

CITY OF McCLEARY

Regular Meeting - January 22, 2003

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 PM with the Flag Salute.

Roll Call: Mayor Wallace Bentley  
Councilwomen Portschy and Lake  
Councilmen Jhanson, Boling and Vessey

Staff Present: Attorney Glenn, Administrator Shay, Police Chief White,  
Building Inspector Schlenker, and Cole Elliott of Parametrix

Citizens: Sign-Up Sheet on file in the Office of the Clerk

It was moved by Councilman Boling, seconded by Councilwoman Portschy,  
that the minutes be approved as distributed. Carried.

Minutes

Mayor Bentley read a note from the McCleary Food Bank Board of  
Directors thanking City officials and staff members for all their support in  
construction of the food bank in the new park kitchen.

Food Bank

Mayor Bentley put before the Council two board appointments. It was  
moved by Councilman Vessey, seconded by Councilman Jhanson, to  
confirm the Mayor's appointment of Ray Palmer to a term on the McCleary  
Library Board. Carried. It was moved by Councilman Jhanson, seconded  
by Councilman Vessey, to confirm the appointment of Jeff Catterlin to a  
term on the McCleary Planning Commission. Carried.

Appoint Palmer to  
Library Board

Appoint Catterlin to  
Planning Committee

Councilwoman Portschy reported that things are going well for the spaghetti  
feed and auction (to benefit the proposed skateboard park) scheduled for  
Saturday. Auction items include 15 gift certificates.

Skateboard Park

Building Inspector Schlenker gave an update on what has been going on in  
the Building Department.

Building Department

Engineer Elliot said that he is going over the three bids received for the  
sludge dryer. There will be a pre-bid opening on Friday for the sequencing  
Batch Reactor.

Sludge Dryer

Administrator Shay said he working on the specs for the interior of the new  
library and hopes to have a call for bids go out by the first of next week. He  
hopes to have the bids ready for Council consideration at the next meeting.  
He read a letter from the DOT thanking the McCleary Police Department  
for their help in the two day closure at the SR #8 project. Finally he said he  
had testified today at a Legislature Energy Committee regarding our role as  
a municipal utility.

New Library

SR#8 Overpass

Councilwoman Portschy reported that the United Methodist Church has  
meeting facilities available while the Community Center is being repaired.

Methodist Church

Attorney Glenn and Administrator Shay are still working with U. S. Cellular  
on the cell tower agreement. The City of Elma will be doing the SEPA  
review on the project.

Cell Tower

The McCleary Historical Society has looked over the lease/purchase  
agreement between the City and the Society for the museum, and has no  
problems with it. Councilman Jhanson said he would like something from  
the Carnell family heirs stating their support of it as well.

Museum

There was, again, a lengthy discussion on the trees at the Community  
Center. This week Roger Weld took down two of the trees that were

Community Center  
Trees

definitely dead. Janet Strong urged the Council to leave the rest of the trees. She and other volunteers have removed the ivy from a number of the trees which should help keep them from dying. She said there are residents around the area whose children play in the stand and who do not want them removed. Mr. and Mrs. Don Dickerson, who live next to the Community Center, said they like the shade that the trees provide, but they are more worried about a tree coming down on their house in a windstorm. They will soon be putting on a new roof, and said the needles are damaging. Administrator Shay shared a letter with the Council from WCIA (the City's liability and property carrier) stating that if the trees are a hazard and there is concern from the neighbors and the City is aware of this, the City is, in fact, liable. The issue is surfacing again due to the fact fire repairs will be starting shortly at the Community Center. It was suggested that this would be a good time to enlarge the small kitchen and restrooms at the rear of the building. To extend the building, trees would have to be taken out in back, and taking down trees to the east side would provide much needed parking. A number of "experts" have taken a look at the situation with varying opinions regarding root rot, wind storm danger, etc. Attorney Glenn pointed out that Douglas Firs are not considered "urban trees" due to the hazard they can create in residential areas, and perhaps the trees that come down could be replaced by more suitable varieties. It was moved by Councilman Vessey, seconded by Councilwoman Portschy, to take down the trees directly behind the Center, and the trees to the east side of the Center, and to have a number of experts take a look at the rest to determine what the City should do next. Carried.

It was moved by Councilwoman Lake, seconded by Councilwoman Portschy, to nominate Councilman Boling to serve on the Grays Harbor Solid Waste Advisory Committee. Carried.

Nominate Boling -  
GH SWAC

It was moved by Councilman Vessey, seconded by Councilman Jhanson, that the vouchers be paid as audited. Carried.

Vouchers

Councilman Vessey praised Chief White for the work he is doing, and congratulated Officer Graham for completion of training.

White Praised

Chief White said he thinks a letter of thanks should go out to the McCleary Volunteer Fire Department for their response to the Community Center fire. Councilwoman Lake mentioned the idea of hanging a plaque at the Community Center listing all the firemen's names.

Fire Department  
Praised

It was moved by Councilman Boling, seconded by Councilman Vessey, that the meeting be adjourned. Carried.

Adjourn

Mayor

Wallace H. Bentley

Attest:

A. S. Powell

Clerk-Treasurer

Claims:

Payroll: