

**CITY OF SEQUIM  
CITY COUNCIL MINUTES  
SEQUIM TRANSIT CENTER  
190 WEST CEDAR STREET  
SEQUIM, WA**

**SEPTEMBER 28, 2009**

Mayor Pro Tem Hays called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Deputy Clerk Usselman called roll. Council members present: Erik Erichsen, Ken Hays, Bill Huizinga, Susan Lorenzen, Paul McHugh and Walt Schubert.

**MOTION** by Lorenzen to excuse Laura Dubois who is on vacation; seconded by Erichsen. **Unanimous.**

Staff present: Interim City Manager/City Attorney Craig Ritchie; Deputy City Clerk Bobbie Usselman; Police Chief Bob Spinks; Planning Director Dennis Lefevre and Admin. Service Director Karen Goschen.

**CEREMONIAL**

Chief Spinks presented an accommodation to Detective Kori Malone who served the Sequim Police Department for nine years. Mayor Pro Tem Hays presented her with a proclamation. She has accepted a position with the Port Angeles Police Department.

**REPORTS**

Huizinga attended the EDC meeting. The discussion included the business incubator. There is space available on the building on 8<sup>th</sup> Street in Port Angeles for startup businesses. If you have a startup business, call the EDC for assistance.

Erichsen attended the Peninsula Development Association (PDA) where presentations were given regarding economic development in the area including the ferry terminal, a Port Townsend group concerning scatter codes and the Port Angeles Library. They also spoke about the Carlsborg sewer situation wherein they cannot expand. They are looking for help to get support from the PDA to do that. He also reported he attended a SMAC meeting where they discussed entering into a contract with LoC Media for TV commercials for tourism in Sequim. The commercials would be shown on Comcast in King and Snohomish Counties.

Lorenzen reported she and the Mayor attended the Clallam Transit Board meeting in Forks. She also attended the Peninsula Regional Transportation Planning Organization meeting that focused

on the 6-year transportation plan. Simdars was not on the list and she has spoken with the interim city manager about that.

Hays attended the Law and Justice Committee meeting where they discussed the pre-prosecution diversion program. He raised the topic of police department budgeting and sharing resources. There was consensus of that committee that it would be difficult to share resources. He challenged the committee to consider what the committee's purpose was, and suggested they work harder to find ways to share resources and look for ways to trim costs.

### **COMMITTEE, BOARD AND LIAISON**

Mayor Pro Tem Hays announced the Chamber of Commerce and SMAC quarterly updates will occur in October.

### **PRESIDING OFFICER**

### **CITY MANAGER**

Interim City Manager Ritchie stated they have finished the investigation on the city manager candidates and will be ready for the October 2 meeting.

He reported the process of the municipal court requires that we send another letter to the County for arbitration to decide what route we will go for next year. The options are that we will either have our own municipal court; we will contract with the County for four more years, or contract with the County for one year. The County's proposal to us is 40% higher than last year.

Hays said it was discussed at the Law and Justice Committee meeting and that the cost of the court is the same regardless of the type of case. It costs about \$800,000 a year regardless of the type of case. The County feels filings should be the same regardless of the type.

Ritchie feels there is an urgency to get it done so we can work with them. The two choices that look likely are the one year extension or our own municipal court. He knows a consultant that could help us get this tied down. This will come back to Council at the October 12 meeting.

Ritchie stated he has received calls from citizens and responds with either a letter or phone call. There may be some interesting proposals coming up.

### **INFORMATION/COUNCIL QUESTIONS INVITED**

#### 1. Comprehensive Plan Amendments 2009 Docket

Lefevre stated he doesn't have a presentation but refers Council to the packet cover sheet. The cover sheet sets out dates of future meetings concerning the amendments. Council will have a public hearing on November 9.

Erichsen asked about the issue about swapping an area of the UGA and picking up the Battelle area. Lefevre said they are still looking at that issue.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Mayor Pro Tem read the rules for public comment.

Emily Westcott, 853 N. Oxford Way, spoke about the need for the flower baskets. Some of the newspaper quotes state the program costs \$25,000 although she was previously told it costs \$6,000. Roger Fell has agreed to work with Public Works to teach what needs to be watered and how often in order to reduce staff time. It is a win-win program. It is the only program in the state of Washington where the flower baskets come free to the City. The baskets are sponsored by local merchants. The City had agreed to water them. She maintains the whiskey tubs herself. This program also pays for the Christmas decorations. Darrell Sharpe at the high school has retired and Kristy Thorpe has agreed to continue the program. They are meeting tomorrow. She will work with them to continue the program.

Dave Shreffler, 3890 Lost Mountain Road, spoke on behalf of Sequim Family Advocates. He provided an update on developments. Their group is trying to promote unified community for kids and family. They are working toward building soccer fields at the reuse site. Earlier this year Council gave approval for that site and they have received approval from the Washington Department of Health and Ecology. They have met with staff and compliments staff for their collaborative effort. They will continue to update Council in the future. Their goal is to have kids on new fields next fall. This year there are 486 kids playing soccer on 41 teams. The flag football program has doubled in size. The need for play fields is not going away and this highlights the urgency for getting the soccer fields done.

Bob Schilling, Executive Director for Boys & Girls Club, 400 W. Fir Street, reported they had a wonderful bike ride this weekend. Everyone had a great time with only one injury. He thanks the community of Sequim for the outreach. The proceeds go to the Boys & Girls Club Foundation and those funds are shared with the Port Angeles Parks Department. Sequim businesses put out great donations. The Boys & Girls Club auction is October 14 and it would be great to have a Council table at the auction.

