

# ***Town of La Conner***

Town Council Meeting  
March 8, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.

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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, Planner Davolio, WWTP Operator Wynn, and Assist. Fire Chief Avery and Sgt. Sheahan of the Sheriff's Department.

**This meeting was held 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:**

No public comments.

### **Presentations: 2022 Tulip Festival Poster – Festival Director Cindy Verge.**

Nearly all events are coming back, including the Salmon BBQ, the parade and the Mount Vernon Street Fair.

Mayor Hayes recommended adding a resolution in support of the Ukraine to the Agenda under New Business.

### **Consent Agenda:**

Approval of Agenda

Approval of the Minutes of February 22, 2022

|                   |                                   |                     |
|-------------------|-----------------------------------|---------------------|
| Accounts Payable: | Checks 24838 – 24881              | \$119,842.21        |
| Auto Payments     | 201780 – Parking Meter Fees       | \$39.96             |
|                   | 201781 – CC Process Fees          | \$139.40            |
|                   | <b>Total March 8, 2022 Claims</b> | <b>\$120,021.57</b> |

|                          |                      |             |                    |
|--------------------------|----------------------|-------------|--------------------|
| Payroll of March 4, 2022 | Checks               | 5532 - 5538 | \$8,547.13         |
|                          | AWC Benefit Trust    | #201775     | \$11,157.42        |
| Auto Payments:           | DCP                  | #201776     | \$2,241.00         |
|                          | PERS                 | #201777     | \$8,550.11         |
|                          | PR Taxes             | #201778     | \$6,245.19         |
|                          | Empower Retirement   | #201779     | \$75.00            |
|                          | Payroll Auto Deposit |             | \$19,508.56        |
|                          | <b>Total Payroll</b> |             | <b>\$56,324.41</b> |

**Councilmember Chamberlain moved to approve the Consent Agenda with the addition of the resolution to the Agenda under New Business. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 5/0.**

### **Chamber Report:**

Chamber Director Carter reported on the Daffodil Festival and the upcoming Tulip Festival.

### **Revenue and Expenditure Reports:**

Mayor Hayes noted February sales tax exceeded last years. Everything else is solid.

### **Mayor's Report:**

- Welcomed back Jenny Sheahan, to the La Conner Sheriff's Position
- Mayor and Bruce Bradburn discussed the placement of a camera pointing down First Street, Commercial Street, and at Maple Hall, as a preventative measure.

**Council Committee Reports:**

**Finance Committee Meeting:**

Councilmembers Dole and Wohleb met with Finance Director DeGoede regarding the Savi Bank CD Maturity and reinvestment of funds.

**Communications:**

Councilmember Chamberlain, Councilmember Dole and citizens are planning an informative public informational workshop/forum on growth in Town, the GMA, the Comprehensive Plan and updates with the County and State.

**Parks Commission:**

Councilmember Wohleb reported there will be a meeting tomorrow. They are working on the design for Maple Park that meets the input from the survey of the citizens of La Conner.

**Planner's Report:**

Planner Davolio reported on:

- The Snap Dragon Flats project - He has submitted Public Notice through SEPA and the public comment period is closed. This is an administrative process but the project is proceeding.
- Washington Street Project - Each lot will be looked at individually for recommendation for the Planning Commission's review.

**Public Works:**

Public Works Director discussed:

- The challenge of scheduling projects, pricing and availability.
- The delay of the front loaders ordered.

**Fire Department:**

- EMT passed the EMT Certification
- The annual Easter Egg Hunt will resume this year on April 16<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am at Pioneer Park.
- Discussed the information sign, the repair or purchase of the fire boat, the inspection program and the purchase of ten pagers. A staff meeting will be setup for further discussions.

**Sheriff's Department:**

Mayor Hayes and Councilmember Dole recognized the quick response of the Sheriff on two incidents in Town.

**Ordinance 1213 – 2022 Budget Amendment:**

Finance Director DeGoede explained this is for the purchase of the Moorage and Launch pay stations funded by the Kirsch property revenue, as well as the new generator and repairs for the Street Sweeper funded by the drainage fund.

**Councilmember Wohleb moved to approve Ordinance 1213 amending the 2022 Budget. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dole. Motion carried 5/0.**

**Resolution 596 – Appointment to the Parks Commission:**

This resolution appoints Mike Bucy and reappoints Martin Howard, Marty Pease and Ollie Iversen to the Parks Commission.

**Councilmember Carlson moved to approve Resolution 596 for the appointment of Mike Bucy to the Parks Commission. Motion seconded by Councilmember Taylor. Motion carried 5/0.**

**Councilmember Dole moved to approve the reappointments of Resolution 596 for Martin Howard, Marty Pease and Ollie Iversen to the Parks Commission. Motion carried 5/0.**

**Mask Policy:**

Administrator Thomas explained this policy will supersede the previous COVID-19 policy requiring masks. Council and administration do have the ability to require wearing masks in public spaces, such as Council

Meetings, but this policy does not require masks. After discussions it was decided to follow the State recommendations with masking as a personal choice as in this policy. However, masks will still be provided at the meetings for those that want to wear them. The next meeting will be a hybrid meeting.

**Councilmember Dole moved to approve the Masking Policy as presented. Motion seconded by Councilmember Chamberlain. Motion carried 5/0.**

**Resolution 597 – In support of the Ukraine:**

Administrator Thomas read the Resolution in support of the Ukraine.

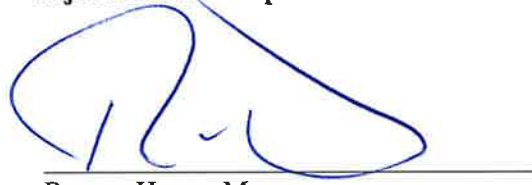
**Councilmember Wohleb moved to approve Resolution 597 in support of the Ukraine. Motion seconded by Councilmember Dole. Motion carried 5/0.**

Mayor Hayes thanked Administrator Thomas for a resolution that supports the Ukrainian people, denounces a dictator and also supports the people in Russia. Our sister city in Russia is Olga, and it is more important now than ever to maintain relationships and solidarity.

Finance Director DeGoede explained the Savi Bank Interest came in at .25%, which was higher than the other CDs. However, TVI offered a bond at 1.40%. It was the recommendation of the Finance Committee to move forward with the bond through TVI.

**There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m.**

  
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Maria DeGoede, Finance Director

  
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Ramon Hayes, Mayor