

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

February 23, 2016

Mayor Farivar called the February 23, 2016 Leavenworth City Council meeting to order at 6:30 PM and the Cascade High School Girls Soccer Team led the City Council in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar, Michael Molohon, Robert Francis, Elmer Larsen, Carolyn Wilson, Gretchen Wearne, Mia Bretz, and Margaret Neighbors.

Staff Present: City Administrator Joel Walinski, City Attorney Tom Graafstra, Chantell Steiner, Nathan Pate, Herb Amick, and Sue Cragun.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of February 9, 2016 Study Session Minutes
3. Approval of February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes
4. 2016 Claims \$130,948.15

Councilmember Neighbors noted a minor correction in the February 9, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes; change the term US Representatives to State Representatives.

Councilmember Larsen motioned to approve the consent agenda as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilson and passed unanimously.

COUNCILMEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Neighbors reported that she attended the Finance Committee Meeting and the Chamber of Commerce dinner.

Councilmember Bretz reported that she attended the Link Transit Board meeting and stated that the Board received a Strategic Planning presentation from the Consultant and the General Manager received his annual review. She added that she attended the Upper Valley Park & Recreation Service Area (PRSA) Board meeting, Economic Development Committee meeting, and the Chamber of Commerce dinner. On a final note she announced that Senate Bill 6513 regarding the City's water rights has passed in the Senate and is now moving on to the House for approval and that there was a discussion on Facebook regarding parking.

Councilmember Wearne reported that she attended the Economic Development District and Downtown Steering Committee meetings. She said that the Downtown Steering Committee addressed the Consultant Proposals for the Downtown Park Plaza project and is recommending J. A. Brennan Associates as the Landscape Architect for the project. She said that the Committee also discussed recycling downtown and will be researching other rural communities who have been successful with recycling.

Councilmember Wilson reported that she attended the Chamber of Commerce dinner, Upper Valley Museum Board, Upper Valley Park & Recreation Service Area (PRSA) Board, and Public Safety Committee meetings. She said that the PRSA Board discussed an increase in single day pass entrance fees and agreed on an increase of .25 cents, she confirmed that the Board will be looking at the entity structure for adding additional Board members in order to create subcommittees within the Board to potentially expand the Board's service area and services provided. She stated that the Public Safety Committee will invite the Fire Department officials to attend the next Public Safety meeting to provide a report to the Committee. On a final note she addressed the Finance Committee meeting and stated that the Committee discussed each department in the City, its financial status, and the goals that they will discuss at the Retreat.

Councilmember Larsen reported that he attended the Leavenworth Area Promotion (LAP) Committee meeting.

Councilmember Francis reported that he attended the LAP meeting with Councilmember Larsen and City Administrator Walinski. He said that the Committee discussed newsprint options and what would be most successful, considered proposals for additional advertising, and discussed new campaigns, "Lovin' Leavenworth", "Where your heart skips a beat", and "Put your heart into it". He noted that the group is also working with LocalTel in regard to providing WiFi in downtown Leavenworth.

Councilmember Molohon reported that he attended the Chamber of Commerce dinner and the Downtown Steering, Economic Development, and Finance Committee meetings.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Farivar reported that she participated with a work group for the Meadowlark Housing Development and attended the Chelan-Douglas Transportation Council (CDTC) Annual Retreat. She said that the Retreat was a very informative meeting and she learned how money is awarded for transportation projects throughout Chelan and Douglas Counties. She went on to say that Mr. Stan Adams has retired from the City after 29 years of service, 20 years as the City's Water Plant Supervisor. She said that they had an exit interview during lunch at the Sleeping Lady and discussed how the City can improve employee relations and how the City operates where water is concerned.

