

**Mount Vernon  
City Council  
Regular Meeting Minutes  
July 27, 2016**

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

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

Staff Present: Police Chief Dodd, Project Development Manager Donovan, Community Development Director Hyde, Finance Director Huschka, Assistant Public Works Director Love, Senior Planner Lowell

Citizens Present: 18

**Approval of Minutes**

- A. Approval of July 6, 2016 Study Session Meeting Minutes.

**Councilmember Fiedler moved to approve the July 6, 2016 Study Session Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 7-0.**

- B. Approval of July 13, 2106 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.

**Councilmember Ragan moved to approve the July 13, 2016 Regular Council Meeting minutes. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 7-0.**

**Approval of Claims and Payroll**

- A. Approval of July 27 2016 claims numbered 145692 – 145695, and 145704 – 145907 in the amount of \$1,077,154.61.

**Councilmember Quam moved to approve the July 27, 2016 claims numbered 145692 – 145695, and 145704 – 145907 in the amount of \$1,077,154.61. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hulst. Motion carried 7-0.**

- B. Approval of July 15, 2016 payroll checks numbered 105765 - 105820, direct deposit checks numbered 56630- 56833, and wire transfers numbered 575 & 576 in the amount of \$772,796.76.

**Councilmember Fiedler moved to approve the July 15, 2016 payroll checks numbered 105765 - 105820, direct deposit checks numbered 56630- 56833, and wire transfers numbered 575 & 576 in the amount of \$772,796.76. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 7-0.**

**REPORTS**

- A. Committee Reports:

- Finance – for details see Committee minutes.

- B. Committee Agenda Requests:

- Councilmember Ragan asked for a discussion regarding improving the commercial business opportunities in Mount Vernon at a Community & Economic Development Committee.
- Councilmember Fiedler asked for a discussion on staffing levels in the Community and Economic Development Department.

- Councilmember Quam indicated that the committee that was charged with creating a memorial to Veterans in the Riverwalk area needs an appointment of a new committee member to replace former Councilmember Urban.

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Oil Spill Response Plans: Mayor Boudreau introduced Wendy Buffet, Resources At-Risk Planner with the Washington State Department of Ecology who gave a brief presentation on the Geographic Response Plans {GRPs} for the Lower Skagit and Samish Rivers that address potential oil spill responses. Community comments are being solicited to make sure that important sites are included in the response plans. Mayor Boudreau indicated that the City will post a link to her site on the City's website.
- B. Street Closure Request: Chief Dodd presented Council with a request for authorization for closure of the 1300 block of North 26<sup>th</sup> Street and the 2500 block of Kulshan Avenue on August 20, 2016 from 8:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. for the Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Festival.

**Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the requested street closure on August 20, 2016 for the Kulshan Creek Neighborhood Festival. Motion seconded by Councilmember Ragan. Motion carried 7-0.**

- C. Appointment of Committee Members Related to Sales Tax Ballot Proposition: Ms. Huschka presented a request for Council to appoint committee members to serve on one of two committees, for and against, the Mount Vernon sales and use tax ballot proposition. The City published notices seeking committee members and received one letter and two e-mails from individuals interested in serving on the "in favor" committee. The City did not receive any letters of interest from those wishing to serve on the "against" committee. The individuals wishing to serve on the "in favor" committee are LuAnne Burkhart, Peter Goldfarb and Stacie Zinn Roberts. The committee is charged with writing statements that will appear in the local voters' pamphlet related to the proposed two-tenths of one percent sales and use tax increase for the Mount Vernon Transportation Benefit District (TBD). The proposition will be on the November 8, 2016 general election ballot.

**Councilmember Hulst moved to appoint LuAnne Burkhart, Peter Goldfarb and Stacie Zinn Roberts to the committee advocating for the Transportation Benefit District ballot measure asking voters to impose a two-tenths of one percent sales tax increase for transportation improvements. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 7-0.**

- D. Final Plat Approval for Twin Brooks Phase 4 (LU05-024): Mr. Hyde presented Council with a request for approval of the final plat for Twin Brooks Phase 4 (formerly Highlands West (LU05-24). This subdivision will create 19 new single-family lots, tracts for utilities, stormwater facilities and critical areas over approximately five acres. The property owner is PW Creek, Inc, managed by Landed Gentry.

**Councilmember Fiedler moved to approve Resolution 913 approving the final plat for Twin Brooks Phase 4 (LU05-024). Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 7-0.**

- E. Comprehensive Plan – Land Use, Transportation Element and Housing Element: Ms. Lowell provided background on the City's update to the Comprehensive Plan with regard to the Land Use Element and its associated Buildable Lands/Land Capacity Analysis, the Transportation Element and the Goals, Objectives and Policies for the Housing Element.

(a) Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing on the Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

- Ken Birkle, resident of Mount Vernon, came forward to speak in support of the Buildable Lands/Land Capacity Analysis.
- Eric Hall, resident of Mount Vernon, came forward to speak in support of the mixed use flexibility that is included in the Land Use Element.

Councilmembers indicated that the process to this point has been inclusive and responsive to community input, builders and developers input as well as individuals associated with affordable housing.

There being no further comment Mayor Boudreau closed the Public Hearing regarding Land Use Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

(b) Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing on the Transportation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

- Kit Ross, living just outside the city limits of Mount Vernon, expressed his support of the multi-modal aspects of the Transportation Element.
- Ken Birkle came forward in support of the Transportation Element.
- Eric Hall came forward in support of the Transportation Element.
- Liz McNett Crowl, property owner in Mount Vernon, came forward in support of the Transportation Element. She cited surveys that are sources of information regarding the non-motorized modes of transportation.
- Christopher Euphrates, resident of Mount Vernon, wanted to make sure that Council is aware that non-motorized transportation is not necessarily restricted to recreational users. There are people who don't drive either by choice or circumstance and the ability to walk, bike or use a bus is critical to many portions of the population.

Councilmember Lindquist asked if the data that Ms. Crowl referred to was incorporated into this element. Mr. Love indicated that the list of data sources that is referenced is by no means all-inclusive and those sources would be considered in appropriate circumstances.

There being no further comment Mayor Boudreau closed the Public Hearing regarding the Transportation Element.

(c) Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing on the Goals, Objectives and Policies for the Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

- Eric Hall asked that builders input be utilized on a regular basis for policy creation. He envisions a City that embraces and supports housing for all.
- Ellen Gamson, who works for the Mount Vernon Downtown Association and lives just outside the city limits, came forward to encourage Council to support the Housing Element - Goals, Objectives and Policies.
- Balisa Koetje, resident of Mount Vernon, came forward to indicate that she supports the Housing Element - Goals, Objectives and Policies especially as it addresses housing density and meeting the needs of affordable housing for residents.
- John Mitzel, resident of Mount Vernon, came forward to indicate that he feels that this Comprehensive Plan has been a good example of collaborative work with Council, staff and the public.
- Joan Penny, resident of Mount Vernon, came forward to thank staff and Council for the process that has been implemented.

There being no further comment Mayor Boudreau closed the Public Hearing regarding the Goals, Objectives and Policies for the Housing Element of the Comprehensive Plan.

Councilmembers thanked the public for their contributions to this process.

**Councilmember Hulst moved to approve Resolution 914 approving the Land Use Element and its associated Buildable Lands Analysis; Transportation Element; and Goals, Objectives and Policies of the Housing Element. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 7-0.**

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

---

Rebecca J. Wade, Recording Amanuensis

ATTEST:

---

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

---

Jill Boudreau, Mayor