



**City of Mount Vernon  
City Council Meeting Minutes  
April 13, 2022  
Police Court Campus, 1805 Continental Place**

Mayor Boudreau called the meeting to order at 7:09 p.m.

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

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Police Chief Cammock, Finance Director Volesky, Project Development Manager Donovan, Parks and Enrichment Services Director Berner, Development Services Director Phillips, Principal Planner Lowell, Fire Chief Brice, Assistant Fire Chief Harris, Human Resources Director Keator, and Library Director Huffman

Citizens Present: 3

**CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. Approval of March 23, 2022 Regular Council Meeting Minutes.
- B. Approval of March 30, 2022 Committee of the Whole Minutes.
- C. Approval of March 30, 2022 Study Session Minutes.
- D. Approval April 5, 2022 payroll checks numbered 111312 - 111335 direct deposit checks numbered 87260 - 87507, and wire transfers numbered 1080 - 1084 in the amount of \$1,150,845.51.
- E. Approval of April 13, 2022 Claims numbered 17128 - 17133, 17137, 17147, and 17162 - 17342 in the amount of \$1,357,108.89.

**Councilmember Hudson moved to approve Consent Agenda Items A-E motion seconded by Councilmember Carías. Motion carried 7-0.**

## **REPORTS**

- A. Committees
1. Public Works and Library – see committee minutes for details.
  2. Committee of the Whole – report will take place April 27, 2022.
  3. Public Safety – see committee minutes for details.
- B. Public Comments - Email
- Public Comments sent via email to [council@mountvernonwa.gov](mailto:council@mountvernonwa.gov) were read aloud by Mr. Donovan.
- John Batts IV, Mount Vernon resident, spoke about amending the municipal code for home occupation permits.
- C. Public Comments
- Ed Johnson, houseless, spoke about senior homelessness, green metal posts in roads, and the First Steps Housing Program.
- D. Mayor's Report
- Tulip Festival Street Fair is taking place downtown this weekend.
- E. Councilmember Comments
- Councilmember Beaton, spoke about Volunteer Week and Arnie Svendsen's participation in the Citizen's Academy and COPP Program. She thanked Mr. Svendsen, Linda Eiford, and all Rotary Club members for their volunteer services.
  - Councilmember Carias invited the public to the Kiwanis Salmon BBQ, which takes place Friday, Saturday, and Sunday during the month of April. BBQ proceeds support parks and student scholarships.
- F. Committee Agenda Requests
- none

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- A. 2022 Legislative Update: Mayor Boudreau introduced 40<sup>th</sup> Legislative District Representative Alex Ramel who provided an update on the recent 2022 Legislative Session. Highlights included priority areas and collaboration. Mr. Ramel spoke about the four priorities: strengthening economic well-being, serving Washingtonians Better, racial equity, and climate crisis. He also spoke about Library Commons funding, recent Police legislation, rural economic development funds for Skagit County, and funding for the Guemes Island ferry.
- B. Volunteers of America – Skagit County Office Overview: Mr. Donovan introduced Kirk Pearson of Volunteers of America who provided an overview of the agency and the dispute resolution center currently operating in Mount Vernon.

- C. Approval of Ordinance – Municipal Code Chapters 17.30, 17.45, and 17.84: Ms. Lowell requested approval of an ordinance amending Chapters 17.30 (Public District), 17.45 (Downtown Districts), and 17.84 (Parking and Loading).

Mayor Boudreau opened the public hearing.

Hearing no comments, Mayor Boudreau closed the public hearing.

There was a brief discussion of lighting in the Library Commons Project parking garage.

**Councilmember Hudson moved to incorporate Planning Commission recommendations into the record. Motion seconded by Councilmember Brocksmith. Motion carried 7-0.**

**Councilmember Hulst moved to adopt Ordinance 3846 amending the Mount Vernon Municipal Code Chapters 17.30, 17.45, and 17.84. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 7-0.**

- D. Approval of Agreement – Economic Development Alliance of Skagit County (EDASC): Mr. Volesky approval of an agreement with EDASC for the promotion of economic development for the year 2022. There was a discussion regarding possible additional funding and proposed projects for Mount Vernon.

