

**Mount Vernon
City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
June 22, 2016**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Boudreau at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Fiedler, Hudson, Hulst, Lindquist, Molenaar, and Ragan

Absent: Councilmember Quam (excused)

Staff Present: Public Works Director Bell, Police Chief Dodd, Project Development Manager Donovan, Recreation Coordinator Esparza, Community Development Director Hyde, Finance Director Huschka, Parks and Enrichment Services Director King, Information Services Director Kleppe, Parks Supervisor Wepler, Community Works Supervisor Wenzl

Citizens Present: 10

Approval of Minutes

- A. Approval of June 8, 2016 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to approve the June 8, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ragan. Motion carried 6-0.

Approval of Claims and Payroll

- A. Approval of June 22, 2016 claims numbered 145270 - 145431 in the amount of \$791,161.40.

Councilmember Molenaar moved to approve the June 22, 2016 claims numbered 145270 - 145431 in the amount of \$791,161.40. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 6-0.

- B. Approval of June 15, 2016 payroll checks numbered 105603 - 105652, direct deposit checks numbered 56224 - 56425, and wire transfers numbered 570 & 572 in the amount of \$728,931.07.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to approve the June 15, 2016 payroll checks numbered 105603 - 105652, direct deposit checks numbered 56224 - 56425, and wire transfers numbered 570 & 572 in the amount of \$728,931.07. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 6-0.

REPORTS

- A. Committee Reports:

- Finance – for details see Committee minutes.
- Economic Development Committee – for details see Committee minutes.

- B. Community Comments:

- Tina Tate, Executive Director Friendship House, came forward to comment on the embedded social worker position that Council is considering establishing. She feels that the social worker program will assist in diverting some of the individuals from the court system to a system of support and social services, and she supports a decision to create this position.

- Ellen Gamson, Executive Director Mount Vernon Downtown Association, came forward in support of the embedded social worker position. The downtown area has seen an increase in the number of individuals who will benefit from interaction with this type of employee. The redirection of individuals from courts to a solution oriented approach will benefit all.
- Donna Klein, Mount Vernon resident, asked for Council to address the noise problem in her neighborhood.
- Melissa Couture, Skagit Community Action Housing Program Manager, also addressed Council in support of the embedded social worker position.

C. Mayor's Report:

- Mayor Boudreau indicated that the topic of the City's top Fire Chief candidate was addressed during tonight's committee meeting and has resulted in an action item for Council to consider making. Councilmember Hulst indicated that he had been on the interview committee that is recommending the hiring of Bryan Brice as the new Chief of the Fire Department.

Councilmember Hulst moved to pay the Fire Chief candidate, Bryan Brice, a premium of 6.2% of his base wage in lieu of not receiving social security benefits if hired for the position of Fire Chief for the City of Mount Vernon. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fiedler. Motion carried 6-0.

- Mayor Boudreau reported that there will be a public hearing on June 29th on the Vision Statement, Land Use Element, Housing Element and Transportation Element of the City's Comprehensive Plan. The City's website has the draft goals and objectives that citizens can review prior to that meeting.
- Mayor Boudreau thanked Karen Springer for her time and work on behalf of the Arts Commission. Ms. Springer served on the Arts Commission from 2012 through 2016.
- Mayor Boudreau reported on a recent Joint Transportation Committee meeting that she attended. She was asked to testify regarding the impacts of railroads on emergency operations as well as traffic impacts caused by railroad activity.
- Updates on Mayor's coffee hours.

- D. Committee Agenda Requests: Councilmember Hudson asked for an update of the Jail project and possibly a tour.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Repeal 9.28.070 L of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code: Mr. Rogerson introduced an item that would repeal 9.28.070 L of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code Noise Ordinance as it is overbroad. He indicated that there are occasions where public policy should permit, rather than deter, activities resulting in unamplified human voices being audible beyond 50 feet. Further investigations into establishing regulations that tailor time, place, or manner restrictions and variances that may define when unamplified human voices constitute loud and raucous sounds that unreasonably disturbs or interferes with the peace, comfort or repose of a person or persons will be brought before Council at a future date.

Councilmember Ragan moved to approve Ordinance 3681 repealing 9.28.070 L of the Mount Vernon Municipal Code Noise Ordinance. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 5-1 (Councilmember Hudson opposed).

