

**CITY OF LAKE STEVENS  
REGULAR CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES**

Monday, July 23, 2012

Lake Stevens School District Educational Service Center (Admin. Bldg.)  
12309 22<sup>nd</sup> Street N.E. Lake Stevens

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. by Mayor Vern Little

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Suzanne Quigley, Kim Daughtry, Marcus Tageant, Neal Dooley and John Spencer

COUNCILMEMBERS ABSENT: Todd Welch and Kathy Holder

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: City Administrator Jan Berg, City Attorney Cheryl Beyer, Planning Director Becky Ableman, Finance Director/Treasurer Barb Lowe, Senior Planner Karen Watkins, Public Works Director Mick Monken, Human Resource Director Steve Edin, Police Chief Randy Celori, and City Clerk/Admin. Asst. Norma Scott

OTHERS: Samuel Low and Mark Wakefield

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**Excused Absence.** Councilmember Spencer moved to excuse Councilmembers Holder and Welch, seconded by Councilmember Dooley; motion carried unanimously. (5-0-0-2)

**Guest Business.** Samuel Low, 8409 4<sup>th</sup> Street SE, commented that the taped message of the Mayor was inaudible on the last meetings tape recording that he requested and no layoffs were mentioned at the last meeting even though the layoff had already occurred. He mentioned it appears the public and Council was not notified. He requested Ordinance 879 not be passed because the Mayor and City Administrator disregarded the ordinance budget, Ordinance No. 865.

Mark Wakefield, 121 95<sup>th</sup> Avenue SE, commented he agreed with the previous speaker and will be filing some additional freedom of information requests. He requested the Mayor and Council waive their salaries. The City should consider what the public wants. He would like feedback from the Council.

Councilmember Dooley asked why waive Council salaries. Mr. Wakefield responded because you are laying off public servants and can use that money to retain the laid off officer. Discussion followed on the Mayor's and Council's salaries which would not pay for an officer's wage and benefits.

Mr. Wakefield commented he was a victim of two vandalisms with no follow up by the Police Department and had unlawful issuance of bank checks but the Police did not have time to pursue. Councilmember Dooley responded he believes most municipalities are not able to do all the follow ups. Mr. Wakefield continued to question the layoffs.

**Consent Agenda.** Councilmember Spencer moved to approve the Consent Agenda (A. Approve July 2012 vouchers [Payroll Direct Deposits 906011-906069 for \$138,979.47; Payroll Checks 33762-33763, 33766 for \$3,483.46; Claims 33764-33765, 33767-33846 for \$202,428.48; Electronic Funds Transfer 478-480 for \$5,092.71; Tax Deposits 7.13.12, 7.16.12

for \$51,406.90 for total vouchers approved of \$401,391.02]; B. Approve minutes of July 9, 2012 regular Council meeting; C. Authorize the Mayor to execute the Snohomish County Vessel Registration Fees Interlocal; and D. Authorize the Mayor to execute a Small Public Works Contract for on-call tree removal services with Auckland Enterprise), seconded by Councilmember Tageant; motion carried unanimously. (5-0-0-2)

**Approve bid award to Granite Construction Co. for 2012 pavement overlay projects.**

Public Works Director/Engineer Monken reviewed the various road improvements involved in this overlay project. Mr. Monken noted Community Transit changed the Vernon Road stop to Lundeen and Highway 9 because the ridership was so low (1 person). Also Community Transit does not allow their buses to run over the mini roundabouts. The City received five bids with base bids ranging from \$250,000 to \$353,000. Contingency request is for \$50,000 which is high because of the multiple projects and would provide an opportunity to fix some drainage problems and some extra street leveling.

City Attorney Beyer commented there is no contract attached to the staff report. Public Works Director/Engineer Monken responded the document is in the bid package, which is very lengthy and was approved by the City Attorney.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Tageant moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into contract award for the 2012 Pavement Overlay to Granite Construction Company in an amount of \$249,566.84 and authorized an administrative contingency of \$50,000, seconded by Councilmember Spencer; motion carried unanimously. (5-0-0-2)

**Second and final reading of Ordinance No. 879, 2012 budget amendment.** Finance Director/Treasurer Lowe reviewed two additional changes from the previous meeting.

The budget and layoff processes were discussed. Even though a position was not eliminated by Council, the Mayor and City Administrator are allowed to do layoffs because of the downturn in the economy and revenues.

Councilmember Spencer asked what is the response time with one less officer. Police Chief Celori responded it will not impact response times. It is currently 1-2 minutes on high priorities. It was 7 minutes for car prowls (low priority) before the annexation and now about 14 minutes. We are currently looking at realigning police positions.

Councilmember Dooley asked if any federal grants. Police Chief Celori responded have applied both times and were rejected.

Police Chief Celori commented they could do some emphasis on Chapel Hill Road but not a huge amount.

Councilmember Spencer is strongly in favor of improving the Police Department but do not have revenues and adding or deleting one person will not make a difference at this time.

**MOTION:** Councilmember Spence moved to approve second and final reading and adopt Ordinance No. 879 amending Ordinance No. 865, seconded by Councilmember Dooley; motion carried unanimously. (5-0-0-2)

Budget committee assignments will be discussed at the next meeting.

**Setting City Council Retreat date.** Council President Spencer noted the potential dates are October 20 or 27. October 27 was preferred.

**Subarea Plans continued discussion.** Planning Director Ableman noted the Planning Commission's first public hearing is August 1 and continued to the 15<sup>th</sup>. The Council public hearing is scheduled for August 27. Senior Planner Watkins reviewed the following: examples of existing signs versus new subarea code, sign amortization programs (not common in other jurisdictions), sign replacement incentive programs (no Washington cities have this), and provided other ideas for sign incentives.

Planning Director Ableman discussed cleaning up current signage by sending out notices of what the regulations are because people are not necessarily aware of the rules. City Administrator Berg suggested sending notices in conjunction with wayfinding so businesses can see the benefit.

**Executive Session.** Mayor Little called for an executive session on potential litigation for 10 minutes with possible action to follow at 8:35. After a brief break the executive session began at 8:39 p.m. The executive session was extended for ten minutes at 8:49 p.m. to 8:59 p.m., extended 10 minutes from 8:59 p.m. to 9:09 p.m., extended 5 minutes from 9:09 p.m. to 9:14 p.m., extended 5 minutes more to 9:19 p.m. Public Works Director Monken announced each of the extensions to the public. The regular meeting was called back into session at 9:22 p.m.

Councilmember Spencer stated with Council consensus forth coming we direct staff to consider the extension to the time line for road improvements at such time as the Lake Stevens Sewer District requests an extension provided that the District and in cooperation with the City work with the County to make temporary improvements for the purpose of safety on Sunnyside Boulevard and secondly the District would agree to sign the indemnification to indemnify the City for any damages that may occur until that road improvement is completed and that the District will also agree within the next week to direct that an independent outside audit begin on the Sewer District's management and the performance by the management of all financial and programmatic (program performance audit) affairs of the District and further direct staff that the audit to be completed within the next two months in August and September, staff to come back with the recommendation on the issue of road improvements should they ask for an extension. This direction was a unanimous consensus of the Council present.

Mayor Little will contact Mr. Wood, President of the Lake Stevens Sewer District Board.

**Adjourn.** Councilmember Dooley moved to adjourn at 9:27 p.m., seconded by Councilmember Tageant; motion carried unanimously. (5-0-0-2)

  
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Vern Little, Mayor

  
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Norma J. Scott, City Clerk/Admin. Asst.