

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING  
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 15, 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. Before taking roll call, Mayor Van Orman announced the Partners for Advanced Character Education (PACE) characteristic of the month, "Honesty".

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:07 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

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

Ann Swenson, City Clerk  
Doug Smith, Comm. Dev Director  
Brian Asmus, Chief of Police  
Sean Boutz, City Attorney

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to excuse Council Members Owens and Romney, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

**AGENDA APPROVAL:** Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried unanimously.

**PROCLAMATION:** Mayor Van Orman read a proclamation into the record, proclaiming February, 2011 as Kiwanis Children's Cancer Cure Month. Mr. Daniel VerHuel, Local KCCP Chair, and Mr. John Loucks, the local Kiwanis Club President, thanked Mayor Van Orman and the Liberty Lake City Council for the proclamation.

**PRESENTATION:** Mayor Van Orman then introduced Mr. Jim Wavada, Environmental Planner, Department of Ecology. Mr. Wavada encouraged the City Council to pass the Resolution on this evening's agenda to adopt Spokane County's Solid Waste Management Plan. He explained the Plan has been four years in the making, and basically lays out how recycling will be executed in Spokane County. He emphasized it is a plan and not a contract. The Plan also lays out waste reduction programs,

education programs, and what will be done for small business waste disposal. Mr. Wavada then answered questions from council members.

## **WORKSHOP DISCUSSION**

2012 Budget Process – Community Development Director, Doug Smith, said staff's intent this evening was to query the Council to get feedback on how the 2011 budget process went, and to see if there was anything that could be improved on for 2012.

Council members provided feedback such as getting information earlier in the process rather than the night of the mayor's presentation, hearing and addressing public concerns before making decisions affecting the budget, keeping the budget in one format, having each department manager present his or her budget to the council prior to receiving the mayor's proposed budget, and better communication between the City Council and City staff during the budget process.

Council Members talked about the need to commit their time to review questions other members of the body have asked in order to avoid duplicating them. Other suggestions to improve the budget process included providing the council with more details to define why changes are made, inclusion of a cross- reference section affecting changes, if pertinent, and more detail on line items.

Council members discussed the lack of integrity of the data they received, citing differing information at times between the mayor and council. They asked the mayor and staff to ensure that both the Executive and Legislative branches have the same data at the same time to work from. Finally, the council requested to have further budget discussions a few more times before getting into the actual number crunch for next year.

## **MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS**

Community Development Committee (CDC): Council Member Kaminskis reported the CDC reviewed the proposed amendment list for the City's Development Code and River District Specific Area Plan. CDC recommendations will be presented during the next meeting, and a first-read Ordinance is expected.

Finance Committee: Mayor Pro Tem Crump reported the Finance Committee met and reviewed vouchers. The committee discussed budget and finance for road repairs talked about during the recent Council retreat. Personnel, as it relates to a couple of positions within the city, was also addressed.

Public Safety Report: Council Member Langford announced the Public Safety Committee members had communicated via email for relevant matters. He reported, however, nothing from those committee communications necessitated an actual meeting of the committee. The committee discussed Chief Asmus' recommendation for approval the proposal request for RFP that is on tonight's agenda.

Councilman Beckett reported about his attendance at the Spokane Transit Authority's (STA) board meeting. The board discussed amending the STA charter to include a

permanent seat on the board for representation of small cities. He stated, based on the proposed language and discussions, he did not personally support the amendment. He stated his position differed from the Liberty Lake City Council's recent unanimous decision to support the amendment, noting he was not present at that City Council meeting. After consulting with legal counsel for the purpose of due diligence, Councilman Beckett chose to vote to abstain. He reported his vote did not change the outcome of the STA board's resolution, which failed.

The City Council members then held a discussion about conflict between a council member's personal philosophy versus his or her obligation as a public representative.

Next, Mayor Van Orman reminded council members of a few upcoming meetings, including the Council of Governments and The Future of Healthcare. She reported on her attendance at a Liberty Lake advisory meeting, where she and Director Doug Smith met with several directors of local businesses, including Mussleman and Barry Baker. Mayor Van Orman reported the City of Liberty Lake received lots of kudos to our Planning and Building Services section for its permitting process, as well as how business-friendly the city is. She reported, through her role as Chair of the Economic Advisory Council, several resources were discovered that are available to businesses, and which will soon be available on the City's website. Mayor Van Orman reported, as a result of the recent Interlocal Agreement, Spokane Regional Transportation Council will begin conducting a search for an Executive Director. She also reported on her meeting with representatives from Washington State Department of Transportation, where discussions included unveiling considerations and options that will be presented to the public regarding the Interstate Justification Report process.

