



**City of Mount Vernon
City Council Meeting Minutes
March 22, 2023
Police Court Campus, 1805 Continental Place**

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Councilmembers Beaton, Brocksmith, Carías, Hudson, Hulst, Molenaar, and Morales

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Police Chief Cammock, Finance Director Volesky, Parks and Enrichment Services Director Berner, Fire Chief Brice, Special Projects Manager Donovan, Public Works Director Phillips, City Clerk Jensen, IS Director Thomas, Development Services Director Groth, and Engineering Manager Danforth

Citizens Present: 1

COMMUNITY COMMENTS

Public Comments

- None

Public Comments - In person

- Brian Hill, Mount Vernon resident, spoke about the construction of an apartment building.

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of March 8, 2023, Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
- B. Approval of March 20, 2023, payroll checks numbered 111918 - 111931, direct deposit checks numbered 93017 - 93265, and wire transfers numbered 1195 - 1199 in the amount of \$1,414,252.31.
- C. Approval of March 22, 2023, Claims numbered 20997 - 21176 in the amount of \$2,109,56.46.
- D. Approval of Agreements 4381 - 4386

**Councilmember Hulst moved to approve
Consent Agenda Items A-C. Motion seconded**

by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 7-0.

REPORTS

- A. Committees
 - 1. Finance & Parks and Enrichment Services – see committee minutes for details.
 - 2. Development Services – see committee minutes for details.
- B. Councilmember Comments
 - None
- C. Mayor's Report
 - Mayor Boudreau provided a Legislature Update and urged citizens to contact their district legislative representatives to encourage their support for the Mount Vernon Library Commons Project funding.
 - Mount Vernon Library Commons Project information, including live camera view, is available on the city website.
- D. Committee Agenda Requests
 - None

UNFINISHED BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Poster Presentation: Skagit Valley Tulip Festival Director Cindy Verge provided an update of Tulip Festival events and presented the 2023 Tulip Festival poster.
- B. Skagit Valley Clean Energy Cooperative Presentation: Terry Nelson and Greg Whiting from Skagit Valley Clean Energy Cooperative, and Ben Silesky from Olympia Community Solar presented information on the latest opportunities for clean energy partnerships in Mount Vernon.
- C. Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan Update: Ms. Berner and consultant Tom Beckwith presented a PROS Plan update.
- D. Public Hearing – Street Vacations: Mr. Danforth requested approval of Ordinance 3867 vacating a portion of the unnamed alley east of West Gates Street and South 2nd Street.

Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing.

- Brian Hill, Mount Vernon resident, spoke in opposition to the vacation.

There being no further comments, Mayor Boudreau closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Hulst moved to adopt Ordinance 3867 vacating a portion of the unnamed alley east of West Gates Street and South 2nd Street. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 7-0.

- E. Approval of Agreement – Mountain Law: Mr. Donovan requested approval of a three-year agreement with Mountain Law, PLLC for indigent defense services.

Councilmember Beaton moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Mountain Law, PLLC for indigent defense services in the amount of \$2,640,790. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 7-0.

- F. Approval of Agreement – Skagit County: Mr. Donovan requested approval of an agreement with Skagit County to commit \$500,000 of the City’s Affordable Housing Sales and Use Tax (HB1590) funding for Martha’s Place operations.

Councilmember Morales moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Skagit County for Martha’s Place operations in the amount of \$500,000. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 7-0.

The meeting adjourned at 8:16 p.m.

Submitted by: _____
Becky Jensen, City Clerk

Approved by: _____
Jill Boudreau, Mayor