

Town of La Conner
Town Council Meeting
January 25, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

The meeting of the La Conner Town Council was called to order at 6:00 p.m. by Mayor Hayes.

Present: Councilmembers Taylor, Carlson, Dole, Chamberlain and Wohleb.

Also present: Administrator Thomas, Finance Director DeGoede, Public Works Director Lease and Planner Davolio.

This meeting was electronically on Zoom. Information to join was posted at Town Hall, the published Agenda in the La Conner Weekly News and on the Town Website.

Public Comments:

Resident Jim Matthews requested the status on the WWTP study and an update of the Center Street Project.

Resident O'Donnell asked about the 2022 Tribal Sewer Rates.

Consent Agenda:

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of the January 10, 2022 Special Meeting.

Approval of the Minutes of the January 11, 2022 Meeting.

Accounts Payable:	Checks 24725 - 24758	\$93,340.56
	<u>Electronic Pmts. – 201766 Excise Tax</u>	<u>\$6,785.86</u>
	Total Accounts Payable	\$100,126.42
Payroll of January 20, 2022	Checks 5511 - 5516	\$2,106.52
	Payroll Auto Tax Payment #201765	\$7,970.57
	<u>Payroll Auto Deposit</u>	<u>\$27,093.33</u>
	Total Payroll	\$37,170.42

Councilmember Dole moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 5/0.

Administrator's Report:

Administrator Thomas offered to meet with any of the councilmembers, especially the new ones, to discuss the overview of the Town Hall workings.

Mayor's Report:

Mayor Hayes asked for a tour of both the Public Works and WWTP for the new Councilmembers and anyone else that is interested. Town administration will follow up on the scheduling.

Mayor Hayes also discussed a citizen's letter to the editor in the La Conner Weekly News. The letter stated the contractor of the 306 Center Street Project was denied rezoning. The information was confirmed false by the contractor, who stated he and his partners had no interest in rezoning. The Mayor hoped the La Conner Weekly News would highlight this was a false story.

Ordinance 1208 Amending 7.10.010 of the LMC (Dangerous Buildings):

Administrator Thomas explained this Ordinance sets up a procedure in which unfit and improperly maintained buildings will be addressed. It follows state laws on how communities can go about addressing dangerous buildings. Discussions included concerns of definitions B and C in paragraph four under "Nuisance". The definitions were too broad, subjective and open to interpretation, and could cause undue hardship on the working-class people of La Conner.

Councilmember Dole moved to approve Ordinance 1208 amending 7.10.010 of the LMC with the change of removing B and C in paragraph four under Nuisance. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 5/0.

Council Committee Assignments:

After discussions, Council Committees were assigned as followed:

<u>Facilities Committee</u>	Councilmembers Chamberlain and Carlson
<u>Finance & Labor/Economic Development</u>	Councilmembers Wohleb and Dole
<u>Long Range Planning & Technology</u>	Councilmembers Taylor and Dole
<u>Park & Port</u>	Councilmembers Wohleb and Carlson
<u>Streets & Safety</u>	Councilmembers Chamberlain and Dole
<u>Utilities</u>	Councilmembers Taylor and Wohleb
<u>Wastewater Advisory Board (WAB)</u>	Councilmember Taylor
<u>Flood Control</u>	Councilmembers Wohleb and Dole
<u>Communications</u>	Councilmembers Chamberlain and Dole
<u>Arts Commission</u>	Councilmember Taylor

Agreement – Frontline Cleaning (Public Restrooms):

Public Works Director Lease noted this is the annual agreement for the cleaning of the public restrooms and recommended approval for the Mayor to sign. It was noted the agreement referred to the City and should be corrected to the Town.

Councilmember Wohleb moved to approve the Mayor to sign the Frontline Cleaning Agreement with the change. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dole. Motion carried 5/0.

Ordinance 1209 Amending 13.05 of the LMC (Building Codes):

Administrator Thomas explained the State mandates that local jurisdictions adopt certain state building codes. The codes in this ordinance are state wide and enforced by Skagit County for the Town of La Conner. This ordinance updates the Town codes for compliance of the State requirements.

Councilmember Wohleb moved to approve Ordinance 1209 amending 13.05 of the LMC. Motion seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Motion carried 5/0.

Mayor Roundtable:

Councilmember Dole noted the increase of the Sheriff's presence in Town.

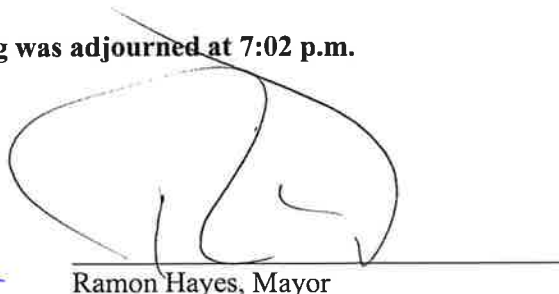
Councilmember Taylor expressed her concerns on the safety of the metal roofing coming off the building at 625 First Street.

Councilmember Carlson questioned the signage at the Maple Avenue Project.

Administrator Thomas and Public Works Director Lease discussed the options for the Code Enforcement vehicle. They wanted the Councilmembers to know in advance it will exceed the \$25,000 budgeted by a small amount.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:02 p.m.


Maria DeGoede, Finance Director


Ramon Hayes, Mayor