked if Council would be willing to make funds available from the Legislative Emergency Fund. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Doyle** to approve expenditure of \$3,010 from legislative funds for these repairs.

**City Administrator Aarstad** noted that the new website development is moving forward. The projected "go live" date is August 21, 2006.

**City Administrator Aarstad** discussed the possibility of cancelling the second city council meeting in December as usual. A motion was made by **Councilors Valentine/Doyle** to cancel second meeting in December, 2006. All approved. Motion carried.

**City Administrator Aarstad** distributed a report regarding the first six months of the 2-1-1 phone system.

**Councilor Loving** noted there are security concerns in the Municipal Court. He asked council members to review the minutes of the most recent Public Safety Committee for additional information. He noted there may be a need to expend funds for courtroom security such as personnel and/or metal detectors.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

#### **ORDINANCE TO SECURE A LOAN FOR THE CONSTRUCTION OF THE NEW CITY LIBRARY AND CITY HALL.**

**Finance Director Patrick** stated that the council has requested a five year loan to acquire funding to complete the new city hall and library building projects. The loan amount is set at \$6,500,000 and can be prepaid if the City is in a position to close out the loan at an earlier date. The interest rate for this loan will be set at today's rate of 4.33%. He noted that rates have gone up and down over the last two weeks and today they actually dropped from the expected rate. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Loving** to secure a loan (bond) for the completion of the new City Library and City Hall projects in the amount of \$6,500,000 and authorize the mayor to sign the ordinance on behalf of the City of Burlington. All approved. Motion carried.

**(Ordinance # 1609)**

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **CONNECTING LEARNERS TO LIBRARIES GRANT AGREEMENT.**

**Library Director Perkins** announced that the Library recently was awarded a \$2,000 Library Services and Technology Act grant through the Washington State Library's Connecting Learners to Libraries initiative. The program our library staff has created; "Where's Waldo @ your library" will allow all fourth graders at West View and Lucille Umbarger Elementary schools to get Burlington Public Library cards and receive library

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instruction to help them with the information literacy component of the WASL (Washington Assessment of Student Learning) test. The grant agreement must be approved by the city council and signed by the Mayor prior to the City receiving the funds. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Valentine** to approve the grant agreement and authorize the Mayor to sign. All approved. Motion carried.

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR LIBRARY SERVICES FOR SKAGIT COUNTY.**

**Library Director Perkins** stated that Skagit County has made funds available to municipal libraries in the County for a portion of the costs to provide services to non-residents. This year the total amount available, to be distributed amongst Anacortes, Burlington, Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley public libraries is \$50,000. Burlington's share, based on our total collection size and circulation data from 2005, is \$5,817.00. This Interlocal Agreement will allow Burlington Public Library to purchase much needed videos, children's non-fiction, and adult non-fiction materials to alleviate increased demand. The County has made no promises to continue this allocation in 2007. A motion was made by **Councilors Valentine/Doyle** to approve the Interlocal Agreement and authorize the mayor to sign. All agreed. Motion carried.

**WHITMARSH ROAD IMPROVEMENTS PROJECT TO COMPLETE CONSTRUCTION OF SERVICE ROAD UNDER OLD HIGHWAY 99 BRIDGE.**

**Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** stated that this project consists of completing the construction of approximately 650 feet of Whitmarsh Road where it passes under the Old Highway 99 Bridge. Work includes grade revisions at the intersection of Whitmarsh Road and the west connector to Burlington Boulevard to raise the road grade to match dike elevations, and channelization revisions on Burlington Boulevard. The bid opening for these improvements was held on July 18, 2006. There were six bidders; the lowest was from Snelson Construction at \$285,969.00. The Engineers estimate for the project was \$287,959.00. A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Montgomery** to award the bid to Snelson Construction in the amount of \$285,969.00 for the Whitmarsh Road Improvements Project. All agreed. Motion carried.

**RENAMING OF SOUTH SECTION STREET PARK TO "JACK DOYLE MEMORIAL PARK".**

**Parks & Recreation Director Cavanaugh** stated that the Parks Board has been contemplating re-naming Section Street Park since May of 2000. At the June 2006 Park Board meeting, there were four names submitted by members of the board. It was voted and approved that it be recommended to council to rename the park "Jack Doyle Memorial Park". A motion was made by **Councilors Valentine/Loving** to approve the recommendation of the Parks Board to re-name Section Street Park to "Jack Doyle Memorial Park". Voting in favor were **Councilors Bensen, Loving, Valentine, Straathof, and Montgomery**. Abstaining from the vote was **Councilor Doyle**. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Mayor and Councilmembers adjourned to Executive Session at 7:25 p.m. to discuss litigation. The Mayor and Councilmembers returned from Executive Session at 7:40 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Loving** to adjourn the meeting at 7:41 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Richard A. Patrick  
Finance Director / City Clerk

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Roger "Gus" Tjeerdsma  
Mayor