

TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

COUNCIL MEETING

JANUARY 5, 2009



CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fred McConkey opened the meeting at 7:12 p.m. Councilmembers Jeri Boettcher, Ted Frantz and Kevin Hughes were present. Councilmember Larry Williams arrived at 7:22 p.m. Councilmember Jim Nordstrom was absent. Staff present was Town Attorney Margaret King, Chief Jeff Chen of the Medina Police, and Town Administrator Jack McKenzie. Residents present were Dan Temkin, Annie Otteson, Jill Davis and Ken Fisher.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF DECEMBER 1, 2008

Councilmember Boettcher provided correction of the name of the landscaper hired to work on the stop sign intersection.

MOTION: Accept the minutes of the Council Meeting of December 1, 2008 as corrected. Moved by Boettcher, seconded by Frantz. Passed 3-0.

MOTION CARRIED

POLICE REPORT

Chief Chen announced there were five felony events in Hunts Point in December, none of them burglaries. Most were on view events from car stops and outstanding warrants.

Chief Chen said the Medina Police were very busy in December with weather related incidents. The weather emergency provided an opportunity to stand up the VHS radio system and put it to work. It stood the test. Chief Chen thanked Mayor McConkey, Councilmember Hughes and Planning Commission Chair Torode for their help with this effort.

There followed a lengthy discussion about a recent arrest in the area involving an individual who used her employment as a dog walker and house sitter to steal from her employers.

Chief Chen said a new officer, James Martin, is now on duty in field training. The Medina Police Department still has two vacancies.

FIRE SERVICES REPORT

There were two EMS calls in Hunts Point in November.

AMENDMENT TO THE VARIANCE CODE

Mayor McConkey introduced Ordinance No. 477 which amends the variance code to increase the time from the granting of the variance until a completed building permit is submitted from twelve to fifteen months. Mr. McKenzie explained the background of the amendment and the reasons for it.

Mr. Temkin spoke to the difficulties he experienced in getting a variance and the complications this caused in his design process. This was compounded by the actions of his new neighbor.

Mayor McConkey said the Planning Commission had recommended adoption of Ordinance No. 477.

MOTION: adopt Ordinance No. 477 extending the period of a variance from twelve to fifteen months before a building permit must be applied for. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Hughes. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

BASEMENT ALLOWANCE IN GROSS FLOOR AREA

Mayor McConkey said there was an interest in the community for allowing basements without having it count as part of the gross floor area allowance. This led to a thorough of the ramifications of making this change. Included in the subjects discussed were the effect of the change in the bulk of structures, the problems associated with the excavation and removal of dirt during construction and the types of basements that would be allowed. The question was tabled until the February Council Meeting.

REPLACEMENT OF RETAINING WALL ON FAIRWEATHER PLACE

Mayor McConkey described the project which is located at the south end of Fairweather Place. Ms. Otteson said the log retaining wall had rotted out and needed to be replaced. The neighbors decided the replacement retaining wall should be constructed of rock to avoid a repeat of the rotting and for better longevity. Ms. Otteson requested the town provide a grant to the neighbors to cover approximately forty percent of the cost of the project with the neighbors providing the balance and contracting for the work. After discussion the Council determined that an appropriate amount for the grant would be \$4,000.

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to provide an amount not to exceed \$4,000 to the residents whose property abuts the retaining wall as part of the cost of replacement. Moved by Boettcher, seconded by Frantz. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

PARTICIPATION IN THE KING COUNTY LIBRARY SYSTEM

Mayor McConkey started a discussion of the question of the Town of Hunts Point participating in the King County Library System. He referenced the Staff Report including the history of Hunts Points' relationship with the KC Library system. The last vote was held in 2001. The results of this election was 51 yes, 189 no. The report showed the KC Library was collecting a levy of \$.36 per thousand dollars. After some discussion the Council indicated a lack of interest in conducting an election on this subject.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

Vouchers Nos. 14772 through 14811 in the amount of \$73,144.20 dated January 5, 2009 were presented for review, approval and signatures. Approval granted.

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ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McConkey adjourned the meeting at 8:26 PM

Jack McKenzie
Town Administrator

APPROVED _____