

TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

COUNCIL MEETING

OCTOBER 1, 2007



CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fred McConkey called the meeting to order at 7:02 P.M. Councilmembers Jeri Boettcher, Ted Frantz, Kevin Hughes, Jim Nordstrom and Larry Williams were present. Staff present was Assistant Town Attorney Margaret King, Chief Jeff Chen and Lt. Dan Yourkoski of the Medina Police, and Town Administrator Jack McKenzie. Also in attendance were Hunts Point residents Molly and Ellie McConkey.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2007

MOTION: Approve minutes of the Council Meeting of September 10th as corrected. Moved by Boettcher, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

REQUEST FOR HALLOWEEN CELEBRATION

Mrs. McConkey addressed the Council asking for a Town sponsored Halloween Celebration for the children of the community. She spoke to the lack of streetlights and the presence of long driveways to the homes as inhibiting the ability of the children to practice the ancient ritual of “trick or treat”. There is a grass-roots effort on the part of the young families in Hunts Point to provide an opportunity for this activity.

MOTION: Approve the use of Town Hall and grounds for a Halloween Celebration for the community and sponsor the event with up to \$500. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Williams. Passed 5-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

POLICE REPORT

Chief Chen said there was very little criminal activity in Hunts Point in August just like the last eighteen months.

Chief Chen and Lt. Yourkoski described an incident that occurred in the 3200 block of Evergreen Point Road in which over \$80,000 worth of goods was stolen as well as a luxury SUV. The Seattle Police stopped and seized the car but the perpetrator got away. Lt. Yourkoski and Officer John Kane processed the car for fingerprints and collected enough to identify the perpetrator. He was arrested in Henderson, Nevada. The Councilmembers applauded the effort.

Mayor McConkey asked about the status of the surveillance camera installation in Medina. Chief Chen said the vendors were being interviewed and that Gene Morgan of SecureFocus has been hired as a consultant on the project.

Chief Chen said one of the new officers didn't work out so the staff is down by one.

Mayor McConkey outlined the terms of the contract for Police Services as proposed by Medina. He said it offered a 41% increase in cost from \$170,000 to \$249,950 annually. He asked Chief Chen to explain the content of this proposal.

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Chief Chen spoke to the superior quality of the Medina Police Department. After discussion of the size of the staff and coverage Chief Chen turned the explanation of costs over to Lt. Yourkoski. Lt. Yourkoski said the cost of labor was a big factor. He compared the salary scale of Medina with that of Clyde Hill. For all the police agencies in King County Medina was in the top ten percentile while Clyde Hill was in the bottom ten percentile. Discussion followed.

Mayor McConkey drew the Council's attention to a schematic he had drawn on the white display board showing the various alternatives that might be available for police services for Hunts Point. After considerable discussion, with participation by all Councilmembers, a tentative consensus was reached that a strong effort should be made to continue with Medina. At the same time Mr. McKenzie was directed to collect proposals from other police agencies including Kirkland, Clyde Hill and the King County Sheriff's Office.

FIRE SERVICES CONTRACT

Mr. McKenzie explained the letter from the Bellevue Fire Department was a notice of the annual increase in the cost of fire services for 2008. He requested the Council approve these fees for 2008 and include them in the budget.

MOTION: Approve the fire services fees of \$106,426 requested by the Bellevue Fire Department for 2008. Move by Nordstrom, seconded by Williams. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

Mr. McKenzie went on to say the second letter from the Bellevue Fire Department described, in detail, the emergency preparedness and management services provided to the communities contracting for fire services including Hunts Point.

TRAFFIC SPEED STUDY

Councilmember Williams said his discussion with Mr. Willis concerning speeding on Hunts Point Road didn't provide the answers he wanted. He said that, as an engineer's opinion, there was not a problem. The road was designed for 35 miles per hour and the traffic traveled slower than that. This led to a lengthy discussion of the variance between the engineering specifications and pedestrian safety.

Councilmember Williams suggested that the problem should be taken back to the Town's traffic consultant, Transportation Solutions, Inc. (TSI), for ideas of how to create a situation that would make drivers want to travel more slowly. There followed a discussion of the various alternatives to achieve a slowing of the traffic.

MOTION: Authorize Mayor McConkey and Councilmembers Williams and Nordstrom to work with TSI to develop proposals for slowing the traffic on Hunts Point Road south. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Nordstrom. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

PUBLIC NUISANCE ORDINANCE

After presenting the revised ordinance it was discovered that it was not complete. The draft ordinance was referred to Ms. King for completion and presentation at the next Council Meeting.

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TOWN HALL RENTAL

Ms. King explained the content of the ordinance establishing the policies and procedures for the rental of public facilities including the Town Hall Meeting Room.

MOTION: Adopt Ordinance No. 462 establishing the policies and procedures for the rental of public facilities in the Town of Hunts Point. Moved by Boettcher, seconded by Hughes. Passed 5-0. MOTION CARRIED

Ms. King also explained Resolution No. 07-211 establishing rental fees for the Town Hall Meeting Room.

MOTION: Adopt Resolution No. 07-211 establishing rental fees for the Town Hall Meeting Room. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0.

MOTION CARRIED

2007 PRELIMINARY BUDGET DRAFT

Mayor McConkey introduced the budget and said the 2008 Budget will receive a thorough review at the retreat on October 19th.

Mr. McKenzie said the preliminary draft budget displays a Current Expense Fund with a negative balance of \$106,059 (\$768,691 of revenue minus \$874,750 of expenses). The greatest source of this shortfall (\$79,9500 is the result of including the full amount of requested funding from the Medina Police Department. He stressed that this is preliminary budget and the revenues have not been firmed up yet.

Mr. McKenzie went on to explain the major portion of the budget would be in the Capital Improvement Fund due to the number of projects under study. The largest of these is the Sheet Piling Project on the west bank of Haug Channel. A thorough discussion followed.

MILFOIL CONTROL

Mayor McConkey said he and Councilmember Boettcher attended a public hearing on aquatic weed treatment in their waters at Yarrow Point. It was his feeling that Yarrow Point has some distance to go before they join Hunts Point in milfoil control efforts. As part of this hearing they learned there is a chemical that can be applied to control aquatic weeds ahead of the "fish window" in July. Mayor McConkey proposed applying this chemical in May, following up with the 2-4D treatment in July and employing the firm of Aquatic Weed Control, Inc. and their collector boat to collect the loose, drifting biomass as it gathers against the docks and in the coves. He estimated it might cost as much as \$400 per waterfront lot to do a thorough effective job. Discussion followed.

ANNUAL RETREAT

Mayor McConkey announced the Annual Retreat would be held in the Muifield Room of the Golf Club at Newcastle on Friday, October 19th starting at 8:30 AM and continuing until 3:00 PM. He said an agenda would be forthcoming.

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AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

Vouchers No. 14204 through 14245 in the amount of \$53,898.59 dated October 1, 2007 were presented for review, approval and signatures. Approval granted.

ADJOURNMENT

MOTION: Mayor McConkey adjourned the meeting at 9:47 PM.

Jack McKenzie, Town Administrator

APPROVED _____