Lorenzen asked why the proceeds are shared with the Port Angeles Parks Department. Schilling said the Boys & Girls Club Foundation partners with the Port Angeles Parks Department. He isn't privy to how the event pays out. If there are questions, they can be directed to the Boys & Girls Club Foundation. The Foundation was originally made up of past board presidents. Their mission is to raise dollars to invest and the Peninsula Boys & Girls Clubs can obtain funds from them. The goal is to use only the interest from the investments. Hays said the Foundation started when the Sequim Boys & Girls Club in Sequim started.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS** - None.

## **CONSENT AGENDA**

2. Approve/Acknowledge
  - a. City Council Meeting Minutes – September 14, 2009
  - b. City Council Meeting Minutes – September 21, 2009
  - c. Claim Voucher dated September 28, 2009 total payments \$474,189.02
  - d. Resolution No. R-2009-15 establishing criteria for grant funding to agencies through United Way.

Erichsen requested Item d be removed from the consent agenda. There was consensus. It was placed as item 3a on the agenda.

**MOTION** by Erichsen to approve the consent agenda as amended; second by Lorenzen.  
**Unanimously approved.**

## **UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

3. Pre-prosecution diversion – Potential contract with friendship Diversion

Ritchie described the concept of pre-prosecution diversion. It saves the taxpayers money and also the defendant along with providing job-seeking credentials for the future. It requires contracting with an outside service such as Friendship Diversion. There is some accountability but little risk to the public. He gave a brief overview of how the process may work.

Hays said at the Law and Justice Committee meeting there was discussion about how the officers can divert the cases instead of writing the tickets. Ritchie stated we are working on how logistically it will be handled.

Ritchie stated there would be no filing fee to District Court; no public defender fees and no probation fees. A fee is paid to Friendship Diversion. It may be \$400 a case that we save. Friendship Diversion charges the defendant fees. Ritchie stated there could be an occasional indigent fee.

Erichsen stated he needs to know more about the program. Ritchie advised we are just asking for authority to obtain a contract to present to Council.

There was general discussion about whether this program helps stop first time offenders. Ritchie stated he can get information on cases diverted in Port Angeles and Clallam County.

**MOTION** by Schubert that we authorize the City Attorney to negotiate a contract with Friendship Diversion to bring back to City Council for review and possible approval, and bypass the second and third discussion; second by McHugh.

Hays asked if Friendship Diversion can make a presentation on this topic. Ritchie will arrange for that.

VOTE: Aye by Huizinga, Schubert, Hays, Lorenzen and McHugh; nay by Erichsen.  
**Motion passes.**

3a. Resolution No. R-2009-15 establishing criteria for grant funding to agencies through United Way

Ritchie described the changes made to the Resolution from the last time this was brought forward to Council.

Schubert wants to make sure it is clear it does not affect the funding of contract partners such as the Boys & Girls Club or Senior Center. Ritchie stated it does not.

Lorenzen asked how many programs serve residents in the City limits. Ritchie stated there are a number of them and some are County-wide for which we pay a portion.

Erichsen has concerns over the title of the resolution. There was general discussion concerning revising the wording of the resolution.

McHugh asked Erichsen what his angst was about United Way. Erichsen stated he did not have to answer that question.

Schubert stated he gave Steve Smith a copy of Ritchie's memo concerning the Senior Center. Ritchie stated Smith has not contacted him.

McHugh said Council has given responsibility to United Way to distribute the funds so that we were not politically involved. We should focus on the criteria and step back and let the agency make the recommendations. He has no problem if the language is modified.

Ritchie stated we cannot give money to the Senior Center. We can give scholarships to seniors who are indigent.

**MOTION** by Lorenzen to approve Resolution R-2009-15 with the following amendments: Title: "A Resolution by the City of Sequim establishing criteria for grant funding to agencies recommended by United Way"; first Whereas clause: "WHEREAS, the City of Sequim provides funding to community organizations for social and human services utilizing recommendations from United Way"; and the third Whereas clause: "WHEREAS, the need exists for clear criteria and guidelines to be used by the United Way funding panel in recommending which agencies should receive this funding." Second by Erichsen.

VOTE: **Unanimously approved.**

## NEW BUSINESS

4. Discuss importance of census by Eric Davenport

Eric Davenport of the U.S. Census Bureau gave a presentation on the importance of the census. He stated that the census is safe, easy and important. Funds are distributed using census information so the more counted the better. The U.S. Census Bureau has no collaboration with any other government agency – the information is not shared. The census is easy with only 10 questions.

Ritchie suggests we review the partnership agreement form with the Clerk and IT Department prior to the meeting on the October 12.

Davenport recommends the City have a Complete Count. Ritchie suggests mentioning it to Sequim Speaks.

## GOOD OF THE ORDER

Lorenzen suggested when we have individuals here from out of town that they should be earlier on the agenda.

## PUBLIC COMMENTS *(Please limit comments to 3 minutes each)*

## EXECUTIVE SESSION - None

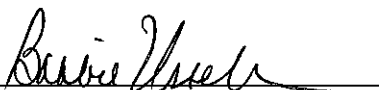
## NEXT MEETING DATE

There will be a Special Meeting at 12:30 p.m. on Friday, October 2, 2009; and a study session and regular meeting on October 12, 2009 at 5:00 p.m. and 6:00 p.m., respectively. Ritchie stated we possibly could have a meeting on October 5, 2009 to agree on a city manager contract.

## ADJOURNMENT

By consensus the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,

  
Bobbie Usselman, CMC  
Deputy City Clerk

  
Ken Hays  
Mayor Pro Tem

Minutes approved at a regular council meeting held on October 12, 2009.