

**MINUTES**  
**Special Ferndale City Council Meeting**  
**Held Monday, August 29, 2005**  
**City Hall Annex – Council Chambers**  
**5 p.m.**

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**PRESENT BY ROLL CALL:**

**Councilmember Steve Oliver**  
**Councilmember Mike Reilly**  
**Councilmember Susan Cole**

**Councilmember Mel Hansen**  
**Councilmember Marianne Elgart**  
**Councilmember Ron Wilson**

**ABSENT: Councilmember Carol Brumet (Excused)**

**STAFF:**

**City Administrator Greg Young**  
**Public Works Director Bob Cecile**

**City Clerk Linda Knutson**

**Mayor Jerry Landcastle Presiding**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Landcastle called the Special Meeting of the Ferndale City Council to order at 5:00 p.m.

**PUBLIC HEARING – IN CONSIDERATION OF B&B MEATS APPLICATION FOR WRDLF GRANT AND RESOLUTION #05-08-29-A**

Mayor Landcastle reviewed that B&B Meats, known locally as Hempler's Meats, is currently relocating their business from Bellingham to Ferndale. They have applied to the Washington Rural Development Loan Fund for a grant of up to \$1 million to support this project. The grant process dictates that the City will publish for public comment for a period of fourteen days, and then hold a public hearing.

Kenneth Spain, Olympia, representing WSCTED, said that if the grant is approved, the state gives the money to the City, who administers the loan to the recipient. There are requirements that the recipient must meet, such as job creation and retention, that will all be monitored by the state. He then thanked City staff for their help and cooperation in this process.

**Public Hearing Opened**

Rob Pochert, Executive Director of the Economic Development Council of Whatcom County, and Ferndale resident, thanked the City Council and Administration for their "forward-thinking and progressive approach" to economic development for Ferndale, and said that he fully supports this grant application.

**Public Hearing Closed**

Councilmember Cole had some questions regarding staff time dedicated to administering this grant. Mr. Spain responded that not more than five or six hours would be necessary, and that it is reimbursable up to \$1,000.

Councilmember Oliver stated that it was highly unlikely, but what would the City's responsibility be if the recipient were to default. Mr. Spain responded that defaults, though rare, are handled almost entirely by his agency, with perhaps a few hour of the City attorney's time needed.

***It was moved by Councilmember Oliver and seconded by Councilmember Wilson to approve Resolution #05-08-29A as presented. Motion passed unanimously.***

**RESOLUTION 05-08-29-B: EMERGENCY PWTF LOAN FOR SW INTERCEPTOR**

Public Works Director Cecile reviewed that the City was not awarded the grants it had applied for in relation to the two sewer projects now in the engineering stage. The Southwest Sewer Interceptor is moving forward by "borrowing" monies from the water and sewer funds reserves. The City is proposing that an emergency be declared in order to be eligible for a PWTF emergency loan. Director Cecile indicated that the storms of last November clearly show that an emergency need exists for this interceptor. The City intends to apply for \$500,000.

***It was moved by Councilmember Hansen and seconded by Councilmember Wilson to approve Resolution #05-08-29B, declaring an emergency and authorizing application for emergency funds from PWTF. Motion passed unanimously.***

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 5:20 p.m. Mayor Landcastle announced that the Council would be meeting in executive session for approximately 30 minutes to consider union negotiations and personnel contracts. He further stated that a possibility of Council action would be present upon reconvening.

**COUNCIL MEETING RECONVENED**

The Special Meeting of the Ferndale City Council was reconvened at 5:55 p.m.

**COUNCIL CONFIRMATION OF MAYOR'S RECOMMENDATION FOR POLICE CHIEF**

Mayor Landcastle briefly presented his recommendation that Michael Knapp be hired as Police Chief, and asked for Council confirmation of that appointment.

***It was moved by Councilmember Wilson and seconded by Councilmember Cole to confirm the hiring of Michael Knapp as Ferndale Police Chief and authorize Administration to enter into a contract for professional services based on the draft letter of August 16<sup>th</sup>. Motion passed unanimously.***

**ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further scheduled City business, the special meeting was adjourned at 6 p.m.

**ATTEST:**

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**Jerry Landcastle, Mayor**

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**Linda Knutson, City Clerk**