

Town of La Conner

Town Council Special Meeting
September 16, 2022, 2:30 p.m.

By Zoom

All information to attend the meeting was provided on the Agenda, posted at Town Hall and on the Town website.

Present: Councilmembers, Dole, Wohleb and Taylor.

Also Present: Administrator Thomas

This meeting was called to order by Mayor Hayes for the purpose to waive attorney client privileged information regarding Center Street.

Assistant Planning Position and Description:

Administrator Thomas explained we were unsuccessful in recruiting a permit tech, so we have decided to change to a full-time Assistant Planner. This position's skills and wages have been enhanced for the purpose of reducing the work load of the Planner.

Councilmember Dole moved to approve the position and the description for the Planning Assistant. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 3/0.

Public Records Request Waiver of client privileged information.

Administrator Thomas explained the Town selected the Law Firm of Kenyon Disend to review the Center Street rezone issue. Administrator Thomas summarized the results of the legal memo he received from them at the last Council meeting. Since then, we have received records request for the document and other information. This and the other documents are considered attorney client privileged information that Administrator Thomas does not have the authority to waive. This is before Council to decide on waiving the privilege. The documents requested consist of the legal memo, various emails between him and outside Council, a background set of facts he wrote for outside Council, along with certain questions he asked them to look at in accordance to what the Hearing Examiner remanded to us.

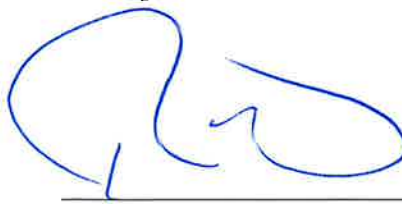
After discussions, Councilmembers were uncomfortable with going against the confidential memorandum that stated it was an attorney work product and is privileged attorney client communications. It further stated disclosure of this memorandum is prohibited, and not for public disclosure. Another issue discussed was setting precedence by waiving the privilege.

Councilmember Dole moved to deny the waiver of attorney client privilege information. Motion seconded by Councilmember Wohleb. Motion carried 3/0.

There being no further business the meeting ended at 2:29 p.m.



Maria DeGoede, Finance Director



Ramon Hayes, Mayor