

CITY OF MCCLEARY
City Council Meeting
Wednesday, August 12, 2020

FLAG SALUTE	Mayor Orffer Called the Council Meeting to order at 6:30 PM.
ROLL CALL	Councilmembers present were, Amsbury (by phone), Huff, Heller, and Iversen. The meeting was held at the McCleary Community Center.
ABSENT	None.
STAFF PRESENT	Present at the meeting were Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Collins and Director of Public Works Todd Baun with City Attorney Chris Coker and Police Chief Steve Blumer attending via WebEx.
PUBLIC HEARING	None.
COUNCILMEMBER BLANKENSHIP RESIGNATION ANNOUNCEMENT	Mayor Orffer attended the meeting through WebEx. She announced Councilmember Ben Blankenship resigned earlier this morning from his City Council position. Based on his letter, and according to legal council, it goes into effect immediately.
EXECUTIVE SESSION	At 6:38 pm, Mayor Orffer called for a 10 minute executive session to discuss labor negotiations per RCW 42.30.140(4)(b). No action will be taken when the council meeting resumes. The executive session ended at 6:48 pm.
MINUTES APPROVED	It was moved by Councilmember Iversen, seconded by Councilmember Huff to approve the minutes from the July 8, 2020 meeting. Motion Carried 4-0.
MAYOR'S COMMENTS	<p>Mayor Orffer confirmed with legal council what the process is for moving forward on appointing someone to replace the new vacancy for an unexpired term. The Council has 90-days to appoint a replacement. If they don't appoint someone after 90- days, the decision will be made by the Grays Harbor County Council. She asked the Council if they agree to move forward on the past practice process of advertising for a new replacement. She is hoping to have candidates meet the council at the September 9th meeting. The Council agreed to move forward. Wendy Collins will prepare the ad and get it advertised and ready for the September Council Meeting. Mayor Orffer extended her appreciation for Councilmember Blankenship's service on the council and to the community.</p> <p>She reported our customers are trying hard to pay their utility bills and the city is approximately \$13,000 in arrears. People are genuinely trying to pay and the city appreciates all of their efforts.</p> <p>The Beehive Retirement Center is experiencing a COVID-19 outbreak. A staff member worked in another facility in Hoquiam and that facility is experiencing some positive cases, as well. We are trying hard to support them. They facilities are working hard to keep it contained and from spreading.</p> <p>The sidewalk project is underway. They ran into some work that needed to be done underground, which added more time to the project, but they are doing a fabulous job. Kudos to the crews for doing a good job.</p> <p>September 26, 2020 there is a planned power outage from Bonneville Power Administration, which will affect the City of McCleary residents. Please plan on the outage and be prepared. It will begin Friday night at midnight and is scheduled to be back on Saturday morning by 8:00 am (8-hours) while most people are sleeping. The city crew will utilize this time to perform maintenance.</p> <p>Councilmember Huff said there used to be a clean-up day where people gathered together to clean-up the city. He wants to bring it back and is scheduling a volunteer clean-up day to pick up trash around the city. It is scheduled for August 22nd from 9:00 am to noon. Anyone that is interested can meet up at the park and you are encouraged to bring your own clothes, bags and pick-up tools.</p>
PUBLIC COMMENT	<p>Councilmember Huff questioned if the city-wide garage sale was still going to take place since it has not been discussed or advertised. The Mayor said she will check with the McCleary Chamber of Commerce.</p> <p>Councilmember Iversen asked about the city-wide clean up and Todd said the city is planning on having the city-wide clean up the week after the garage sale weekend. We will have dumpster bins available for people to drop off their items in and we will still provide the curbside pick up for elderly and disabled residents.</p>
APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS	<p>Vouchers/Checks approved were 47966 - 48025, including EFT's in the amount of \$215,120.73 and 48026 - 28062 in the amount of \$41,618.95.</p> <p>Payroll Checks approved were 48063 - 48073, including EFT's in the amount of \$224,022.83.</p>

It was moved by Councilmember Heller, seconded by Councilmember Huff to approve the vouchers. Motion Carried 4-0.

COVID EXPENDITURES REPORT

The city continues to report on the expenditures that are coded under COVID.

