

Oak Harbor City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
May 21, 2013

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Scott Dudley called the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE/INVOCATION

Mayor Dudley led the Pledge of Allegiance, and Pastor Michael Hurley of Life Church gave the invocation.

ROLL CALL

City Clerk Valerie J. Loffler called the roll.

Present:

Mayor Scott Dudley
Mayor Pro Tempore Danny Paggao
Councilmember Rick Almberg
Councilmember Jim Campbell
Councilmember Tara Hizon
Councilmember Joel Servatius
Councilmember Bob Severns

Staff Present:

Finance Director Doug Merriman
Development Service Director Steve Powers
Public Works Director Cathy Rosen
City Clerk Valerie J. Loffler
Interim City Attorney Grant Weed
Chief of Police Ed Green
Fire Chief Ray Merrill

Councilmember Beth Munns was excused.

PRESENTATIONS OF OTHER NON-ACTION ITEMS

Proclamation for Relay for Life

Councilmember Paggao was joined at the podium by Relay for Life team members as he read the Proclamation for Relay for Life of Whidbey Island, to be held May 31st to June 1st. Event Chair Carla Sharkey accepted the proclamation and provided details for participating and dedicating a luminary.

Proclamation for National Public Works Week

Councilmember Campbell was joined at the podium by Public Works Director Cathy Rosen as he read the Proclamation for National Public Works Week. Ms. Rosen expressed her appreciation and thanked Council for their support.

Recognition of Dennis Wright's 20 Years of Service

Fire Chief Ray Merrill presented Dennis Wright with a fleece jacket honoring his 20 years of service to the City.

Economic Development Briefing

Senior Planner Ethan Spoo presented a briefing on Oak Harbor's economic profile and needs assessment.

Downtown Mural

Karen Mueller shared conceptual photos and provided a progress report on the downtown mural project that she spear-headed. She discussed donation of supplies and needed contributions for hiring an artist.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

There being no objection, the Agenda was approved as presented.

CITIZEN COMMENT PERIOD

Martha Yount thanked Council for recognizing Relay for Life with a proclamation. She encouraged recognition of other illnesses such as Multiple Sclerosis and Lupus.

CONSENT AGENDA

City Clerk Valerie J. Loffler read the Consent Agenda.

- a. Minutes of the Regular City Council Meeting held May 7, 2013 (POSTPONED)
- b. Motion to approve Accounts Payable Voucher Nos. 154083 through 154095 in the amount of \$975.38; and \$571,026.65, consisting of Nos. 154096 through 154284
- c. Motion to appoint Dr. Abdel-Monem to fill the unexpired term of Position 1 on the Marina Advisory Board, which term expires December 2013
- d. Motion to appoint Terryl Lacey to fill the unexpired term on the Community Police Advisory Board, which expires April 2014
- e. Motion to appoint Erica Wasinger as the Alternate member of the Parks Board
- f. Motion to appoint Councilmembers #1, #2 and #3 (to be determined at 05/21/13 Workshop Meeting) as voting delegates to serve at the 2013 Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Business Meeting

Motion: Councilmember Severns moved to approve Consent Agenda Items b, c, d and e; and to pull Items a and f. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Almborg and carried unanimously.

Motion: Councilmember Severns moved to appoint Councilmembers Servatius, Hizon and Munns to serve as voting delegates at the 2013 Association of Washington Cities Annual Business Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Almborg.

Council discussed whether or not Mrs. Munns should be appointed since she is an AWC Board member.

Councilmember Almborg moved to amend the motion to identify Mayor Scott Dudley as the alternate voting delegate. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Campbell and carried unanimously.

The motion as amended carried unanimously.

HEARINGS AND ORDINANCES/RESOLUTIONS

Resolution 13-12: Eliminating the Eligibility of City of Oak Harbor Elected Officials to Participate in the Group Medical Plans

Finance Director Doug Merriman provided the staff report.

Bonnie Tchuileng spoke in support of Councilmembers maintaining their healthcare by a group plan.

Councilmember Hizon clarified the Mayor is considered fulltime and provided healthcare benefits, in addition to 75% paid dependent care; and that Councilmembers are considered part-time employees offered only the employee portion of healthcare.

Ms. Hizon stated she wanted to be considered fulltime and appropriately categorized.

Councilmembers expressed support for postponing any action until after the discussion takes place on employees' benefits.

