

TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 5, 2007



CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fred McConkey called the meeting to order at 7:00 P.M. Councilmembers Jeri Boettcher, Ted Frantz, Kevin Hughes Jim Nordstrom and Larry Williams were present. Staff present was Town Attorney Michael Kenyon, Chief Jeff Chen of the Medina Police, Town Engineer Joe Willis, Town Building Official Steve Wilcox and Town Administrator Jack McKenzie. Also in attendance were residents Heather Smith, John Hett, Kimberly Hett, Peter Henning, Donna Shannon and Ernest Norehad M.D. Nonresidents present were Darryl Hunt of Wireless Fidelity Networks and Dan Dolson and Tom Hill of Aquatic Weed Control, Inc.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 8, 2007

MOTION: Approve minutes of the Council Meeting of February 8 as written. Moved by Nordstrom, seconded by Boettcher. Passed 5-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

RADAR SPEED SIGN

Mr. Willis explained the quote for purchase of the radar speed sentries. He said each unit cost \$5,400 for a total of \$16,200 for four. Discussion followed.

Mayor McConkey introduced Heather Smith, a resident of Hunts Point Lane, who came to the meeting with a proposal to improve safety and security on that street. She began her presentation by presenting a petition, signed by 14 residents along the Lane requesting changes using traffic calming and control features to slow traffic using the Lane.

Ms. Smith put up two display boards for the Council to see and explained the contents of the displays came from a series of neighborhood meetings held on Hunts Point Lane to discuss traffic and community security needs.

The Hunts Point Lane neighbors felt that a great help in reducing speeds would be the installation of speed tables similar to the ones installed on 108th Avenue Northeast in Bellevue. Ms. Smith pointed out that this proposal was congruent with the recommendations in the Traffic Solutions, Inc. (TSI) study report.

After discussion Ms. Shannon said she wishes the Council would take action on these problems. Mr. Hett spoke in agreement as did Councilmembers Frantz and Williams.

The second concern addressed by Ms. Smith was the lack of streetlights on Hunts Point Lane. Again, using the TSI study report from October of 2006 she demonstrated the preferred placement of the new lights for best results. Mayor McConkey inquired about the number of lights the group was requesting. She replied that ten would be an optimum number. Mr. Hett said the group also wanted the playfield and tennis courts lighted.

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Mayor McConkey pointed out that the budget for additional lights throughout Hunts Point was only fifteen. Ms. Smith said the request was for six new lights for a total of ten on the Lane from the intersection with Hunts Point Road to the cul-de-sac at the end.

Mayor McConkey asked Mr. Willis for a cost estimate for six lights. Mr. Willis said the lights cost \$6,000 each so the cost for six would be \$36,000. Councilmember Nordstrom questioned the reality of assigning such a large share of the whole lighting budget to one area of the Town.

Discussion turned to the level of acceptance of streetlights by the residents of the Lane. Mr. Hett said everyone wanted more lights but there was a concern about lights shining into homes through the windows. Considerable discussion on this subject followed.

Mayor McConkey explained that the cost of the speed tables was \$3,150 each or \$12,600 for four of them. Further discussion about the need for speed tables over streetlights brought forth some concerns about the dangers to the residents from the lack of both.

MOTION: Authorize installation of four speed tables on Hunts Point Lane. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

There followed additional discussion about streetlights, their placement and the conditions involved in the physical placement of them.

MOTION: Authorize installation of four new streetlights on Hunts Point Lane using luminaires of the same pattern as those on 92nd Avenue Northeast in Yarrow Point. Moved by Boettcher, seconded by Hughes. Passed 5-0. MOTION CARRIED

FLOODING DURING THE WINTER STORMS

Mr. Henning described his experience being in California and having resident Dan Sandal call repeatedly to describe the flooding on Hunts Point Lane and his property due to a blocked culvert. He said the culvert under the Lane had not been cleaned for twenty-seven years. Mr. Willis explained the culvert was cleaned out by Econo-Vac and, after that was done, it was discovered that rocks had fallen off an adjacent property and blocked the outlet of the culvert.

Mayor McConkey asked Mr. Willis if he had knowledge of the drainage erosion behind the bulkhead on the McKnight property on 80th Avenue Northeast. Mr. Willis said he would work with Ms. McKnight to arrange for restoration of the eroded area.

Mayor McConkey suggested that cleaning out the ditch south of the culvert cleaned out to increase its capacity hold water.

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TRAFFIC SPEEDS ON HUNTS POINT ROAD

Mayor McConkey introduced Dr. Ernest Norehad who provided a letter to the Mayor and Council expressing his opposition to the use of radar speed displays in Hunts Point. He also disputed the need for a twenty mile an hour speed limit when the old limit of twenty five miles per hour had been satisfactory for so many years without an accident. He also expressed his objection to the use of speed tables.

Mayor McConkey reminded everyone of the speed study, done four years ago, that showed an average speed of twenty-two miles an hour on Hunts Point Road. Dr. Norehad provided further explanation of his reasoning in supporting a twenty-five mile an hour speed limit.

