

CITY OF MCCLEARY
Regular City Council Meeting
Wednesday, November 20, 2013

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

ABSENT Mayor Dent was absent. Mayor Pro Tem Ator Chaired the meeting.

STAFF PRESENT Present at the meeting were Wendy Collins, Nick Bird, George Crumb, Paul Nott, John Graham, Randy Bunch, Christiane Mercer, Colin Mercer, Todd Baun and Chris Coker was here for Dan Glenn.

PUBLIC HEARING: FINAL BUDGET **The Public Hearing opened at 7:00 pm on the Final Budget.**

Helen Lake informed the Council she was asked to look into available city-owned properties the city could sell. One is the museum and the other is the gravel pit 12 acres on East Mox Chehalis Road. She added that selling property at this time is not a good idea due to the poor market. She concluded by stating she depends on the police officers in McCleary and really appreciates them. She hopes the Council will do all they can to keep the police department.

Steven Friederich, Editor of the Vidette, stated he encouraged this Council to be as transparent as possible during the budget process. He thinks they should go department by department so the public can understand it. He downloaded the proposed copy from the website and noticed the copy given out this evening shows the law enforcement budget to have increased. He sees in the Mayor's memo one police officer will be cut and the police clerk will be cut, along with other changes, and he believes these are pretty important changes than what was introduced before the election day. He thinks the constituents of McCleary deserve to know the specific changes in the budget.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:08 pm on the Final Budget.

MINUTES APPROVED None.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS None.
None.

CITY ATTORNEY REPORT Dan Glenn has provided a written report for the Council..

DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT Nick Bird has provided a written report for the Council.

MARIJUANA MORATORIUM Chris Coker, City Attorney in for Dan Glenn, stated they are supporting the idea of extending the marijuana moratorium another six months. If any modifications are needed later, we will have time to do that.

PUBLIC COMMENT Wendy Collins shared with the crowd that Mayor Dent was told by his on Oncologist to rest before his surgical procedure next Monday and for a couple weeks afterward.

Chris Vessey commented regarding the animal code issue. He asked Councilmember Reed what his thoughts were on it. Councilmember Reed responded he did some digging into what is considered a horse and cleaning up after them. He doesn't exactly like seeing them riding around town and he's concerned about who is cleaning up after them. Mr. Vessey is concerned about the lady with the emu and other animals. He suggested she be required to have a permit and an insurance policy to cover the animals. He wants to know who will be responsible if someone were to get hurt. Chris Coker assured him if a police officer responded to a loose horse and were to get injured, they would be covered by workers compensation as it would be an injury while on the job. Mr. Coker added if a car hits a horse when it gets out, will the owner sue? She might and that should be a concern. These are things currently not on the books and need to be worked over and added to the City code.

Conversation continued regarding the animal code and changes ordinances to support it. Draft zoning regulations will be developed and given to the Hearing Examiner to review.

MARIJUANA MORATORIUM
EXTENSION

It was moved by Councilmember Schiller, seconded by Councilmember's Catterlin and Reed to set the Public Hearing for the marijuana moratorium extension for December 11, 2013 at 7:00 pm. Motion Carried 4-0.

JANITORIAL CONTRACT

In the budget for 2014, \$9,300 has been budgeted for city hall cleaning, which also includes cleaning of the library, washing and waxing the community center floors, the public works building, light and power building, the police department and city hall. This money comes out of current expense and is a large impact. Staff is not sure if the library cleaning is required and we are in the process of researching that, however, the administrative staff said they would be willing to do the cleaning necessary to help keep the cost down. Union employees cannot be asked to perform these duties because it is bargaining work. Paul Nott added the light and power will help keep their area clean. **It was moved by Councilmember Reed, seconded by Councilmember Schiller to discontinue the janitorial cleaning contract and adjust as needed to provide service for the library if required. Motion Carried 4-0.**

2014 BUDGET DISCUSSION

Councilmember Catterlin explained how the budget process works to the crowd. Lengthy conversation took place regarding the different items that were charged out of current expense, along with ideas of how to cut expenses and increase revenues. The Council will take the budget home and review it before the next meeting. The budget had numerous changes from the preliminary one they received so they need time to review it completely.

Chris Vessey encouraged the council to take their time while looking at the budget. He reminded them how the light and power fund was cut years ago, which was not in the best interest of the city. He is concerned about cutting the police department because contracting was more expensive when they looked into it in the past. Helen Lake added when you take things away, it hurts the people in McCleary.

The Mayor and Council both support a maintenance and operations police levy. Chris Coker said we are not at a point to call for a motion for a police levy. More work needs to be done first.

Pauline Martin, McCleary Chamber President believes it is important to keep the police department in tack. She pays for it in her taxes and expects certain services. She will support a police M & O levy and thinks the City should try for a four-year levy instead of a two-year levy. Officer John Graham added he was involved in a levy ten years ago and it passed.

Councilmember Schiller would like to know the value of each item listed in Mayor Dent's memo. He can't make a decision on cuts without knowing the cost savings of each one.

After further discussion regarding the budget, Chris Vessey concluded by thanking the Council and department heads for all their hard work on the budget.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS

Accounts Payable vouchers/checks approved were 37219-37269 including EFT's in the amount of \$223,867.25.

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

MEETING RECESSED

It was moved by Councilmember Ator, seconded by Councilmember Reed to recess the meeting at 8:11 PM. The next meeting will be December 4, 2013 at 7:00 PM. Motion Carried 4-0.