



**CITY COUNCIL MEETING / PUBLIC HEARING
TUESDAY, AUGUST 3, 2010
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

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Van Orman called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Mayor Pro Tem Crump	Ann Swenson, City Clerk
Council Member Kaminskas	Doug Smith, Comm. Dev Director
Council Member Owens (absent)	Brian Asmus, Chief of Police
Council Member Romney	Sean Boutz, City Attorney
Council Member Schuler	Jessica Platt, Admin Svcs Manager
Council Member Beckett	Andrew Staples, City Engineer
Council Member Langford (absent)	

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to excuse Council Member Owens & Council Member Langford, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion passed unanimously.

AGENDA APPROVAL

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

CITIZEN COMMENTS

No public comments were given at the meeting, however, an email was received by Lynn Beatty regarding concessions and staffing at Trailhead golf course. Councilman Romney summarized the citizen comment for those in attendance. Mr. Beatty requested the Council reconsider the decision to eliminate the sale of bottled beverages and candy in the Pro Shop at Trailhead because it detracts from the revenues the golf course

generates. He also expressed concerns about staffing levels being onerous on current employees and that the current levels do not allow staff to take weekends and holidays off.

WORKSHOP DISCUSSION

Discuss Budget Scenarios: Jessica Platt, Administrative Services Manager, provided history and background for the current Council Members about the makeup of the City's budget. She explained fund types, the budget process, the budget calendar, and financial policies that guide the budget. There was a brief discussion about financial policies and the legislative body vs. the executive body's authority on all claims against the city. Ms. Platt then addressed General Fund revenue sources, what City services the General Fund currently supports, and the challenges of balancing a budget.

At 8:01 p.m., Mayor Van Orman turned the chair over to Mayor Pro Tem so she could retrieve information regarding the proposed liquor initiative. She returned to the chair at 8:02 p.m.

The Council reviewed and discussed mandatory services vs. discretionary ones, potential revenue sources such as a utility tax, the levying rate, and the impact proposed legislation such as I-1100 and I-1105 could have on City revenue.

Ms. Platt presented three budget scenarios which had been discussed previously in the City's Finance Committee meetings. She outlined current budget forecasts with a 6% utility tax; a 5% utility tax and a Metropolitan Parks District; and a 5% utility tax, Metropolitan Parks District, and Regional Transportation District.

The Council discussed what the true numbers are to maintain current levels of service, as opposed to what costs are being deferred and how much revenue is being allocated for funding those service levels. The Council concurrently discussed the need to look for cutbacks prior to soliciting their neighbors for an increase in taxes. Tough questions such as "how do we balance this budget, face this dilemma, cut expenditures, increase revenue, and not just bandage the problem to get by for 2-3 years?" were discussed. Discussions also included the need to look at future sustainability, the importance of providing education to the citizenry, and the need for the Council to make tough decisions and recommendations sooner rather than later.

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL / COMMITTEE REPORTS

Community Development Committee (CDC): No report was given.

Finance Committee: Mayor Pro Tem Crump reported the committee met and reviewed vouchers. The committee discussed signing authority, long-term bond issues, when the current bonds will end, the budget scenarios, the Council-requested GSI presentation, cost cutting, and taxes.

Public Safety Committee: Council Member Kaminskas said there has been no Public Safety Committee meeting since last report.

Mayor Van Orman recognized National Night Out. She reminded everyone about the City's next ice cream social August 10th at 7:00 p.m. at the Liberty Lake Sewer & Water District. She also talked about the recent Liberty Lake Days event and thanked City staff Amanda Tainio and Troy Mullenix for their hard work in organizing the successful event. She reported Spokane County will have a public hearing for an additional \$2.40 annual fee to keep the 911 system funded. She acknowledged that the Council has not held a subsequent discussion since Greater Spokane Inc's. (GSI) second presentation specific to Liberty Lake. She then opened the floor for that discussion. Council Members Beckett and Romney spoke in opposition of the City spending money for the GSI membership, suggesting this is an example where the City can begin cutting costs, whereas Council Members Kaminskas and Schuler spoke in favor of supporting it in order to attract more businesses to the area to help boost the economy.