- B. Fiber ISP License Agreement Renewal: Mr. Kleppe presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Fidalgo Networking, Inc. This would be a renewal of

the current agreement, but includes increases in the base fee that is charged for using the City of Mount Vernon's Fiber System.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement for Fiber Optic Services with Fidalgo Networking, Inc. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hulst. Motion carried 6-0.

- C. Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County: Mr. Kleppe presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Skagit County for fiber installation service at the Skagit county Family Support Division Offices.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Skagit County for the installation of fiber optics at 208 East Blackburn. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 6-0.

- D. Fiber Optic Maintenance Interlocal Agreements: Mr. Kleppe presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into interlocal agreements with Skagit County, Skagit 911 and Skagit Valley Hospital to provide maintenance funds for the City's Fiber Optic network that these entities are utilizing.

Councilmember Hulst moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into interlocal agreements for Fiber Optic maintenance funds with Skagit County, Skagit 911, and Skagit Valley Hospital. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fiedler. Motion carried 6-0.

- E. Fiber Optic License Agreement: Mr. Kleppe presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with PogoZone Internet Services for access to the City's Dark Fiber system. The company will pay a monthly rental rate for fiber services.

Councilmember Molenaar moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement for Dark Fiber Services with PogoZone Internet Services. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fiedler. Motion carried 6-0.

- F. Interlocal Agreement with Skagit County: Chief Dodd presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Skagit County Public Health for a two-year embedded social worker pilot program and authorization for the addition of one full-time employee in the Police Department for this position. This position will provide outreach assistance and support to the City's most vulnerable population. The County will provide two thirds of the total cost of this employee. Rebecca Clark, Skagit Public Health Department, was on hand and recognized by Chief Dodd as being a key resource in the development of this position.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with Skagit County for an embedded Social Worker. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the addition of one full time employee in the Police Department for an embedded Social Worker position. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ragan. Motion carried 6-0.

- G. Donation Agreement for Public Art: Mr. King presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the estate of Arnie Garborg for the receipt and display of a sculpture. The Kevin Hart from Arts Commission has coordinated with the estates executor, Jan Johnson. The Arts Commission will pay for maintenance and powder coating will be located south of the 530 bridge along the Riverwalk.

Councilmember Ragan moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the estate of Arnie Garborg for a sculpture for public art. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 6-0.

- H. Parks and Recreation Update: Mr. King presented an update on recent Parks and Recreation Department activities. A required survey has been completed of the Eagle Rock Challenge Course which was a necessary step to reactivate the Eagle Rock Challenge Course. Ms. Esparza gave Recreation updates. The 8th annual Bite of Skagit will be at Edgewater Park on September 17, 2016 from 11 a.m. to 7 p.m. Proceeds will support the Skagit Food Distribution Center. Mr. Wenzl presented information on the Geocaching Event that took place recently. This is the 3rd year of the event in Mount Vernon. This year there were over 300 participants.
- I. Acceptance of Proposal – 2016 Pavement Evaluation: Mr. Bell presented Council with a request to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Pavement Engineers, Inc for the 2016 pavement evaluation project in the amount of \$17,700. This project includes a field survey of residential and arterial streets in the City along with recommendations for preservation and rehabilitation of the City's streets.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Pavement Engineers, Inc. in the amount of \$17,700.00 for 2016 Pavement Evaluation Project. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fiedler. Motion carried 6-0.

- J. Resolution to Set Public Hearing Date Regarding a Transportation Benefit District: Ms. Huschka presented Council with a request to set July 6 at 7:00 p.m. for a public hearing regarding the City's assumption of all rights, powers, functions, and obligations of the recently formed Mount Vernon Transportation Benefit District (TBD). The City had formed this TBD pursuant to Ordinance 3679 on May 25, 2016. The 2015 State Legislature recently passed a transportation funding bill which now allows a city to absorb the TBD.

Councilmember Hulst moved to approve Resolution 909 establishing a date for a public hearing regarding the Mount Vernon Transportation Benefit District. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was convened into executive session at 8:19 p.m. and estimated to last 20 minutes.

- K. Executive Session: Pending litigation and potential real estate.

The meeting was reconvened at 8:45 p.m.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:45 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Rebecca J. Wade, Recording Clerk

ATTEST:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Jill Boudreau, Mayor