

**CITY OF MCCLEARY**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, October 8, 2014**

ROLL CALL AND FLAG SALUTE Councilmember's Reed, Schiller, Catterlin, Ator and Peterson.

ABSENT None.

STAFF PRESENT Present at the meeting were Todd Baun, Wendy Collins, George Crumb, and Dan Glenn.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

PUBLIC HEARING BUDGET REVENUE SOURCES The hearing opened at 7:00 pm. The revenue sources are estimated by the potential revenues from taxes and utilities for the coming year. There are no major changes anticipated at this time. The hearing closed at 7:03 pm.

PUBLIC HEARING PROPERTY TAX LEVY The hearing opened at 7:04 pm and recessed at 7:04 pm due to the lack of tax information from the Grays Harbor County Assessors Office. The hearing will resume on October 22, 2014 when the tax levy information will hopefully be available.

PUBLIC COMMENT Gary Atkins wanted to know where the Mayor is at with our budget. He said a couple months ago the Mayor and Council asked everybody to get together and vote on whether to keep the police department. Mr. Atkins wanted the council to know his opinion now. He said there were a couple meetings about keeping the police department. Then the Mayor sent out letters saying if we didn't pass the levy we couldn't afford to keep the police department. Now the Mayor is telling everybody he is trying to find ways to keep the police department, which will cost us \$200,000 more than the sheriff's office. The Mayor stated that is not particularly true, because the sheriff's contract would be for one deputy to replace our three police officers. Mr. Atkins said on the days he is in town, you do not see three officer's in this town at one time. He added he does not see one officer in this town. On Saturday and Sunday he watched a black diesel pickup rip up and down the hill. Every morning when he goes to work at 8:00 am, there is not an officer around while our children are walking to school. Mayor Dent suggested he speak to the Police Chief and Mr. Atkins replied he is talking to the Mayor because he was elected as the Mayor to hear him because the Mayor works for us.

Mayor Dent added that he had attended both of the levy meetings. Mr. Atkins stated, "yes and you walked out of one hearing because you didn't like what was being said". Mayor Dent said he did walk out because it was getting too nasty-mouthed. Mr. Atkins asked the Mayor, "why are you wasting our time and trying to come up with money to keep three police officers that do no better than the Sheriff's department when we the people of McCleary voted against having the police department"? Mayor Dent said he believes it's more significant and important to keep our police department and a lot of people who voted against the levy, or did not vote at all, did not realize it meant losing the police department. Mr. Atkins said, "everybody knew it was going to be the loss of the police department. We have an 18 percent crime rate lower than any other city nationally and locally so why do we need three officers"? Mayor Dent said it is so we can keep it at 18 percent. Mr. Atkins remarked there are more sheriff's in this town during the day than McCleary officers. Mayor Dent said he sees it differently. Mr. Atkins said Mayor Dent is not around the town and he never sees him. Mayor Dent said he has lived here since 1964 and Mr. Atkins said he understands that and hermits also live under rocks. Mayor Dent replied that he is not a hermit.

Chief Crumb addressed Mr. Atkins stating he drives by his house 10-15 times a day and it's not his fault that he doesn't see him. Chief Crumb came to his house the other day and knocked three different times loudly on his door when his dogs were running up and down the street and he wouldn't answer. The Chief spotted him thirty minutes earlier working in his back yard and his truck was still in the driveway. Chief Crumb said he recorded the incident. Mr. Atkins stated he must not have knocked too loud. Mayor Dent tried to end the conversation when Mr. Atkins addressed Chief Crumb and stated what he wants is for Chief Crumb to earn his income because he makes \$100,000 a year and the average person makes \$49,000 here in McCleary and Elma makes an average of \$38,000 per year. He said, "you are making \$100,000 to do what"? Mayor Dent called Mr. Atkins a "plant". Mr. Atkins called the Mayor a name, using angry profanity and Mayor Dent remarked, "okay out you go". Chief Crumb asked Mr. Atkins to step outside to discuss this issue further.