The Mayor then recognized Library Director, Pamela Mogen, who distributed the July, 2010 library report. Ms. Mogen reported library staff has been working very hard to get a figure of non-resident patrons and should have that available for the Council during its September meeting. Councilman Beckett asked Ms. Mogen if she felt she was getting the information she needs from the Council to be able to address patron concerns about possibly reducing library services. In response, Ms. Mogen explained that the library has put a freeze on purchasing new library books and staff is currently awaiting the figures of what is available for 2010.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda: Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve the City Council Meeting Minutes from July 20, 2010, seconded by Council Member Kaminskas. Motion carried unanimously.

Mayor Pro Tem Crump moved to approve checks in the amount of \$343,686.27, seconded by Council Member Schuler. Motion carried 4-1, with Mayor Pro Tem Crump and Council Members Kaminskas, Schuler, and Romney voting in favor, Councilman Beckett opposed. There were two manual checks, numbered 13012 and 13013, in the amounts of \$1,021.22 and \$33,538.37, respectively, totaling \$34,559.59. Continued check sequence was 13014 through 13060, totaling \$158,401.79. July payroll check sequence was 6156 through 6172, totaling \$150,724.89.

ORDINANCE FIRST READ

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 181-A into the record, an Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 181 Passed by the City Council on December 1, 2009, Entitled "An Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington, Adopting a Budget for the Period January 1, 2010, through December 31, 2010, Appropriating Funds and Establishing Salary Schedules for Established Positions."

Ann Swenson, City Clerk, read Ordinance No. 185 into the record, An Ordinance of the City of Liberty Lake, Washington, Updating the Parks, Recreation, Open Space, and Trails Plan.

RESOLUTION

Mayor Van Orman, read Resolution 10-141 into the record, A Resolution of the City of Liberty Lake Authorizing and Adopting a Six (6) Year Transportation Improvement Program for 2011 through 2016.

PUBLIC HEARING – 2011 – 2016 Transportation Improvement Program

Mayor Van Orman opened the floor for public hearing at 9:20 p.m. She introduced City Engineer, Andrew Staples, who provided history and updates regarding the 2011–2016 Transportation Improvement Program. The program plan is required by state law. The city conducts the plan update annually. Mr. Staples said the projects within the plan are the same as last year. He explained that if funding, such as a grant or low-interest loan program, becomes available the eligible projects in the program would be brought before the Council to see if the City wanted to pursue that project.

City Attorney, Sean Boutz, pointed out the Resolution contained reference to CTP (Comprehensive Transportation Program) and questioned whether it should be "TIP" (Transportation Improvement Plan). Mr. Staples responded that as far as state law was concerned, both phrases were interchangeable. Attorney Boutz recommended identifying the CTP acronym in the first part of the Resolution for clarification.

Mayor Van Orman invited public comment. No comments were received. She closed the hearing at 9:29 p.m.

Council Member Romney moved to pass Resolution 10-141 with the modification of defining the Comprehensive Transportation Program (CTP) alongside the Transportation Improvement Program and using those two acronyms with the delineation of a forward slash throughout the document for clarity, seconded by Mayor Pro Tem Crump.

Mayor Van Orman then opened the floor for further discussion. No discussion was held and she called for the vote. Motion carried unanimously.

UNFINISHED / NEW BUSINESS

Mayor Pro Tem Crump requested that future staff presentations be included in council packets or received in advance.

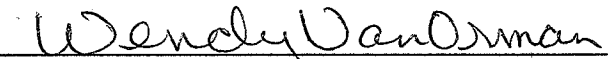
Councilman Beckett spoke about the Valleyway improvement and installation of the sidewalk. He said it appears that it is unlikely the improvement will be completed before the start of school. He noted the developer (Mr. White) and his legal counsel were not

present at the last City Council meeting to discuss the issue. He questioned when it would be appropriate to acknowledge this project has come to an end since there has been no response from the developer. Attorney Boutz responded it would be anytime at the Council's discretion. He stated Condition 22 is currently still effective. Councilman Beckett expressed frustration that this issue is not moving forward and has been on the docket since April. Director Doug Smith reported the invitation was extended to the developer and his legal counsel to attend a Council meeting. Mr. White responded he had a schedule conflict, but indicated once he got word on financing he would communicate that with the City. Mayor Pro Tem Crump requested staff extend a second invitation to Mr. George White to attend a City Council meeting and/or ask him to please give the City an update in written form.

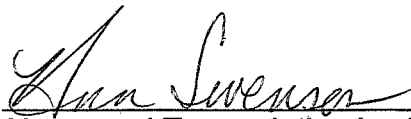
ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

These minutes are approved on August 17, 2010.



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.