

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 1, 2011
CITY HALL
22710 E. COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE
7:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION

Given by Mayor Van Orman

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Van Orman, City Council, and City Staff.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mayor Van Orman announced the Partners Advancing Character Education (PACE) trait for November, which is "Citizenship".

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

ROLL CALL

City Council Members:

Mayor Pro Tem Crump
Council Member Kaminskis
Council Member Langford
Council Member Romney
Council Member Schuler
Council Member Beckett (absent)
Council Member Owens

City Staff:

Ann Swenson, City Clerk
RJ Stevenson, Finance Director
Sean Boutz, City Attorney
Brian Asmus, Chief of Police
Doug Smith, Community Development Director
Pamela Mogen, Library Director

Council Member Owens moved to excuse Council Member Beckett, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve the agenda, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire, Liberty Lake, WA: spoke about the first read of Ordinance No. 190-B, regarding paying off the city's debt service for 6.4 acres, which it

purchased in 2005. Mr. Peterson stated the city's budget, a year ago, was \$700,000 short; now, a year later, "we are talking about paying off the \$1.3 million in bonds in cash". He asked, "where is it in the priorities of our city"? He stated paying off the acreage bonds would be the lowest debt priority for him. He opined the golf course bonds should be the first priority since they have the higher interest rate and no pre-payment penalties. Mr. Peterson urged the council to look at the priorities of the city and, before considering paying off the acreage bonds, to have a very thorough discussion to determine what is in the best interest of the community.

PRESENTATION

Nancy Hill, Animal Protection Director, Spokane County Regional Animal Protection Service (SCRAPS) presented a brief overview of the services offered by SCRAPS. She also reviewed SCRAPS' 2012 budget information and Liberty Lake's activity usage of the program. Prior to conclusion of her presentation, Ms. Hill talked about a few facts on Spokane County Measure One.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Amendment of 2011 City Development Code & River District Specific Area Plan Overlay (RDSAP): Community Development Director, Doug Smith, gave a broad overview of the 2011 amendments. He reviewed a total of 12 amendments affecting signage definitions, development setbacks, lot dimensions in R1 & R2 zones, clustered housing use in the R2 zone, shopping cart storage and return stations, signage (including window, temporary, political, and people), utility provider review, planned unit developments, home occupation permits, and I zone parking lots within the industrial zone.

After a brief discussion about proposed amendments regarding parking lots in industrial zones and home occupation exemptions, Mayor Van Orman invited public comments.

Drew Benado, 1421 N. Meadowwood Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: stated several discussions were held regarding I-zone parking lots. He said the city's landscape requirements were not degraded through this amendment and that the intent was to allow a business owner more flexibility to design his or her parking lot. He cited the example of continuing to require 10% landscaping throughout the parking lot, but allowing flexibility to shift the landscaping around in the parking lot to better accommodate accessibility or other parking needs, such as at Huntwood.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Directors' 2012 Budget Presentations: Finance Director, RJ Stevenson, began the directors' presentations on their sections of the 2012 budget proposal. He gave an overview of the proposed budget timeline, reviewed revenue highlights, and addressed amendments to the preliminary budget. He then spoke specifically to impacts that affect the Executive, Legislative, and Administrative Services sections of the budget.

Due to illness, at 8:52 p.m., Council Member Schuler left the meeting. At 9:00 p.m. Mayor Van Orman called for a five-minute recess. She called the meeting back to order at 9:09 p.m.

Liberty Lake Police Chief, Brian Asmus, gave an overview of the LLPD's budget. He reported on the Department's 2011 performance measure outcomes and achievements and spoke about 2012 performance measures and goals. Chief Asmus then presented 2012 proposed budget highlights, including personnel, supply, and service costs.

At 9:40 p.m., Mayor Van Orman pointed out there was only 20 minutes left for the meeting and several items still remained on the agenda. Council Member Owens moved to extend the quit time for the meeting to 10:30 p.m. There was no second. Council Member Kaminskis then moved to extend the meeting to 10:15 p.m., seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump. Motion passed unanimously. Due to time constraints, Mayor Van Orman postponed City Staff and Agency quarterly reports to the November 15, 2011 City Council meeting.

Next, Liberty Lake Municipal Library Director, Pamela Mogen, gave an overview of the library's 2012 budget. She too talked about 2011 performance measure outcomes and achievements and spoke about 2012 performance measures and goals. Ms. Mogen also spoke about library staffing and reviewed the library's mission.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve Consent Agenda items 11a, 11b, and 11c, seconded by Council Member Owens. Motion carried unanimously. Consent Agenda item 11a was approval of October 18, 2011 City Council minutes. item 11b was approval of vouchers for November 1, 2011 in the amount of \$150,331.48. Check sequences: 14850 through 14890, totaled \$20,164.64 and payroll series was 14891 through 14901, which totaled \$130,166.84. And Consent Agenda item 11c was approval of Agreement for Services for Leta Parker, City of Spokane Parks and Recreation, and Snow Removal – Peplinski Excavation, Inc.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Community Development Director, Doug Smith, closed out the workshop discussion on the directors' 2012 budget presentations. He outlined 2012 goals for Planning and Building, Recreation and Golf, and Public Works and Parks and Open Spaces.

FIRST READ ORDINANCE

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 197 into the record – An Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington, Amending the City Development Code and the River District Specific Area Plan Overlay (RDSAP) SAP-08-0001 for 2011.

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 190-B into the record Ordinance No. 190-B – An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 190 Passed by the City Council on December 21, 2010, Entitled “An Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington, Adopting a Budget for the Period January 1, 2011, through December 31, 2011, Appropriating Funds and Establishing Salary Schedules for Established Positions”.

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 188-A into the record – An Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington, Amending the Utility Tax Rate to Provide Revenue for City Services and Capital Requirements; and Establishing an Effective Date.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Tom Specht, member of the Liberty Lake Historical Society: stated one of the things the Historical Society is trying to do is develop appreciation of the history of Liberty Lake within the community. Mr. Specht stated the Society is working with the Liberty Lake Municipal Library to conduct presentations and offer displays. He said plans are underway to develop some historical markers and he would like the opportunity to present them to the council. He asked the council to put some money aside in the City's community art budget to help with the some of the signs.

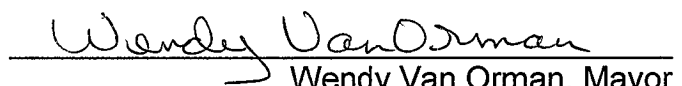
Pat Dockrey, 22213 E. Henry Road, Liberty Lake, WA: talked about the proposed prepayment of the 6.4 acre bond. He stated in order to save \$278,000, the proposal is to spend \$137,000, which equates to a net savings of \$140,000 for an investment of \$1.35 million. He proposed a couple of alternatives, such as investing the \$1.35 million in 30-year treasury notes in very safe, low-risk bond. Mr. Dockrey stated, “I just want to make sure we take that really good chunk of money that you're not going to see again – because you're cutting your utility tax – that we know where we're spending it and we know why we're doing it”.

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: encouraged the council to “think different”; that is what Steve Jobs did. Mr. Peterson said when talking about buying a police car in the Liberty Lake Police's 2012 budget, to reset the clock and buy four cars and install the equipment.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 p.m.

These minutes are approved on November 15, 2011.


Wendy Van Orman, Mayor
City of Liberty Lake

Ann Swenson

Notes and Transcription by Ann Swenson, City Clerk. This Council meeting was also audio taped. Anyone desiring to listen to the recording may contact the City Clerk.