STAFF REPORTS

Staff reports were submitted by public works, police, finance, building, and the wastewater treatment plant.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT

Chris Coker stated we are starting to get a new wave of public record requests and it's a good time to have department heads remind employees that as a city, we have their privacy in mind but the way the rules are, a lot of things are disclosable that we would rather not disclose. The employees really need to be aware of what they are putting out there in their work emails and things like that. He hasn't seen any in particular, but it always worries him. Mayor Orffer asked if we should have a staff training on that and he said it might be good to do that just as a reminder.

Chris is working with Josh Cooper on a nuisance property. He is working with Todd on the late comers agreement. Mayor Orffer asked if the Cedar Heights mowing was done and Chris responded as far as he knows, it looks fantastic.

Councilmember Amsbury is calling in and didn't get to vote on the vouchers earlier. She also commented on the \$30,000 camera purchase. She thought it was supposed to be around \$10,000. She appreciates Todd sending her the information to her, but she wants to go on the record that she was not aware that the camera purchase was going to be as high as \$30,000.

COVID-19 UPDATE

We will keep this item on the agenda each meeting to give council updates. As Mayor Orffer stated earlier, there is an outbreak at the Beehive Retirement Center and their staff is working to resolve it. We are seeing the case count go up. Grays Harbor County is now an 123 cases with 3 deaths attributed to COVID-19. We are asked across the state to use cloth facial coverings in public spaces and continue social distancing and stay home, if you don't need to be out.

Most schools are considering starting virtual school across the state. We need to support families and neighbors as they are dealing with home schooling and other things impacted by COVID. The city has provided PPE for all employees to keep them safe.

Our emergency operations center continues to meet weekly with Chief Blumer as our incident commander and he is in touch with John Taylor from Squaxin Tribe regularly and we are in constant communication with the county and their area command.

EDDIE BIERS KITCHEN SIGN OPTIONS

Back before COVID happened, Wendy and Brycen reached out to a couple mill workers in the area to get some designs for a sign to go on the park kitchen after it was approved by the council to rename it, Eddie Biers Kitchen. Designs were submitted by Hansen Metalworks in McCleary and Wolf Logic in Satsop. After reviewing the designs and discussion, the council decided on Hansen Metalworks because the design was larger, which will fit the space better. The council liked the saw outline in the design submitted by Wolf Logic and asked if Hansen Metalworks would be willing to alter his design to include the saw blade in stainless steel for \$600. Councilmember Huff would like to have an unveiling with Eddie Biers family in attendance.

ORDINANCE 856 - LTGO BOND
ORDINANCE FOR LOAN REFINANCE

It was moved by Councilmember Iversen, seconded by Councilmember Huff to adopt Ordinance 856 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF MCCLEARY, WASHINGTON, PROVIDING FOR THE ISSUANCE AND SALE OF A LIMITED TAX GENERAL OBLIGATION BOND IN THE PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF NOT TO EXCEED \$50,000 TO PROVIDE FINANCING FOR ACQUIRING OF LAND FOR CITY PURPOSES AND TO PAY FOR COSTS OF ISSUANCE OF THE BOND; AND DELEGATING CERTAIN AUTHORITY TO THE DESIGNATED REPRESENTATIVE TO APPROVE THE FINAL TERMS RELATING TO THE DATE, FORM AND REPAYMENT TERMS OF THE BOND. Roll call taken in the affirmative. Ordinance Adopted 4-0.

ORDINANCE 857 - WATER/SEWER BOND
ORDINANCE FOR LOAN REFINANCE

It was moved by Councilmember Amsbury, seconded by Councilmember Huff to adopt Ordinance 857 AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCLEARY, WASHINGTON, COMBINING THE WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS SOLELY FOR THE PURPOSES OF SECURING REVENUE BONDS; AUTHORIZING THE ISSUANCE OF WATER AND SEWER REVENUE REFUNDING BONDS IN THE MAXIMUM PRINCIPAL AMOUNT OF \$2,430,000 FOR THE PURPOSE OF REFUNDING OUTSTANDING BONDS OF THE CITY'S WATER AND SEWER SYSTEMS AND DELEGATING AUTHORITY TO THE CITY MANAGER TO APPROVE THE FINAL TERMS OF SALE. Roll call taken in the affirmative. Ordinance Adopted 4-0.

