

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, JULY 7, 2009
CITY HALL COUNCIL CHAMBERS
22710 E COUNTRY VISTA DRIVE
7:00 P.M.**

INVOCATION

Given by Council Member Schuler

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Led by Mayor Van Orman, City Council and Staff

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council Member Jenkins (absent)
Mayor Pro Tem Crump (absent)
Council Members Owens (absent)
Council Member Romney
Council Member Schuler
Council Member Olander
Council Member Langford

Doug Smith, Director of Community Dev.
Ann Swenson, Deputy City Clerk
Brian Asmus, Chief of Police
Sean Boutz, City Attorney
Amanda Tainio, Planning & Bldng Svcs Manager
Pamela Mogen, Library Director

Council Member Langford moved to excuse Mayor Pro Tem Crump, Council Member Judi Owens, and Council Member Patrick Jenkins, seconded by Council Member Olander. Motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Council Member Olander moved to approve the Agenda, seconded by Council Member Langford. Motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Council Member Langford moved to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes from June 16, 2009 as presented, seconded by Council Member Romney. Motion passed unanimously.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL REPORTS

Mayor Van Orman announced the City has received its official population notice from the State. Liberty Lake is the fourth largest City in Spokane County, with a total population of 7,270. She then talked about regional collaboration for planning, services, and transportation issues and the need to find funding sources to match local dollars to State and Federal funds. She reported the Spokane Transit Authority Board did approve fare increases for bus rides and paratransit. More information is available at www.spokanetransit.com. The Mayor mentioned the local Shriners Hospital has so far been spared from being closed, however, the governing body will vote this month on whether to close the Spokane hospital. She reported she, Councilman Langford and Director Doug Smith attended the AWC Annual Conference last week. Council Member Langford spoke about the conference. He said too many of the workshops took place at the same time, making it difficult to attend some workshops of interest. Overall, the courses he took were excellent and he strongly urged the other council members to attend next year. Mayor Van Orman talked about the new communication mediums that were discussed at the conference, such as Facebook and Twitter, and the pros and cons for them. She also talked about rules of order, next generation for alternate energy sources, and the successful 4th of July events, including the ribbon cutting ceremony for the City's new skate park, concert in the park and fireworks. She thanked Friends of Pavillion Park and all the organizers of the events.

STAFF AND AGENCY REPORTS

City

Community Development Director, Doug Smith, briefed the Council about recreation activities. He said CHILL day camp and golf lessons are going full force. He said construction season is underway for streets and pathways. He commented that the budget is on target for the six-month mark, noting expenditures have been kept to a minimum.

Municipal Library

Liberty Lake Municipal Library Director, Pamela Mogen, also thanked the organizers for 4th of July concert and fireworks. She said library statistics are up for June, with an average of 200-300 patrons per day. Ms. Mogen reported the summer reading program is going great and talked about the summer reading calendars. The switchover from Qwest to XO Communications has been completed and the library now has T1 broadband capacity. She reported the Library Board is trying to schedule its annual retreat, the exterior library sign is now up on the building, and the Annual Appreciation of Friends and Volunteers luncheon will be held Saturday, August 22nd.

Public Safety

Liberty Lake Police Chief, Brian Asmus, said there was a good traffic control plan in place for the 4th of July which worked out very well. No major incidents were reported and no calls were received related to fireworks. He thanked SCOPE volunteers for their help monitoring the holiday events. Chief Asmus said he met with Marla Emde, Coordinator of Valley Girl Triathlon. The triathlon is scheduled for July 19th, and a traffic control plan in place for that event as well. Chief Asmus said the annual Crime Report is

now available for 2008. He talked about the crime index and provided some statistics from the report.

Council Member Schuler asked for an update on the Skate Park. Chief Asmus reported things have calmed down since the opening of the park. He said there was one incident prior to the opening of the park, but traffic has decreased. He also noted the park has been very well monitored by both parents and police.

S.C.O.P.E.

