



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, MARCH 15, 2011
CITY HALL
22710 E. COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE
7:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION

Given by Councilman Romney

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

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

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mayor Van Orman encouraged everyone to participate in the Partners Advancing Character Education (PACE) trait for March, which is "Diligence".

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem Crump	Ann Swenson, City Clerk
Council Member Kaminskis	Brian Asmus, Chief of Police
Council Member Owens	Master Police Officer Mark Van Hying
Council Member Romney	Sean Boutz, City Attorney
Council Member Schuler (absent)	Jessica Platt, Admin. Services Manager
Council Member Beckett (absent)	Andrew Staples, City Engineer
Council Member Langford (absent)	

Council Member Owens moved to excuse Council Members Schuler, Beckett and Langford, seconded by Council Member Kaminskis. Motion carried unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Mayor Van Orman asked to move Agenda Item 11, the second-read Ordinance / Public Hearing for Ordinance No. 191, to April 5, 2010 at 7:00 p.m. for the purpose of a staff presentation and public comment. Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to amend the Agenda, tabling the second-read Ordinance as outlined above, seconded by Council Member Kaminskis. Motion carried unanimously.

INTRODUCTION / DEMONSTRATION OF LIBERTY LAKE POLICE K-9 UNIT: Liberty Lake Chief of Police, Brian Asmus, introduced the City's first K-9 team, Master Police Officer Mark Van Hyning and J.J. Master Officer Van Hyning reported on the training between canine and officer. He said having a K-9 unit has been an absolute "gold mine" concerning public relations and talked about the positive feedback from the community. He thanked the city leaders for making this K-9 team a reality and emphasized how it truly has impacted the city and the region. Master Officer Van Hyning then provided a demonstration, showing J.J.'s ability to seek out a small amount of marijuana and a large amount of cocaine. In closing, he talked about some of the local businesses that made donations to the program and publically thanked them for helping make the program happen.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION: A workshop discussion was then held regarding electronic cigarettes. An electronic cigarette, or e-cigarette, is a battery-operated device that contains a cartridge filled with nicotine, flavor, and other chemicals that converts liquid to vapor that is inhaled and exhaled by the user. Currently, no state laws have been enacted prohibiting electronic cigarettes.

Mayor Van Orman queried the council whether they wanted to follow with other municipalities in Spokane County to prohibit the sale of the e-cigarettes to minors. She then turned the floor over to Mayor Pro Tem Crump, who chairs the board of the Spokane Regional Health District (SRHD). Mayor Pro Tem Crump spoke about the SRHD board's review. The board conducted an e-cigarette investigation and found several businesses had sold them to minors. He said there is a concern about the appeal of the electronic cigarette to juveniles based on ingredients that are enticing. As a result of the SRHD Board's findings, a resolution prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes was adopted by the District. Mayor Pro Tem Crump asked the Liberty Lake City Council to consider bringing forward an Ordinance mirroring Spokane County and the cities of Spokane and Spokane Valley, as well as the resolution by Spokane Regional Health Board, prohibiting the sale of electronic cigarettes to minors. He then turned the floor over to the city's attorney to get his input.

City Attorney Sean Boutz, provided an update on his findings. Currently, there is no legislation regulating the e-cigarette. Research is still needed to unveil unknown attributes of e-cigarettes and what the effects may be by smoking them. This issue is still in the infancy stages, but as more awareness is raised and more investigations are conducted, legislative action could be expected.

After brief discussion, the council decided to move forward with limiting the sale of electronic cigarettes in the City of Liberty Lake. A first-read Ordinance is expected at the next meeting.

MAYOR / CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Finance Committee: Mayor Pro Tem Crump provided a Finance Committee report. Vouchers were reviewed. The committee reviewed 2011 property tax comparisons

amongst cities in Spokane County, as well as first quarter retail sales tax comparisons from 2008 through 2011. Utility tax revenues are starting to come in, but there is not yet a month's worth of data that has been collected at this point. Building permits are up compared to first quarter 2010. Gas tax revenue is down by less than 1% compared to last year, and real estate excise tax (REET) revenue has increased. Mayor Pro Tem Crump reported city staff is beginning work on the annual report.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump also reported he testified before a joint House committee on education and health care and wellness. He said it was a good experience and local legislators were pleased to get information, perspective, and participation from Eastern Washington.

Mayor Van Orman reported about the passing of Senator Bob McCaslin. She said Senator McCaslin was a seasoned public servant who will be greatly missed. She also announced the recent arrival of her granddaughter. Mayor Van Orman stated there are six more weeks of the 2011 legislative session and 572 bills are still alive. Liberty Lake officials are closely tracking potential legislation affecting fiscal relief, public records, real estate flexibility, and limiting liability for cities. She reported she and Council Member Beckett attended Liberty Lake Municipal Library's recent Board retreat. The Library Board is working on their bylaws, as well as transparency, website improvements, and preparation of the 2012 budget. Mayor Van Orman announced the Spokane region will host the Pacific Northwest Qualifier for volleyball. She also reported Planning Commission applicants have been interviewed and confirmation of new members is expected on the next City Council agenda.