**Councilmember Brocksmith moved authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with EDASC for the promotion of economic development in the amount of \$10,000. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 7-0.**

- E. Approval of Ordinance – Budget Amendment: Mr. Volesky requested approval of an ordinance to amend the 2022 Budget to fund the Integrated Outreach Services (IOS) Program.

**Councilmember Hulst moved adopt Ordinance 3847 amending the 2022 Budget in the amount of \$325,000, to fund the IOS Program. Motion seconded by Councilmember Hudson. Motion carried 7-0.**

Mayor Boudreau acknowledged the efforts of Police Department staff

Chantel VanDyk, Ben Green, Michael Moore, Erin VonFempe, and Brian Reed for their work on this project.

- F. Appointment to the Arts Commission: Ms. Berner requested approval of the appointment of Damond Morris to the Mount Vernon Arts Commission.

**Councilmember Hudson moved approve the appointment of Damond Morris to the Mount Vernon Arts Commission. Motion seconded by Councilmember Carias. Motion carried 7-0.**

- G. Approval of Street Closure Request: This item was withdrawn.

- H. Approval of Agreement – Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group: Ms. Berner requested approval of an agreement with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group for a collaborative project at Edgewater Park for riparian stewardship. This agreement will allow for the access to Edgewater Park for installation of the project.

**Councilmember Molenaar moved authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Skagit Fisheries Enhancement group for access to Edgewater Park. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 7-0.**

- I. Approval of Agreement – TranTech Engineering: Mr. Phillips requested approval of an agreement with TranTech Engineering to provide civil design services for the 2022 Street Improvements Program.

**Councilmember Beaton moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with TranTech Engineering to provide civil design services for the 2022 Street Improvements Program in the amount of \$187,000. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 7-0.**

- J. Approval of Agreement – CTL Electric: Mr. Phillips requested approval of an agreement with CTL Electric to complete the Library LED light conversion.

**Councilmember Hudson moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with CTL Electric**

**to complete the Library LED light conversion in the amount of \$71,215. Motion seconded by Councilmember Carias. Motion carried 7-0.**

- K. Approval of Agreement – Shelterbelt, LLC: Mr. Phillips requested approval of an agreement with Shelterbelt, LLC for critical areas maintenance and restorative projects.

**Councilmember Morales moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with Shelterbelt, LLC for 2022 critical areas maintenance and restorative projects in the amount of \$24,000. Motion seconded by Councilmember Beaton Motion carried 7-0.**

- L. Approval of Ordinance – Classification: Ms. Keator provided a synopsis of the process that occurred and requested approval of an ordinance that implements the classification and compensation salary schedule for non-represented employees.

Councilmembers Hulst, Beaton, Brocksmith, Hudson, and Morales shared their thoughts about the study and the placement of the Fire and Police Chief positions on the salary scale.

**Councilmember Brocksmith moved adopt Ordinance 3848 adopting the classification and compensation salary schedule for non-represented employees with the approved amendment. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales.**

**Councilmember Hudson moved to amend the motion to adjust the Police Chief up one step on the range from the proposed implementation. Seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 4-3. Councilmembers Beaton, Hulst and Molenaar opposed.**

**Hulst moved to amend the proposed ordinance to place the Fire Chief and Police Chief positions to pay grade 41. Motion seconded by Councilmember Beaton. Motion failed 3-4. Councilmembers Brocksmith, Hudson, Carias, and Morales opposed.**

**Councilmember Brocksmith moved adopt Ordinance 3848 adopting the classification and compensation salary schedule for non-represented employees with the approved amendment. Motion seconded by Councilmember Morales. Motion carried 7-0.**

The meeting convened into Executive Session at 9:24 for a period of fifteen minutes to discuss with legal counsel matters relating to enforcement action, litigation, or potential litigation to which the City, the governing body, or a member acting in an official capacity is, or is likely to become, a party, when public knowledge of the discussion would likely cause adverse legal or financial consequence to the agency pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (i). And to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1) (b). No action will be taken following the Executive Session.

The meeting was reconvened and adjourned at 9:39 p.m.

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_  
Becky Jensen, City Clerk

Approve: \_\_\_\_\_  
Jill Boudreau, Mayor