

TOWN OF HUNTS POINT

COUNCIL MEETING

MARCH 2, 2009



CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Fred McConkey opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Councilmembers Jeri Boettcher, Ted Frantz, Kevin Hughes and Jim Nordstrom were present. Councilmember Larry Williams was absent. Staff present was Town Attorney Margaret King, Chief Jeff Chen, Lt. Dan Yourkoski and Officer James Martin of the Medina Police, Deputy Clerk Linda Longmire and Town Administrator Jack McKenzie. Residents present were Bruce Swenson, Ken Fisher, Dee Claypool, Nelson Adams and Annie Ottesen. Also present were Andy Hambright of Odelia Pacific Corp. representing Cricket Communications, Inc. and Rick Huxley of Bassetti Architects.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES OF FEBRUARY 2, 2009

MOTION: Accept the minutes of the Council Meeting of February 2, 2009 as written. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Frantz. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

POLICE REPORT

Chief Chen said there wasn't any police action in Hunts Point during the month of February. This information was greeted by applause from the audience in appreciation for the excellent work being provided by the Medina Police.

Chief Chen announced that he was preparing a proposal for the Medina City Council to apply for a grant from the Federal stimulus package to add two full-time officers. If this grant is successful it will pay the cost of two full-time officers bringing the staff to eleven sworn officers. A discussion followed.

MOTION: Authorize support for the grant application of the Medina Police Department to add two full-time police officers paid for by the COPS program. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Boettcher. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

Chief Chen introduced Officer James Martin. Officer Martin has graduated from the Police Academy and completed his field training. He is now able to operate solo. The Council welcomed Officer Martin to the community. Chief Chen spoke about the difficulties he is experiencing recruiting candidates of the quality needed to serve Medina and Hunts Point.

FIRE REPORT

There were three emergency medical calls and one false alarm in Hunts Point in the month of January.

CELL PHONE ADDITION TO CLEARWIRE MAST

Mr. McKenzie introduced Andy Lambright who explained the service that Cricket Communications offered. Mr. Lambright said that he was employed by Odelia Pacific which is conducting efforts for Cricket Communications in the establishment of antenna locations in Washington State. A question and answer period ensued. **MOTION:** Authorize the Town Administrator to negotiate an agreement for the location of an antenna in the Clearwire mast by the Tennis Courts. Moved by Nordstrom, seconded by Hughes. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

TOWN HALL REPLACEMENT PROJECT

Mr. Huxley showed the Council a schematic of the location for the replacement Town Hall at a spot southwest of the current Town Hall. This schematic also showed the placement of the driveway from the Traffic Circle on Hunts Point Road to the parking lot. Mr. Huxley said this had been coordinated with the State Department of Transportation staff working on the SR-520 design.

Mr. Huxley provided another board displaying the proposed layout of the new Town Hall Building. He provided an explanation of the function of each room. Councilmember Boettcher noted the driveway passing in front of the building divided it from the outdoor assembly area in the Park. She asked about conflicts during community gatherings with traffic going through the area. Mr. Huxley replied it would be low-speed traffic and the crossing could be clearly marked.

Councilmember Nordstrom expressed concern about confusion on the part of motorists over the proper entrance to Town Hall with a pedestrian entry on Hunts Point Road an entrance off the parking lot. Mr. Huxley suggested that proper signage might solve the problem.

Councilmember Frantz wondered about the arrangement for parking a police vehicle on Hunts Point Road in front of Town Hall and the effect it would have on the walking path. Mr. Huxley replied that the path and road would be realigned to fit in the space.

Mr. Huxley returned to describing the spaces in the proposed building. Councilmember Nordstrom pointed out that having storage space serving the customer service area on the south side of the building was not a good use of "view space". A discussion followed.

Mayor McConkey said the idea of relocating Town Hall and changing the approach had been vetted with the State DOT and they were in general agreement with the layout seen at this meeting. He said it is fully signed off and is included in the Environmental Impact Statement for the SR-520 Project.