President, Tom Lundstrom, said S.C.O.P.E. volunteers spent about three hours helping with traffic control for the parade. He said S.C.O.P.E. also had four vehicles patrolling during the yard sale. Mr. Lundstrom said S.C.O.P.E. has several new volunteers. They will be busy with upcoming events such as the Liberty Lake loop run, the concerts in the park, Operation Family ID, and the Valley Girl Triathlon. Mr. Lundstrom spoke about the new office inside the Public Safety building. He said that after nearly ten years the SCOPE offices have been consolidated and the office on Inlet is now closed.

Fire District

Spokane Valley Fire Department Captain, Jeff Bordwell, reported there were a total of 26 responses for the month of June. No fireworks fires were reported in the area, no citations were issued. Captain Bordwell said the Spokane Valley Fire Department has applied for a stimulus package allocation and should be notified in September or October if it will receive the funding. If monies are received, the Department will build a new station and replace old Station 10, just outside Liberty Lake on Appleway. Staff is looking at costs to utilize Green technology for the new station.

Sewer & Water District

Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District Commissioner, Frank Boyle, reported about the District's projects. He said they are boring two lines under the freeway north of Harvard to loop the water system together. Purple piping is being installed. Another pipe is being installed at Appleway for the new future port of entry. Issues still need to be worked through with Spokane County and the Washington State Department of Transportation for reclaimed water. Commissioner Boyle reported permits and construction are way down.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda: Council Member Olander moved to approve the Consent Agenda, which included July 7, 2009 vouchers totaling \$458,335.02, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion passed unanimously.

Manual check sequences were: 11279 through 11284. Voucher check sequences were: 11285 through 11340. Payroll check sequences were 5488 through 5566.

Planning Commission Confirmations:

Mayor Van Orman said the City received two applications for the Planning Commission. One was from Mr. Frank Raney, the other from Mr. Jason Adelman. Mr. Raney's application is for a permanent position, Mr. Adelman's is for the adjunct position.

Council Member Olander moved to endorse the applicants for the Planning Commission. Council Member Langford made a friendly amendment to separate the applicants for the purpose of voting. Councilman Olander accepted the friendly amendment and moved to appoint Jason Marcus Adelman to the adjunct position of the Liberty Lake Planning Commission. Motion died due to lack of a second. Council Member Langford then moved to appoint Frank E. Raney to the permanent position for the Liberty Lake Planning Commission, seconded by Council Member Romney. Motion passed unanimously.

Youth Commission Confirmations:

Mayor Van Orman announced that it is time to fulfill membership for the 2009 Liberty Lake Youth Commission. The following is the list of members vying for his or her respectful position:

Eric Beck, Chair	Mark Beck, Activities Coordinator
Helen Yuan, Vice Chair	Andrew Schutts, Media/Web/Contact Coordinator
Danielle Mertens, Secretary	Brett Busch, Photographer/Archivist
Andy Wiggin, Treasurer	Matt Busch, Snack Coordinator
	Penny Zhang, Public Relations

Council Member Olander moved to endorse the appointments, as outlined above, to the Youth Commission, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Ann Swenson, Deputy City Clerk, then conducted a brief swearing-in ceremony. After the swearing in, Youth Commission Vice Chair, Helen Yuan, provided a brief overview of the events planned for 2009-2010.

At 7:52 p.m., Mayor Van Orman called for a five-minute recess. The meeting reconvened at 8:01 p.m.

ORDINANCE – SECOND READ

Ann Swenson, Deputy City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 176 into the record, establishing an independent Salary Commission in order to set the salaries of the City's elected officials, providing for the appointment and terms of Commission Members and for removal of the same, establishing effective dates for salary increases and decreases approved by the Commission, subject to referendum, providing for severability and establishing an effective date.

Mayor Van Orman said several Council Members have asked that this Ordinance be brought forth for discussion and vote. She said based on the RCWs, there are two options currently available to set the salaries of the City's elected officials; either Councilmatic or a Salary Commission. She said once the Salary Commission is established, their decision becomes effective on the first pay period of the year following its salary determination. The Salary Commission evaluates and determines salaries for the Mayor and City Council Members and has the authority to either increase or decrease salaries.

