

# **TOWN OF HUNTS POINT**

## **COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 4, 2010**



### **CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Fred McConkey opened the meeting at 7:10 p.m. Councilmembers Jill Davis, Ted Frantz, Kevin Hughes, Jim Nordstrom and Dee Claypool were present. Staff present was Assistant Town Attorney Margaret King, Lt. Dan Yourkoski of the Medina Police, Deputy Clerk Linda Longmire, Town Arborist Sean Dugan and Town Administrator Jack McKenzie. Residents present were Annie Ottesen, Penny O'Byrne, Ken Fisher, Bruce Swenson, Larry Williams, Dick Davis, and Mark Bloom.

### **SWEARING IN CEREMONY**

Mr. McKenzie administered the Oath of Office to Mayor McConkey and Ted Frantz Council position No. 3 who were reelected, to Jill Davis, Councilmember No. 1 who was newly elected and Dee Claypool who was appointed to Council position No. 5.

### **APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF DECEMBER 7, 2009**

**MOTION:** Accept the minutes of the Town Council Meeting of December 7, 2009 as written. Moved by Frantz, seconded by Nordstrom. Passed 5-0.

**MOTION CARRIED**

### **POLICE REPORT**

Lt. Yourkoski told the Council that there was little police activity in Hunts Point during December. He referenced the results of the calls in Hunts Point during 2009. The one noticeable change was a decrease in false alarms from 81 in 2008 to 46 in 2009.

Councilmember Frantz asked about the effectiveness of the video surveillance in Medina. Lt. Yourkoski said three of the four cameras were operational and, after some problems with start-up, things are working.

Lt. Yourkoski announced that the Medina Police would be at full staff for the second time since he joined the force when the two new officers completed their field training.

### **FIRE REPORT**

The fire report showed activity in November with two service calls.

### **TREE CODE REVISIONS**

Mayor McConkey started the discussion by asking Mr. Dugan to provide details of the changes to the ordinance as spelled out in the "white paper" he had prepared on the contents of the ordinance. Mr. Dugan said the white paper contained an

explanation of the changes that had occurred since the old code went into review and was up-to-date from the last review on December 7<sup>th</sup>.

Mr. Dugan said the reasons for making revisions to the Tree Code were the apparent loss of canopy coverage, the protection of trees during site development and construction, to reduce conflicts between property owners over trees and to add valuable deciduous trees to the significant tree category.

Changes incorporated into the ordinance included:

- Addition of certain valuable deciduous trees, not to include alders, black cottonwood and other weed trees, in the significant tree category.
- The diameter of significant trees to be increased from eight inches to ten inches.
- The removal of a significant tree will require its replacement with the planting of two trees of a species similar to the tree removed.
- Establish a three year period of health monitoring for trees planted as mitigation.
- Establish an illegal removal fine of \$10,000 per tree plus \$1,000 for each inch of diameter for each incident.
- Establish construction areas at each construction site.
- Limit tree removal to the area (footprint) of the house to be constructed.

Councilmember Nordstrom questioned the concept of a “grove of trees”. Mr. Dugan said it was a grouping of eight or more trees, closely adjacent to one another, with each tree being a minimum of six inches in diameter. Councilmember Nordstrom expressed concern that “grove of trees” was not well defined. A lengthy general discussion of the concept of a grove of trees followed.

A discussion of the tree canopy followed. Councilmember Hughes suggested the tree inventory, done in 2005, was out-of-date and an update was needed to provide a baseline for any tree planting plan that may be created to maintain canopy cover at sixty percent. At the end of the discussion Mayor McConkey directed Mr. Dugan and Mr. McKenzie to collect available data and update the last canopy survey.

Councilmember Nordstrom requested more information on the selection of deciduous tree species for inclusion in the list of significant trees. Mr. Dugan explained that the tree species to be included will result from a careful selection process before inclusion in the ordinance.

Councilmember Nordstrom also questioned the decision to include trees on neighboring properties in a twenty foot band along the property line. Mr. Dugan said the town, following the lead of the State, had established the twenty foot zone in the Site Development Code of the Hunts Point Municipal Code as section 14.65.060.

There followed a page-by-page walk through the draft ordinance while members of the Council recommended changes, additions, or removal of the language of the ordinance.

**TOWN COUNCIL MEETING**

**January 4, 2010**

**Page 3 of 3**

**Mayor McConkey spoke to the steps that will follow in this review. These steps follow a progression with further revisions at council meetings, including the Tully's Town Meeting in April until a level of satisfaction is reached so the ordinance may be adopted.**

**INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR INSURANCE**

**Mr. McKenzie explained that the Town's agreement with the Risk Management Services Agency (RMSA) of the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) must be renewed every five years and 2010 is the year for it. He recommended renewal.**

**MOTION: Adopt Resolution No. 10-217 authorizing Mayor McConkey to renew the agreement between the Town of Hunts Point and AWC RMSA for an additional five years. Moved by Hughes, seconded by Frantz. Passed 5-0. MOTION CARRIED**

**CLEARWIRE POLE EXPANSION**

**Mr. McKenzie said the participants in the project had submitted the application materials for construction of an antenna support structure and equipment building in Hunts Point near the tennis courts. Town Planner Mona Green conducted a critical review of their submittal and returned it to them for correction.**

**AUDIT OF ACCOUNTS**

**Vouchers Nos. 148195 through 148227 in the amount of \$54,609.13 dated December 31, 2009 were presented for review, approval and signatures. Approval granted.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor McConkey adjourned the meeting at 9:46 PM**

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**Jack McKenzie**  
**Town Administrator**

**APPROVED** \_\_\_\_\_