Public Works Director Herb Amick reported that the Parks / Utility Maintenance Worker position has been filled by Mr. Tom Bolin who has worked in the seasonal park position for the last six years. He stated that there were 60 applicants for the position and 13 interviews were conducted.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Farivar recognized Mr. Tristan Parrish who is in attendance for his "Citizens of Washington in a Contemporary World" class criteria at Cascade High School. Mr. Parrish introduced himself and stated that he will be working with the Forest Service and creating a historical interpretive sign about the Tumwater Power Station. Mayor Farivar and the City Council thanked him for attending the meeting and the Mayor presented him with a City of Leavenworth lapel pin.

John Bangsund, 204 Whitman Street, Leavenworth; Mr. Bangsund requested that the Council consider continuing their support of the Ski Hill when the City begins to prepare the next City Budget. He noted that the Ski Hill could use a fire hydrant to help with snow making. He briefly stated that the ski season is doing very well this year and that tubing has been very busy. Councilmember Wilson noted that Ski Hill has had record days financially this year considering the past few years without much snow.

PRESENTATION:

CASCADE HIGH SCHOOL GIRLS SOCCER TEAM RECOGNITION PLAQUE

Mayor Farivar and Councilmember Wilson welcomed the Cascade High School Girls Soccer Team and their Coaches to the meeting and presented the team with a plaque, "In recognition and honor of your 2nd Place finish at the 2015 WIAA 1A State Championship". Soccer Team members Emily Gaines, Ashley Parton, Lauren Richardson, Skylar Martinez, Tayler Dodge, Cindy Vasquez, Maddy Parton, Greta Enloe, BT Parton, Coach Glen Stefanko, and Assistant Coach Shellie Wilkerson accepted the award on behalf of the Girls Soccer Team.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. Proclamation Designating "World Spay Day"

Finance Director Chantell Steiner stated that she was approached by the City Clerk of the City of Chelan who requested that the City Council consider supporting a proclamation recognizing that February 23, 2016 is World Spay Day, a day to raise awareness for the importance of spaying/neutering animals. Mayor Farivar read the proclamation into the record.

Councilmember Wearne motioned to approve the Proclamation designating "World Spay Day". The motion was seconded by Councilmember Molohon and passed unanimously.

2. Resolution 02-2016 – Chelan Douglas Transportation Council Designating Representatives

City Administrator Joel Walinski stated that the City Council is being asked to approve Resolution 02-2016 designating Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar as the City's representative of the Chelan Douglas Transportation Council (CDTC). He said that the City Council is also being asked to identify an alternative representative in the event that the Mayor is unavailable. He went on to explain the task of the CDTC and explained that they are also the regional agency that oversees and awards various transportation grant funding to local agencies within Chelan and Douglas County. He noted that this is a main source of the City's funding for Surface Transportation Project (STP), Transportation Improvement Board (TIB), and Safe Routes to School funding.

Councilmember Wearne nominated Councilmember Mia Bretz as the City's Alternative Representative to the Chelan Douglas Transportation Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Wilson and passed unanimously.

There were no other nominations.

Councilmember Molohon motioned to approve Resolution 02-2016 designating Mayor Cheryl K. Farivar as the City's representative on the Chelan Douglas Transportation Council and

Councilmember Mia Bretz as the City's alternate representative. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Neighbors and passed unanimously.

3. Resolution No. 03-2016 – Amending Rate and Fees

City Administrator Joel Walinski stated that the City Council is being asked to approve four items in the current Rate & Fee Schedule:

Removal of the Fence Permit Fee: Administrator Walinski stated that the City Council recently removed the requirement of a fence permit from the Leavenworth Municipal Code and now the Council is being asked to remove the Fence Permit fee from the Rate & Fee Schedule.

Amendment to Pool Daily Entrance Fees: Administrator Walinski stated that the Upper Valley Park & Recreation Service Area (PRSA) Board has recommended a .25 cent increase in the daily use fees for PRSA and Non- PRSA resident pricing on single day passes. He noted that the rates have been flat for the last three years as the rates were initially reduced when the Pool Levy went into effect. He noted that with the increase, this will bring the pricing back to the 2012 levels. He also confirmed that there will be a donation program that is going to be offered at the pool.