Council Member Schuler moved to postpone the vote on Ordinance No. 176 until there is a full Council present, seconded by Council Member Romney. Council Member Olander spoke in favor of the Ordinance and provided history and clarification regarding the topic. He said about 10 months ago, he first suggested increasing the Mayor's salary and, approximately four months ago, Council Member Jenkins was concerned that not enough people would run for office and the Council should consider increasing salaries specifically for Council members. He clarified "I want to make sure the public understands exactly what is happening and that nothing is happening under the table here."

Mayor Van Orman said she believes it is important that any time there is a public process, especially regarding Mayor and Council salaries, that it should be the tax payers who decide the salaries for them.

After no further discussion, Mayor Van Orman called for the vote. Motion passed unanimously.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSIONS

River District Specific Area Plan Overlay (SAP-08-0001)

Amanda Tainio, Planning & Building Services Manager, stated the River District's Specific Area Plan (SAP) overlay was submitted to the City for review July 1, 2008. Over the past year, the Planning Commission has reviewed the overlay. The Commission concluded its review in April 2009 and has forwarded its recommendation to the City Council. The Community Development Committee has also reviewed the SAP and recommended staff compile a schedule for review of the SAP for the City Council. She then explained the proposed review process, with initial review during this evening's workshop discussion, another discussion to be held at the July 21, 2009 City Council meeting, a public workshop to be held during the August 18, 2009 City Council meeting, a public hearing to be held during the September 1, 2009 City Council meeting, another City Council workshop and first-read Ordinance will be held during the September 15, 2009 City Council meeting, and another public hearing and second-read Ordinance will be held during the October 6, 2009 City Council meeting.

Ms. Tainio then introduced Mr. Mike Terrell, Planning and Landscape Architect and Community Development Manager for Greenstone Corporation. Mr. Terrell said he worked with the Planning Commission and City staff over the last year for the Specific Area Plan. He said the Planning Commission, City staff, and Greenstone representatives have gone through the plan "with a fine-toothed comb" and have resolved a lot of issues through consensus as well as identified some issues that remain to be resolved through consensus. He recommended the Council review the Staff Report, stating it is very concise and provides great information about where the process has gone and where it is today. He then conducted a presentation of the Master Plan.

He said the City's Comprehensive Plan and Development Code established the framework for new development for the SAP. The SAP is either equal to or exceeds the requirements of the City's Development Code. He talked about the proposed area of

development north of the freeway and south of the river. The area consists of three different zones: the river district commercial, which is analogous to the freeway commercial of the existing code; the river district residential, which is a mixed residential; and the mixed neighborhood center, which connects Indiana with Harvard. The purpose of the SAP is to establish a framework for new development as well as incorporate the Comprehensive Plan and the current Development Code.

Mr. Terrell identified important community design characteristics, including streetscape plans, mixed land uses, establishment of open space and landscape corridors and buffers, road standards, residential access with and without parking for street sections, storm water standards, and zone classifications. He outlined key design principles such as the Spokane River Greenway Corridor, I-90 and Mission aesthetic buffers, and permit streamlining and clarification of standards.

Mr. Terrell provided a project overview of development principals. He talked about designing a complete, compact community by connecting housing, shops, workplaces, parks and civic facilities to a pedestrian system. He spoke about mixed use design, multi-modal transportation principals, preserving cultural and natural resources, and providing continuing education about the importance of the Spokane River for the City and the region. Mr. Terrell also talked about the Specific Area Plan text, which includes conceptual development plans for street layouts, residential land use, water, sewer and waste water, transportation, parks and greenway, trails, and community and cultural resources.

Mr. Terrell spoke about the wastewater re-use plan. He said Greenstone has been proactively working with the Liberty Lake Sewer and Water District to plan for purple pipe installation. Future re-use water from the waste water treatment plant will be used to irrigate parks and open space. He talked about the transportation plan, which will include providing major connection of roads, such as Indiana all the way through the Village Center to Harvard Road. He also spoke about new north/south roads and improvements to Mission.