Mayor McConkey discussed the cost of the project and suggested funds be transferred from the Current Expense (001) Fund to the Capital Projects (302) Fund as a way to build up funds to pay for a new Town Hall. Councilmember Frantz suggested that the amount transferred be less rather than more due to

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uncertainty about the current state of the economy and the possible long-term effects from it. Mayor McConkey remarked that this was not a “must due” project.

AQUATIC WEED CONTROL PROJECT 2009

Mr. McKenzie said that the proposal presented by Aquatechnex included two treatments in 2009. The first treatment would be Renovate OTF applied in late May or very early June. The second treatment would be Reward applied after July 15th. The first treatment would work primarily on Eurasian milfoil. The second treatment would hit milfoil again but would also attack other invasive species including Brazilian elodea.

Mayor McConkey asked Ms. Claypool about the results of a survey of waterfront property owners about their feelings for the results of previous aquatic weed treatments. She said she sent out 115 questionnaires and received 26 back. Everyone agreed that a 23% return was outstanding. Overall 17 individuals would be willing to pay \$300 to \$500 each year for treatment. Three responses were opposed to the use of chemicals in the Lake. Eleven indicated they would like information on what they could do to improve the process beyond what the Town was doing. She also said that she found out there was Brazilian elodea in Hunts Point waters and that Reward would help control it. Discussion followed.

Mayor McConkey asked for a motion to accept the proposal of Aquatechnex, Inc. to conduct two treatments in Hunts Point waters in 2009.

MOTION: Authorize the Mayor to accept the proposal of Aquatechnex, Inc. to provide two treatments, one using Renovate OTF and one using Reward to control Eurasian milfoil and other invasive aquatic weed species at a cost not to exceed \$40,875. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Boettcher. Passed 4-0. **MOTION CARRIED**

REPORT ON SR-520 PROJECT

Mayor McConkey said the Points Communities Mayors lobbied the Governor at one meeting and the Governor’s senior staff at another meeting for the six lane option and the lowest cost option for the Pacific Interchange in the Montlake/UW area.

Mayor McConkey said that tolling was high on the agenda. The plan seems to be to start tolling on the 520 Bridge in 2010 and add tolls on the I-90 Bridge later. Tolls would apply only on the bridge so local traffic in Montlake and on the Eastside will escape the tolls. The toll amount is expected to be \$ 3.20 each way.

COMCAST FRANCHISE

Mr. McKenzie said the Comcast Franchise was coming up later this year and that it may be a lengthy process.

TULLYS TOWN MEETING

Mayor McConkey said the Tully’s Town Meeting will be on Wednesday, April 22nd, starting at 6:30 PM. He encouraged Councilmembers to introduce and speak on topics if they wish.

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EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS EXERCISE

Mayor McConkey said the Annual Emergency Preparedness Exercise will be held on Saturday, May 16th at 10:00 AM at Town Hall.

CLEAN-UP DAY

Mayor McConkey said the 89th Annual Clean-Up Day will take place on Sunday, May 17th starting at 9:00 AM. The chairmen for this year are Ken Fisher and Nelson Adams. Mayor McConkey said he was looking for a house for the party that night.

EMERGENCY PLACARD BOXES FOR THE PAGODAS

Deputy Clerk Longmire said the Planning Commission requested an appropriation of \$500 for the purchase of holder boxes to store emergency placards. Discussion ensued involving the way the boxes were to be mounted, the color of the boxes and the number needed.

MOTION: Authorize the purchase of twenty-five plastic emergency placard holders at a cost not to exceed \$500. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Boettcher. Passed 4-0.

MOTION CARRIED

STOP SIGN INTERSECTION PLANTINGS

Councilmember Boettcher told the Council she would ramrod the replacement and upgrading of the plantings at the stop sign intersection when the weather breaks in the Spring.

AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS

Vouchers Nos. 14841 through 14870 in the amount of \$43,580.77 dated March 2, 2009 were presented for review, approval and signatures. Approval granted.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor McConkey adjourned the meeting at 8:38 PM

Jack McKenzie
Town Administrator

APPROVED _____