Council Member Kaminskis reported she, the mayor, councilmen Beckett and Romney, and city staff went on pavement tour of city streets to get a better understanding of road ratings for maintenance. Director Smith reported the city will begin dialogue with the community regarding the list of roads slated for repair this year.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

Council Member Schuler moved to approve Agenda Action Items A, B, and C, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump. There were no discussions and motion carried unanimously.

Item A was approval of the Consent Agenda, including City Council Meeting Minutes from February 1, 2011 and checks through February 15, 2011 in the amount of \$264,278.81. Check sequences were 13678 through 13730. Item B was approval of the proposal request for Liberty Lake Police patrol vehicles, and Item C was approval of the Master Service Agreement Renewal with Tutor.com.

## **RESOLUTION**

Mayor Van Orman read Resolution No. 11-147 into the record, adopting the Spokane County Solid Waste Management Plan by Reference. Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-147, seconded by Council Member Langford. Mayor Van Orman invited citizen comments. None were received. Motion carried unanimously.

## UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS

Council Members discussed setting the agenda and outlining goals for the next City Council Retreat, scheduled February 22, 2011 at 6:00 p.m.

Council Member Schuler announced she will be taking medical leave after February 23<sup>rd</sup>.

Mayor Van Orman invited anyone interested in helping with this year's Easter Egg Hunt to attend an upcoming meeting.

Councilman Beckett requested an update on Trailhead Golf Course. Director Smith reported, due to weather, course conditions are still not ready to host play but the hitting range is open.

Council Members also discussed a written citizen comment from Cody Templeton, the District Manager of GoWireless, Inc., who asked the council to consider defining window wrap advertising as a specific sign type in the sign Ordinance. After brief discussion, it was determined the Community Development Committee will revisit signage issues.

## CITIZEN COMMENTS

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: stated that when talking about openness and transparency in government, it is imperative to try to get as much information out to the public as possible. He encouraged the City Council to provide more information for more effective dialogue during citizen comments. He spoke about the need to address more incentives for people to recycle. He announced the Library Foundation's 501c3 status is now in place and talked about upcoming fundraising events. Mr. Peterson thanked Director Smith for the Liberty Lake road "Tour of Tar" information. He spoke about concerns he had about drainage and the need to address the cause rather than just the repair for street maintenance. He also asked that council members look up "fixing roads with slurry seal" online because it offers a pavement solution, but not a chip seal road.

Pat Dockery, 22213 E. Henry Road, property owner of 325 Stimson, Liberty Lake, WA: spoke as a long-time member of Kiwanis, and thanked Mayor Van Orman for this evening's proclamation. He also commented on this evening's budget discussions. He said he was very pleased the council had the political will to say property tax cuts have been provided to Liberty Lake citizens every year for five years, and they took the stand to request citizenry give back a little during tough economic times. Mr. Dockery suggested during next year's budget process, council members first talk to any staff who may be affected by proposed cuts. Additionally, he expressed disappointment that budget cuts were not more evenly distributed.

Mary Munger, 104 Lindeblad Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: gave kudos to the Council for creating a plan during workshop discussion. She said it is frustrating to hear discussions on items then watch them fade away. She would welcome seeing agenda items that reach decisions, not open-ended discussions that start one week, then go on and on.

She asked the Council to please establish the road repair list, set dates for repairs, then send that itinerary to the community. She said, "Give us time, give us topics, make decisions, set deadlines, and give us measurements".

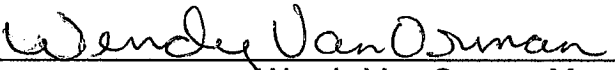
Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: suggested once the road-repair list has been finalized, City staff mark those streets slated for road repair so the public sees that the council acknowledged the need for repair(s) and alerts them there is going to be something happening.

Prior to adjournment, Mayor Van Orman announced she had met with Waste Management about expanding more recycling and that will take place in June of 2012 with the expansion of the facility on the West Plains.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:13 p.m.

These minutes are approved on March 1, 2011.

  
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Wendy Van Orman, Mayor  
City of Liberty Lake

  
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*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.*