Attorney Dan Glenn said to stop for a second. He spoke to the crowd and stated, "it is better to remain silent and be thought a fool than to open your mouth and remove all doubt". He said there are one or more people that are very close to removing the doubt. He said he will make a non legal comment and stated there is a public comment time and Mr. Atkins made a comment, and Chief Crumb made his comments, however, the Council will probably agree this is getting out of control. In Yelm, they've had people removed from meetings and that is not the goal here. He asked everyone to remain civil and said if there are more comments to be made they can be made in writing to the Mayor and Council. Mr. Atkins said he wants to be heard. Mr. Glenn responded that had he been in another city meeting, he would have been removed after the comment he made a few minutes ago, which was not civil. He said it's time to move on to something more positive. Any additional comments can be sent to Mrs. Collins at the City.

MINUTES APPROVED	<b>It was moved by Councilmember Ator, seconded by Councilmember Reed to approve the minutes from the September 24, 2014 meeting. Motion Carried 5-0.</b>
CITY ATTORNEY REPORT	None.
MAYOR'S COMMENTS	Mayor Dent said copies of the draft revenues will be available online and in the front office, if a hard copy is needed.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT	Todd Baun has provided a report to the Council and is available if there are any questions.
PORTLAND ENERGY CONSERVATION, INC. (PECI) CONTRACT ASSIGNMENT	<b>It was moved by Councilmember Ator, seconded by Councilmember Peterson to authorize the Mayor to sign the Acknowledgement of Consent to Assignment, changing the current name from Peci to CLEAResult Operating, LLC. Motion Carried 5-0.</b>
FIRE DISTRICT 5 CONTRACT	Fire District 5 is offering to continue the contract for another three years. The only difference is the COLA, which is between 2% and 4.5 %. Mayor Dent stated that Chief Banks of Rural 12 Board, McCleary Fire Chief Paul Nott and Todd Baun are in favor of it. Councilmember Schiller brought up an error he discovered so it will be held over until the next meeting. Joy Iverson noticed a change throughout the contract eliminating Elma. Mayor Dent said Elma is entertaining other options so McCleary is negotiating individually with Fire District 5 this year.
COASTAL COMMUNITY ACTION PROGRAM (CCAP) AGREEMENT	The agreement does not cost the City any money and it provides financial assistance for low income families in McCleary with their utility bills. <b>It was moved by Councilmember Ator, seconded by Councilmember Reed to authorize the Mayor to sign the CCAP agreement with clarification language reviewed and either approved or modified by Attorney Dan Glenn regarding the Credit Balances section. Motion Carried 5-0.</b>
APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS	Accounts Payable vouchers/checks approved were 38525-38576 including EFT's in the amount of \$140,505.98 and 38577-38623 including EFT's in the amount of \$45,175.27. <b>It was moved by Councilmember Reed, seconded by Councilmember Ator to approve the vouchers. Motion Carried 5-0.</b>
PUBLIC COMMENT	Councilmember Catterlin had a conversation with Mayor Osgood of Elma at 5:30 today and he was told at Elma's next council meeting, they are going to make a decision to either go with the Grays Harbor County Sheriff's Office or run a \$400,000 levy in February. If they go with the levy, and it fails, they will have to go with the Sheriff's office because they are \$400,000 short. Mayor Dent said he does not see the necessity of another levy at this time for McCleary. Councilmember Schiller asked where did the Mayor get the extra funding for the police department when we've had a shortfall of \$180,000. Mayor Dent said it will be evident when he sees the expenditure side where the cuts have been made. Councilmember Schiller went on to ask if the citizens would have voted yes on the levy, what would have been done. Mayor Dent said it would have been a different budget then. Mayor Dent said it would have paid for some police bills that are now cuts in the budget and that will be apparent when they get the projected expenditures.

Gary Atkins asked the Mayor why he has to be so secretive about everything. He doesn't care about if the police officers have a job, he only cares about where his money is going. He doesn't even have a sidewalk to get out of his front door but we are paying three police officers \$400,000 to do nothing. If we can save \$200,000, that is a lot of money. Mayor Dent stated the street fund is different than current expense, which is where the sidewalks are budgeted. Gary Atkins replied, yes but we take the electric fund and put it in the police fund.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

MEETING ADJOURNED

**It was moved by Councilmember Ator, seconded by Councilmember Peterson to adjourn the meeting at 7:22 PM. The next meeting is scheduled for October 22, 2014 at 7:00 PM. Motion Carried 5-0.**