ACTION ITEMS

Mayor Van Orman announced Consent Agenda Items A-G and asked if any of the council members wanted to discuss any of the items separately. Council Member Romney requested further discussion regarding Consent Agenda item F, approval of the Liberty Lake Police Department vehicle lease purchase.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve the following Consent Agenda Action Items:

- a. Approval of City Council Minutes – March 1, 2011
- b. Approval of Vouchers – March 15, 2011
- c. Approve Agreement for Professional Services – HiTechnique, LLC
- d. Approve Lodging Tax Advisory Board Recommendations
- e. Approve Cooperative Agreement for Community Development Block Grant and Related Funds (Home, 2060, HHAA)
- g. Approval of Local Agency Agreement for Valleyway Pedestrian Access Improvement

Council Member Owens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously. Consent Agenda Item B was in the amount of \$253,970.25. Total check sequences were 13781 through 13835.

Councilman Romney asked for clarification regarding the purchase of a Liberty Lake police vehicle. LLPD Chief Asmus explained two vehicles were funded in the 2011 budget. One vehicle was budgeted for an outright purchase, the other for a lease. Bids were reviewed and an award for the purchase of a vehicle was given to Wendle Ford during the February 15, 2011 council meeting. Consent Agenda Item F is the approval for the terms of the lease agreement.

Council Member Owens moved to approve the Liberty Lake Police Department vehicle lease purchase, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump. Motion carried unanimously.

RESOLUTION

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Resolution No. 11-148 into the record, A Resolution of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington adopting the Spokane County Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan by reference.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to adopt Resolution No. 11-148, seconded by Council Member Owens.

Mayor Van Orman announced she would like to set up a local task force in the next few weeks to provide a 72-hour disaster emergency plan to the community. Mayor Pro Tem Crump shared that he recently read a document from Washington State that talked about "Mark Your Neighborhoods". The document provides a breakdown of how to conduct neighborhood meetings and what resources are available in an emergency. He said he will bring the information to the next city council meeting.

Mayor Van Orman then called for the vote, which passed unanimously.

UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Van Orman announced a special meeting will be held at Twisp Café March 25th at 7:00 a.m. with local businesses to discuss economic development.

Additionally, it was decided a special meeting will be held April 26th in the form of a workshop to listen to a presentation on city governance structure and the position of a city administrator.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Steve Peterson, 719 N. Lancashire Lane, Liberty Lake, WA: commended Officer Van Hyning for his dedication to the city's canine, J.J., and the service the K-9 unit provides to the community. Mr. Peterson talked about the negative impacts of electronic cigarettes. He urged the council to adopt, as soon as possible, at least a resolution to minimize the use by all whom might take up the e-cigarette. He urged the council to act to ensure that minors are prohibited from purchasing the product. Mr. Peterson then spoke about Mayor Van Orman's 72 hour emergency management plan. He said it is

important to look after our individual families in a time of crisis, but suggested to also have extra supplies on hand for neighbors who might be in need. Mr. Peterson also talked about buying locally and how that would boost the economy. He encouraged people to spend their dollars in Liberty Lake to help generate sales tax revenue as well as support local businesses.

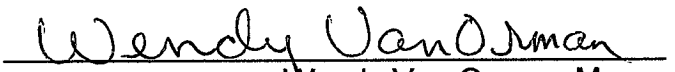
Larry Rider, Spokane Valley Fire Department (SVFD): talked about buying American-made products. He said he recently had considered buying a Ford Transit Connect, found out it was actually made in Turkey, and ended up buying two Ford Escapes. He commented that SVFD does try to buy American or buy locally whenever a purchase is being considered. He also cautioned that 72 hours may not be enough time for emergency preparation, and suggested two weeks is more adequate.

Mary Munger 104 Lindeblad Lane, Liberty Lake: said she and Mr. Ron Ragge met with the City Engineer about the progress of the walkway at Valleyway Road. They hope to meet again in April when the plans are expected to be completed. She expressed their appreciation for the ongoing efforts that are being made, and acknowledged city staff's efforts in that regard. She inquired whether Condition 22 of Bella Lago development has now been impacted because of the roadway improvements, and whether the remainder of the improvements of Bella Lago frontage will begin to be made after the construction of the walkway. Ms. Munger requested the mayor and council members look into her request.

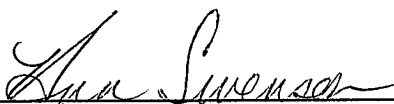
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned 8:31 p.m.

These minutes are approved on April 5, 2011.



Wendy Van Orman, Mayor
City of Liberty Lake



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.