

Regular Council Meeting of December 15, 2020

Pursuant to Proclamation 20-28 issued by Governor Inslee on March 24, 2020 and further amended, which prohibits in person meetings, this regular meeting was attended only by the Mayor, Councilmembers and staff, as social distancing requirements could be met; call in number was provided to the public.

Present were: Mayor Neal, Councilmembers Marthaller, McElheran, Hart and Moser. (Moser via speakerphone). Absent: Councilmember Naillon.

Meeting called to order at 7:00 pm by Mayor Neal. Pledge of Allegiance given. Copies of the December 1st council meeting minutes were read and approved.

Public Hearing on the 2021 Budget Ordinance Adoption, #906. Review of ordinance; Clerk Denney stated that one minor change was made from the preliminary budget hearing, which is a reduction of \$150,000 in the water fund due to a reimbursement request paid by the Dept of Health on the ELWA Consolidation Project. Total 2021 budget is \$9,672,000.00. Motion by McElheran, second by Marthaller to adopt the 2021 Budget Ordinance #906; motion carried.

WSLCB Renewal Application Notice received for Eva's Diner and Quick Stop; Councilman Marthaller questioned if Eva's Diner is open, had thought that the business was closed. Mayor Neal stated that the license can be renewed even if the business is closed. No comments or concerns.

Civil Service reappointment request received for Joe King; King reappointed to the Civil Service Commission.

Planning Commission reappointment request received for Arnie Marchand; Marchand reappointed to the Planning Commission.

Delinquent account owner request for renter balance adjustment received and explained by Clerk Denney. Denney stated that the billing program only generates a duplicate copy of a delinquency notice for the owner when a renter is delinquent, duplicate copies of bills are not generated. Due to COVID-19 restrictions, the City is not allowed to apply penalties or disconnect delinquent water accounts, so delinquent account balances are not sent to owners if renters are delinquent. The delinquent account has a total balance of \$945.25 owing. Denney stated that the City was not notified when the renter moved out but the owner is willing to pay the charges for September, October and November. After the \$200.00 deposit is applied to the account, there is a balance owing of \$485.76. As the owner was not aware of the balance, they are requesting that the City adjust off the \$485.76. Clerk Denney stated that the balances reflected on the account are for actual charges for services and no penalties have been applied. Council discussed that since the balance reflects actual charges, the owner is responsible for the outstanding balance. Motion by Hart, second by McElheran that the adjustment request be denied; motion carried. Clerk Denney stated that staff will over-ride the billing program by selecting accounts for renters with higher than average balances so that the program will generate a duplicate bill for owners.

Clerk Denney stated that the 2018/2019 Audit has begun for the City and the Auditor would like to contact one of the Councilmembers to discuss Risk Assessment for the City; Councilman Hart is available.

SCJ Alliance Supplemental Consultant Agreement #1 for the Central Avenue Project received, which extends the completion date of the project to 12/31/22 and updates the FY2019 ICR (Indirect Cost Rate); there is no change to the agreement amount. Motion by Hart, second by McElheran that Mayor Neal be authorized to sign the agreement; motion carried.

ELWA Consolidation Project Change Orders #3 and #4 received from Varela & Associates; explanation given on each change order. Motion by McElheran, second by Hart that Mayor Neal be authorized to sign Change Orders #3 and #4 for the ELWA Consolidation Project; motion carried.

Park Use Application received from the Chamber of Commerce for the 2021 Polar Plunge; request is for Veteran's Memorial Park with Deep Bay Park as the second choice. Superintendent Thompson felt that Deep Bay Park would be the more appropriate choice. Application approved with Deep Bay Park as the location.

Councilman Hart questioned why an email was received from Wayne Walker, LifeLine Ambulance, regarding concerns on an ambulance call from December 1st; Mayor Neal stated that it was to clarify circumstances in regard to the call and the response time.

10-Minute Executive Session – 42.30.110 (1) (g) was called by Mayor Neal at 7:15 pm to discuss qualifications of an applicant for the vacant part-time position in City Hall. Meeting reconvened at 7:20 pm. Council approved Clerk Denney's request to appoint Cindy Boyer to the Part-Time Utility Billing Clerk position in City Hall effective 1/1/21.

Motion by McElheran and second by Marthaller the vouchers \$131,290.89, #28271-28322, EFT-DOR, be paid, the December 15, 2020 payroll of \$41,654.81, #28257-28270, Direct Deposit Run, EFT #202053-202054, be approved and the meeting be adjourned at 7:21 pm. Motion carried.

Minutes approved _____

Mayor

Clerk