

MINUTES
Ferndale City Council Meeting
Held Monday, May 20, 2002
City Hall Annex Building - 5694 Second Avenue
7:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Councilmember Albert Lavine
Councilmember Mel Hansen - Mayor Pro-Tem
Councilmember Mike Reilly
Councilmember Marianne Elgart
Councilmember Susan Cole
Councilmember Ron Wilson

ABSENT: Councilmember Jerry Landcastle (Excused)
Mayor Carolyn Jensen

STAFF PRESENT : City Administrator Roland Signett
City Clerk Linda Knutson
Public Works Director Loren Sperry
Planning Director Tom Black
Police Chief Dale Baker

Mayor Pro-Tem Mel Hansen presiding

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen called the meeting of the Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

CONSENT AGENDA

The following consent agenda was moved for approval by Councilmember Hansen, with a second from Councilmember Wilson:

1. Approval of Minutes of 05/06/2002 Council Meeting
2. Approval of Payroll of 05/03/02; Auto-Deposit Amount: \$98,505.34; Checks #20985 - #20997 Amount: \$29,049.72; Total Payroll:\$127,555.06
3. Approval of Payroll of 05/17/02; Auto-Deposit Amount: \$96,984.42; Checks #20998 - #21013 Amount: \$30,054.22; Total Payroll:\$127,038.64
4. Approval of Claims Run for May, 2002; Checks #37815 - #37981; Total Claims: \$586,110.89

Motion passed unanimously.

SCOTTISH HIGHLAND GAMES ASSOCIATION PRESENTATION

Representatives of the Bellingham Highland Games Association were present to invite the public to the Games which will be held on Saturday, June 1st at Hovander Park from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Glen Winchester introduced several members of the association to the assembled who performed a traditional Scottish dance accompanied by bagpipes.

INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT FOR FINANCIAL PARTICIPATION - PORT OF BELLINGHAM

Administrator Signett gave an overview of the proposed agreement. Administrator Signett and Director Sperry had originally asked the Port for \$5,000 in financial assistance to help complete the signalization for the Rural and Sunset improvement project. He pointed out that the cost of the detention pond had driven up the total cost of the project. After discussions, the Port offered to contribute \$50,000 towards the project since their nearby property will benefit from improvements. In return, the City will impose no additional traffic impact fees upon the Port that may be occasioned by their review of any future Port development on the west side of the runway.

Motion:

Councilmember Reilly moved to approve the Interlocal Agreement between the City and the Port of Bellingham for financial assistance in the amount of \$50,000 towards signalization for the Rural and Sunset project. This was seconded by Councilmember Lavine.

Discussion:

The Council had some questions regarding the waiving of traffic fee mitigation in the area, to which Administrator Signett stated it was probably a moot point because the property owned by the Port is outside of the City limits. Another question arose about future annexation of that area, and Administrator Signett responded that the area was currently outside of the Urban Growth Area.

Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Pro-Tem gave a report on the recent gasoline tanker spill on Axton Road, saying that between 16 to 22 local, state and federal agencies were involved. He thanked Fire Chief Gary Russell and Assistant Fire Chief Larry Hoffman for their coordination efforts and excellent communications and information. He further stated that Ferndale police officers did a good job in making sure evacuated citizens were able to get to their homes for medication and other necessities during the emergency. **Councilmember Lavine** thanked Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen for doing a great job in making sure that City offices and Councilmembers were receiving up to date reports and that the media was receiving accurate information.

Administrator Signett set the following Committee meetings for the week of May 20th:

Planning and Judicial	5/21/2002	3 p.m.
Recreation and Finance	5/24/2002	1 p.m.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Elgart reported that she had attended the recent meeting presented by the Port's Partnership for a Sustainable Economy. She felt the presentation and dialog was interesting, informative and worthwhile.

Councilmember Wilson stated that he had called the City's insurance pool and had been told by two representatives that there was no reason that the City should not have paid a recent claim regarding a volunteer's uniform which was destroyed in a fire. Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen responded that the Planning and Judicial Committee would be the appropriate avenue on discussion on this matter.

Councilmember Wilson also requested that the Council begin receiving staff reports on all projects and meetings as discussed at a prior Council meeting. Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen said that this was also an item for Planning and Judicial.

DEPARTMENT REPORTS

Police

Chief Baker stated that an offer for employment has been made to an applicant to replace Cindy Kemper, who will be leaving at the end of this month.

Public Works

A brief update on the ongoing projects was given by Director Sperry.

Clerk-Treasurer's Office

City Clerk Knutson reported that the City has received approval and certification as a Passport Acceptance Agency. She expects that staff should be ready to begin processing passport applications the first part of June.

ADJOURN TO EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Pro-Tem Hansen announced that the Council would be entering into executive session after a five-minute break. The session was to discuss personnel issues, and Hansen stated that it would last from 30 to 60 minutes. After the session, he expected that the Council might reconvene with possible action.

ADJOURNMENT

The Council reconvened at 8:30 p.m. No action was taken.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

ATTEST:

Mel Hansen, Mayor Pro-Tem

Linda Knutson, City Clerk