Finance Director Doug Merriman provided clarification on the amount of money saved by eliminating medical benefits for Councilmembers.

Councilmember AlMBERG criticized Mayor Dudley and accused him of scheduling this discussion during campaign season.

Motion: Councilmember AlMBERG moved to table Agenda Items 5.a. and 6.c. until the second meeting in November. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hizon.

Mayor Dudley stated the motion was improper and Councilmember Servatius appealed the decision of the Chair.

Mayor Pro Tem Paggao asked the city attorney for an opinion.

Interim City Attorney Grant Weed stated the two agenda items should be discussed separately.

Councilmember AlMBERG withdrew his motion and Councilmember Hizon withdrew the second.

Resolution 13-12 Eliminating the Eligibility of City of Oak Harbor Elected Officials to Participate in the Group Medical, Dental and Vision Plans

Motion: Councilmember AlMBERG moved to table Resolution 13-12 until the second meeting in November 2013. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hizon and carried unanimously.

OTHER BUSINESS

Ordinance 1658: Refunding 2004 Water/Sewer Bonds (First Reading)

Finance Director Doug Merriman provided a staff report and informed Council that the Ordinance is being introduced tonight and would need to be set for a public hearing on June 4, 2013.

Ordinance 1658: **An ordinance of the City of Oak Harbor, Washington, relating to contracting indebtedness; providing for the issuance, sale and delivery of not to exceed \$[1,645,000] aggregate principal amount of water and sewer revenue refunding bonds to provide funds to advance refund the callable portion of the City's**

Water and Sewer Revenue Bonds, 2004, and to pay the administrative costs of such refunding and the costs of issuance and sale of the bonds; fixing or setting parameters with respect to certain terms and covenants of the bonds; appointing the City's designated representative to approve the final terms of the sale of the bonds; and providing for other related matters.

Motion: Councilmember Hizon moved to set a public hearing for June 4, 2013. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Campbell and carried unanimously.

Ordinance 1659: Park Facility Reservation System (First Reading)

Public Works Director Cathy Rosen provided a staff report. She noted this is first reading and introduction of the ordinance and recommended Council set a public meeting on June 4, 2013.

Ordinance 1659: An Ordinance Amending Section 6.14.145 of the Oak Harbor Municipal Code Relating to the Park Reservation Facility System

Motion: Councilmember Servatius moved to set a public meeting for June 4, 2013. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Campbell.

Finance Director Doug Merriman pointed out it wasn't necessary for Council to set a public meeting date.

The motion, having already been stated by the Chair, failed unanimously.

Elected Officials Salary Review

Finance Director Doug Merriman explained there are two methods to setting Council salaries. Council can set their own salary, although it wouldn't take effect until the next term begins, or Council can establish a salary commission. Staff is looking for direction to either appoint members to the salary commission established by OHMC 2.02, or adopt an ordinance to abolish it and have Council make the decision.

Councilmembers Servatius, Almberg, Severns and Hizon agreed campaign season is not the time to address council salaries.

Motion: Councilmember Almberg moved to table Item 6.c. until the second meeting in November 2013. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hizon and carried unanimously.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 7:36 p.m. Mayor Dudley announced an executive session of approximately 30 minutes to discuss potential and pending litigation, and labor negotiations.

City Attorney Grant Weed clarified there are five items for discussion. In addition to labor negotiations, one item is potential litigation, two are pending litigation, and one concerns review of employee performance. No action would be taken.

At 8:10 p.m. Mayor Dudley announced another 20 minutes was needed for the Executive Session.

At 8:30 p.m., Mayor Dudley announced another five minutes was necessary.

The meeting reconvened at 8:38 p.m.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Severns reported he attended the regular May meeting of the Economic Development Committee. They're helping sponsor the Wedding on Whidbey event show, looking forward to the business and home shows, and they're also setting up a 501(c3) foundation.

Councilmember Hizon expressed her appreciation to City Clerk Valerie Loffler for preparing the Council Meeting Schedule.

Councilmember Servatius asked for staff to revisit parliamentary issues with Ann McFarland.

MAYOR'S COMMENTS

Mayor Dudley stated the items regarding Council medical benefits and salaries were not politically motivated. The reason for the timing was to allow employees to prepare for changes instituted on January 1st and to take advantage of open enrollment periods. He expressed his disappointment.

ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Councilmember Campbell moved, seconded by Councilmember AlMBERG, to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:42 p.m.

Valerie J. Loffler, City Clerk