RESOLUTION 732 - GHC SOLID &
HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT

Councilmember Heller asked if the glass recycling is still open at the park and ride lot and Todd said he hears people throwing bottles in it. **It was moved by Councilmember Heller, seconded by Councilmember Huff to adopt Resolution 732 A RESOLUTION OF THE CITY COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF MCCLEARY ADOPTING THE GRAYS HARBOR COUNTY SOLID & HAZARDOUS WASTE MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR YEARS 2020 TO 2025. Resolution Adopted 4-0.**

PUBLIC COMMENT

Councilmember Huff said he and Councilmember Heller met with a couple members of the McCleary Civic Renewal Council and discussed their ideas and vision for downtown businesses and Councilmember Heller shared an update on Chehalis Basin Project. They also discussed sidewalks down Summit Road and they disused the Six-Year Street Plan. They shared an update on the sidewalk project at the park. It was a two-hour meeting in the park and the plan is to keep meeting regularly and to have them share a presentation at a future meeting. Councilmember Heller said they discussed a strategy for removing invasive plant species through a volunteer program.

During the meeting, the MCRC did ask for an update on the swing set in the park. Todd said it is on the list and they are planning on putting it up this fall. He said they attempted to do it in the spring.

Councilmember Huff asked if the Mayor has heard back from the advocacy group regarding the Lindsey Baum banners and she said she received an email back from the under sheriff indicating that is not their banner. The banner belongs to some group and not the victim so they couldn't use the victim advocacy group to contact them because it is not her sign.

Councilmember Iversen asked if someone could come pick it up and Mayor Orffer said that was his suggestion to her. He said she could take it down and he's sure she will get a call. Councilmember Iversen stated the banner is on city property and she thinks we should take it down, roll it up, and if somebody wants it, they can pick it up.

Mayor Orffer let the under sheriff know we still have one banner hanging up on the police department right now. Councilmember Iversen thinks we should take both of the banners down. She doesn't think it's appropriate for them to be up any longer. She said we have the memorial and that is permanent. She is hearing too much about these banners in town where children are playing.

Councilmember Huff agrees with Councilmember Iversen and he looked through the city website and didn't see anything regarding signage on city property or right of way. He got word last weekend that somebody made an even bigger banner and hung it up at the park for donating to a pet fund. He said that one was removed. If we are going to see move of this, he would like to see an approval process that has a time limit on it and a small fee for when the city takes it down and the person would get their sign back. Mayor Orffer said this sounds like a great topic for a committee.

Councilmember Iversen said for right now, it's time for that sign to come down. Just like in her email she sent, if anybody does know anything, either they are not telling, or they don't know. It's been eleven years, if there is any new information out there, nobody is going to drive through town and say they know all about that and I think I'll call the police. It's not going to happen.

Councilmember Huff wanted to add that on the city website, at least move the reward information to the police tab so it's not one of the first things you see on the city homepage. It's not to be cold-hearted about it at all, it's eleven years old. When people stop at the park to have a picnic and let their kids play, nobody wants to see a, "who murdered me", banner hanging up.

Mayor Orffer said we can accommodate that and asked Todd if one of his crew would do that and hand it over to Chief Blumer to hold at the police department until someone claims it. Todd said yes. Councilmember Iversen said to also take down the banner on the police department. Mayor Orffer said the banner on the police department we already communicated with the sheriff and they will be able to communicate with the family when that one comes down permanently. Chief Blumer can follow-up with Sherriff Scott on that because we had already let the sheriff's department know that at some point, it would be coming down and they will communicate to the family.

Mayor Orffer announced we will be installing a ballot box. A concrete base was poured for it to be installed.

On Saturday, September 19th, the Summit Pacific Tour De Wellness will be held. Mayor Orffer is planning on going and invited anyone else, who would like to join her.

We are still on our summer meeting schedule. She asked if the council wanted to add a meeting, if they feel we need one. Council agreed to stay on the summer schedule. Councilmember Iversen thinks the chambers room is large enough for the council to meet in instead of the community center. She believes we can stay far enough apart. If the OPMA changes before the next meeting and allows the public, we may have to use the community center. If we are still in the same status, we will continue to meet in the council chambers.

ADJOURNED MEETING

It was moved by Councilmember Iversen, seconded by Councilmember Huff to adjourn the meeting at 7:42 PM. The next meeting will be on September 9, 2020 at 6:30 PM. Motion Carried 4-0.

Mayor Brenda Orffer: _____

Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Collins: _____