Councilmember Hughes said he had received complaints about speeding on Hunts Point Road. Councilmember Nordstrom stated support for measures to slow traffic including radar speed displays. Councilmember Boettcher said she was concerned about speeding on Hunts Point Road but she did not support radar speed displays because they increase the clutter along the road. Councilmember Williams felt that more data would be helpful and perhaps a new speed study would provide it. Councilmember Frantz said he noted the number of speeders increases when college is in recess. He also did not have a good feeling about the radar speed displays.

Chief Chen announced that Medina was in the process of purchasing a mobile radar speed display unit that can be moved around. Discussion about the uses of this device ensued.

Discussion returned to the measurement of speed and what information could be obtained by conducting a study similar to the one done four years ago. After all the comments were completed a motion was proposed.

MOTION: Authorize a speed study similar to the previous one to collect traffic speed information on Hunts Point Road and providing up to \$1,000 to pay for it if necessary. Moved by Nordstrom, seconded by Williams. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

WIRELESS SURVEILLANCE SYSTEM

Mayor McConkey introduced Darryl Hunt of Wireless Fidelity Network. He explained the program that Mr. Hunt was to present. Chief Chen provided an explanation of the involvement of the Medina Police with the program.

Mr. Hunt said his program was called “Automated License Plate Recognition Software”. It allowed surveillance cameras, like the ones in use in Hunts Point, to read a license plate and automatically compare its number to the license plates of stolen cars that are in the law enforcement database. If there is a match the system will display it on the screen at police dispatch. Dispatch will relay the information to the patrol cars operating in the area of the stolen car.

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Mr. Hunt said the City of Medina retained them to work on this program for use by Medina. He explained that, since Hunts Point already had surveillance cameras in place, they would like to use this system as a test bed for their program.

Mayor McConkey asked if the Council was interested in participating in the proposed test. Discussion followed.

MOTION: Approve the installation of the Automated License Plate Identification software on the Hunts Point surveillance cameras as a pilot project at no cost to the Town. Moved by Nordstrom, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0. MOTION CARRIED

COMMENDATION FOR THE MEDINA POLICE DEPARTMENT

MOTION: The Town Council of the Town of Hunts Point wishes to announce its support and commendation for the commanders and officers of the Medina Police Department and authorize Mayor McConkey and Town Administrator McKenzie to work with Mayor Adam and City Manager Weinberg of the City of Medina on contractual matters related to staffing issues affecting the Medina Police Department. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Nordstrom. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PROPOSAL

Mr. Hill presented a revised proposal based upon the requirement to dispose of the harvested weeds at a point distant from Hunts Point. This resulted from the lack of an adequate location in Hunts Point to arrange transfer from the harvester to transportation to a disposal site. This caused an increase in the cost of four cuttings per year from \$16,800 to \$26,800. Considerable discussion followed.

MOTION: Authorize Mayor McConkey to execute a contract with Aquatic Weed Control, Inc. to one year of aquatic weed control in Hunts Point waters with up to four cuttings for a price not to exceed \$26,800. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Hughes. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

BUILDING CODE REVISIONS AND ADOPTION OF 2006 IBC

Mr. Wilcox explained the changes to Title 15 of the Hunts Point Municipal Code were to remove conflicts and redundancies. He also told the Council that it was necessary to adopt the 2006 International Residential Code for Hunts Point building activities to be legal after June 30, 2007. Discussion of the changes and comparisons of the 2006 IBC and the 1997 Universal Building Code followed.

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 458 amending Title 15 to remove conflicts and adopt the 2006 International Residential Code. Moved by Nordstrom, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

TENNIS COURT SECURITY

Mr. McKenzie gave the Council an overview of the proposal from Security Safe & Lock to install a push-button electronic lock on each of the entry gates to the tennis courts. He said the locks were battery powered and a self-closing assembly will be mounted on each gate. He reminded the Council that Security Safe has been supplying keys, locks and combinations to the Town for several years. The cost was quoted at \$3,524.58.

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A discussion of access and use of the tennis courts ensued.

MOTION: Authorize the purchase of two 192533 Trilogy gate-locking assemblies and associated hardware from Security Safe & Lock, Inc. for a price of \$3,524.58. Moved by Williams, seconded by Nordstrom. Passed 5-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT EXERCISE

Mayor McConkey announced an emergency management exercise to be conducted at Town Hall on May 19, 2007 from 10:00 AM to 12 Noon. He asked about storage for the emergency equipment and, after discussion, assigned Mr. McKenzie to rent a storage container in which to store the equipment.

87TH ANNUAL CLEAN-UP DAY 2007

Mayor McConkey reminded everyone that the 87th Annual Clean-Up Day would be held on May 20, 2007. He said Kevin Hughes was chairman of the event. Mr. Hughes thanked Mayor McConkey for volunteering him and announced Jim Nordstrom would be co-chair.

TULLY'S TOWN MEETING

Mayor McConkey announced the Town Meeting would be held at Tully's on April 18th, 2007. Councilmembers Hughes and Nordstrom questioned the date since it fell during spring break. After discussion the date of April 25th was selected.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

Vouchers No. 13916 through 13952 in the amount of \$87,807.64 dated March 5, 2007 were presented for review, approval and signatures. Approval granted.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McConkey adjourned the meeting at 9:07 PM.

Jack McKenzie, Town Administrator

APPROVED _____