Mr. Terrell emphasized that the some of the plans outlined in his presentation are preliminary and certainly elements can be adapted to respond to future conditions. He also noted that 90% of the River District area is within a half mile of the Centennial Trail. He talked about community and pocket parks and a proposed place holder for a River District swim and recreation center.

Council Member Langford inquired about mixed land use in all zone classifications and asked if that included residential and commercial. Mr. Terrell said it would include having residential in the River District commercial area. He noted this is one of the 12 issues that remains to be resolved from the Planning Commission recommendation. He stated the current retail trend is to mix residential and commercial land areas.

Council Member Schuler talked about the parks. She said there is a need for parks large enough to accommodate teenagers, young adults, and even adult activities and asked if the current designation size of the parks can accommodate activities for older groups. Mr. Terrell said there is an 8 acre community park, two 5 acre neighborhood parks, and a 10-12 acre linear park. He said Greenstone's staff has conducted a parks

analysis of the proposed parks in comparison to the existing Parks and Recreation Plan to determine if current needs could be met in this area. He said if the City desires to discuss additions to any parks and recreation facilities within the River District to increase the size, then Greenstone is willing to meet with City representatives.

Mayor Van Orman asked if Greenstone will be trying out innovative Green technologies in the new area. Mr. Terrell affirmed, stating that Greenstone was accepted into the LEED for Neighborhood Design pilot program for the Village Center. Staff has been looking into utilizing sustainable Green technologies and materials. They have had discussions with Avista for innovative lighting designs such as solar panels on parking lot lights and the use of LED lighting.

At the conclusion of the presentation, Mr. Terrell thanked the Planning Commission and City staff for their patience and perseverance in working with Greenstone Corporation on the River District Specific Area Plan. He said he looks forward to working with the City Council as the process moves forward.

Planning & Building Services Manager, Amanda Tainio, then provided an overview of the three binders that were provided in tonight's City Council packets. She outlined the 12 key issues that arose during the past year between the Planning Commission, City staff, and Greenstone. Ms. Tainio asked Council Members to continue to bring the three binders to future meetings during the review process. She said an electronic version of the information contained in the binders is also available on the City's website under public notices.

Council Member Romney asked what the benefit is of having streets with no parking and why is it being proposed. Ms. Tainio said the majority of street sections would provide parking, however, by not providing street parking, speed can be increased on higher volume streets such as main arterials.

Council Member Olander asked that during the review process, Council examine the deviations from the City Development Code. He also said Council should address the fact that the very notion of SAP has been brought into question and it should be acknowledged that the SAP is not a perfect process. He stated there are now three development codes; the City's Development Code, the SAP that Hawkstone brought forward two years ago, and now the River District SAP. He cautioned against creating a double standard by having developers build to different sets of rules north and south of the freeway.

Council Member Langford asked if there is a minimum amount of development that can be covered by an SAP. Ms. Tainio said no, stating a SAP can be as small as an acre or as big as 1,000 acres. Ms. Tainio explained that if the SAP is adopted, it will be just like a development code for the City and will follow the same annual amendment cycle if changes are proposed for it.

Council Member Schuler requested a copy of the audio portion of tonight's meeting be available specifically for Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Member Owens to update them on the good discussions that took place. She noted that Council Member Jenkins is a member of the Community Development Committee and is familiar with the

process. She agreed that it is good to have parameters for developers to comply with, but said she is happy with what Greenstone Corporation and specifically Jim Frank have done for the community of Liberty Lake.

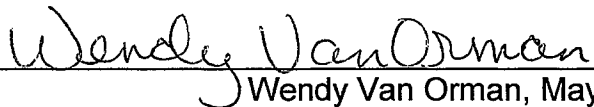
CITIZEN COMMENTS

Spokane Valley Fire Commissioner, Walter Nesbit, expressed his personal thanks to Council Member Langford for attending the Spokane Valley Fire Department's recent graduation of recruit academy.

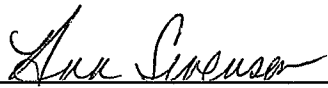
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:27 p.m.

These minutes are approved on August 4, 2009.



Wendy Van Orman, Mayor
City of Liberty Lake



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