

**City of Mount Vernon**  
**City Council Meeting Minutes**  
**October 14, 2020**  
(Virtual Meeting)

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Boudreau at 6:01 PM.

Present: Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmitth, Carías, Hudson and Molenaar

Absent (excused): Councilmember Hulst

Staff Present: Police Chief Cammock, Finance Director Volesky, Development Services Director Phillips, Public Works Director Bell, City Attorney Rogerson, Library Director Huffman, Project Development Manager Donovan, Capital Programs Manager Bullock, Senior Planner Lowell, Human Resources Director Keator, Fire Chief Brice, Assistant Fire Chief Harris, Information Systems Director Kleppe and Parks and Enrichment Services Director Berner

Citizens Present: 2

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of September 23, 2020 Regular Council Meeting Minutes
- B. Approval of October 5, 2020 payroll checks numbered 110284 - 110311, direct deposit checks numbered 78924 - 79145 and wire transfers numbered 899 - 903 in the amount of \$1,093,194.98
- C. Approval of October 14, 2020 Claims numbered 10643 – 10649, 10662, 10667 and 10669 - 10893 in the amount of \$2,480,537.38

**Councilmember Hudson moved to approve the Consent Agenda items A-C. Motion seconded by Councilmember Carías. Motion carried 5-0.**

**REPORTS**

- A. Review of Emails from the Public - none
- B. Miscellaneous Department Updates
  - Public Works – Mr. Bell provided an update of Flood Awareness Week. Debris on the SR538/Division Street bridge will be cleared by Washington State Department of Transportation.
  - Development Services – Mr. Phillips discussed the upcoming update of the Visconsi Development Agreement. Ms. Lowell discussed types of agenda items and the distinction between legislative and non-legislative issues.
- C. Councilmember Comments
  - Councilmember Beaton read an email from Dean Snyder, CEO Skagit Valley Family YMCA thanking Council for their support of YMCA Oasis.
- D. Committee Agenda Requests – none
- E. Mayor's Report

- Community Court Presentation – Municipal Court Commissioner Howson and Community Court Coordinator Cara Lorenzo outlined the purpose and process of the therapeutic court program known as Community Court. It is an alternative to traditional court known as a 'connecting court' and will be utilized at District and Municipal Courts. The goal is to improve access to court for people experiencing homelessness, reduce recidivism, court and jail costs, build community collaboration and assist with access to services and jobs. The 2-year pilot program began at Mount Vernon Municipal Court on August 18, 2020. This year Skagit County received a Community Court Grant from the Bureau of Justice Affairs in the amount of \$399,368. Skagit County has made a 25% match. The Cities are being asked to contribute a proportionate amount based on a percentage of staff time and expenses. Mount Vernon will pay \$16,300 per year for the first two years.

F. Council/Committee Agenda Requests - none

### **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. Public Hearing – Concurrency Exemption Request, Mager ENGR20-0067: Ms. Lowell presented a resolution that would authorize an exemption to the otherwise required transportation improvements for the proposed Mager indoor baseball facility project to be located at 200 Valley Mall Way.

Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing.

Travis Mager thanked staff for their efforts with this project.

There being no further comments, Mayor Boudreau closed the Public Hearing.

**Councilmember Molenaar moved to approve Resolution 983 authorizing a Concurrency Exception Request for Mager ENGR20-0067. Seconded by Councilmember Beaton. Motion carried 5-0**

- B. Project Acceptance – 2019 Sanitary and Storm Sewer Lining Project: Mr. Bullock requested Council approval of the 2019 Sanitary and Storm Sewer Lining Project SS-2019-007. The project was completed by Insituform Technologies, LLC on August 10, 2020 for a total amount of \$699,406.77.

**Councilmember Beaton moved to accept the completion of the 2019 Sanitary and Storm Sewer Lining Project SS-2019-007 by Insituform Technologies, LLC in the amount of \$699,406.77. Seconded by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 5-0**

- C. Councilmember Healthcare Resolution: Ms. Keator requested Council approval of a resolution that will allow Councilmembers to participate in the City's health insurance plan currently offered to qualified City employees. Participants will pay the premium and associated fees through a payroll deduction and there will be no cost to the City.

**Councilmember Hudson moved to approve Resolution 984 allowing City Councilmembers to participate in the health insurance plan as stated above. Seconded by Councilmember Brocksmith. Motion carried 5-0**

- D. Approval of CityBase Kiosk Master and Hardware Agreements: Mr. Volesky asked Council to authorize the Mayor to enter into master and hardware agreements with CityBase for the purchase, installation and services of an outdoor kiosk bill payment system. City Hall has been closed to the public due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The kiosk will provide a safe and convenient method for customer to make their City utility payment. The kiosk is accessible 24/7, will accept cash, credit card and checks and integrate with the City's financial system. It will reduce operation costs, provide improved reporting functionality and revenue management and is a secure system proactively monitored by City Base. The CARES Act Coronavirus Relief Funds will be used for this purchase. The kiosk may accommodate other city, county, state and utility payments while keeping workflow and reporting separate and can be added in the future if desired.

**Councilmember Hudson moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with CityBase for the purchase, installation and services of an outdoor Kiosk bill pay system. Seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 5-0**

- E. Review of the 2021 Preliminary Budget: Mr. Volesky summarized 2021 budgets for each city department. Mr. Volesky noted that all travel has been eliminated from the 2021 budget with the exception of essential travel for Fire and Police personnel and that medical costs have increased 11%. ER&R vehicle and equipment requests were discussed. A discussion regarding the new Fire Station and funding took place.
- F. For the Good of the Order:
- COVID-19 Pandemic Response and Discussion: Mayor Boudreau reported that COVID-19 cases have spike to over forty cases per 100,000 and Skagit County is now considered to be at moderate risk.
- G. Executive Session: The meeting was convened into Executive Session at 8:09 p.m. for a discussion with legal counsel on matters relating to a Collective Bargaining Agreement. The estimated length of the Executive Session is twenty minutes.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:29 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

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Becky Jensen, Recording Clerk

ATTEST:

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Doug Volesky, Finance Director

APPROVE:

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Jill Boudreau, Mayor