Amendment to Festhalle User Fees: Administrator Walinski stated that the suggested amendments have been recommended by the Festhalle Oversight Committee. He explained that there were previously two different deposit rates, although one deposit rate has been used for some time and it is recommended to remove the \$300 security/cleaning deposit fee. The Committee has also recommended an increase for 2017 to the Local and Non-Local Private and Commercial events. He added that there are a lot of non-profit events that take place within the Festhalle and that those rates will remain low, although the increase to the Private and Commercial events is still comparable to local venues. Councilmember Bretz questioned the reason for the increase and Councilmember Molohon confirmed that the previous rates were very low comparatively and that the new rate is now comparable to other local venues. Mayor Farivar went on to address the costly improvements that have been completed at the Festhalle, such as the lobby flooring, catering kitchen, wainscoting, chandeliers and lighting, and audio/visual system with a large screen. Councilmember Larsen, who is also a member of the Oversight Committee, commented that the improvements have added value to the building. He said that the Festhalle was created for local events and that the Committee wanted to keep those rates low, although the City is trying to get to the point that the Festhalle building can pay its own way.

Amendment to Parking Regulations: Administrator Walinski stated that the City is looking to change the language in the Leavenworth Municipal Code in order to allow for Pacific Security to perform additional parking enforcement that has been recommended by the Chelan County Sheriff's Department. He noted that the change to the Rate & Fee Schedule is to modify the language from "Overtime Parking" to a "Parking Infraction – Illegal Parking". He added that the new code language will be adopted by the Council within the next month.

Sharon Waters, 336 Birch Street, Leavenworth; Ms. Waters questioned the increase in pool rates. Administrator Walinski clarified that the change doesn't affect a season pass, but when someone purchases a daily ticket, the fee will increase by .25 cents. Ms. Waters suggested clarification on the pass schedule this year to include the term "water exercise" as part of the fee currently listed as "lap swim".

Councilmember Wearne motioned to approve Resolution 03-2016 Amending Rates & Fees. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Molohon and passed unanimously.

4. Ordinance 1522 Parking Regulations – 1st Reading

City Administrator Joel Walinski stated that the City Council is being asked to review changes to the Leavenworth Municipal Code Chapter 10 regarding Parking Regulations as a first reading of the ordinance changes. He said that a first reading will give the Council the opportunity to review the changes that are being suggested. He added that the Council will approve the Ordinance and then the Mayor will designate Pacific Security to enforce the Ordinance. He said that the changes will include parking in the travel lane of any street in the City and Parking in Prohibited Areas on streets or in designated municipal parking areas where signs, or pavement marking, ramps, or curbs prohibit parking. He noted that this does not include disabled parking as that is enforced by the Sheriff's Department. He confirmed that the changes have been recommended by the Public Safety Committee, although the request initially came from Sergeant Bruce Long as his Deputies find it difficult to manage parking issues during busy events in the City. He added that parking compliance makes for a more pedestrian friendly town. There were discussions about enforcing winter parking regulations when the curbs are covered in snow and Administrator Walinski confirmed that those winter issues will be taken into consideration at the time. Further discussion included winter parking language in regard to not being able to move a vehicle within the same block, parking on sidewalks, and blocking the sidewalk while parked in a driveway.

Craig Hess 125 Pine Street, Leavenworth; Mr. Hess suggested selling bumper stickers for a nominal fee, that would allow residents to park in the City's paid parking lots at specific times / days and avoid the cost. Councilmember Bretz stated that the Economic Development Committee began discussing residential and employee parking in today's meeting. Mayor Farivar noted that the City has discussed this item quite a bit over the years and said that there is no easy solution but that the Council will continue to review the parking concerns to find better solutions.

Sharon Waters, 533 Birch Street, Leavenworth; Ms. Waters stated that she receives complaints about the limited two hour parking at the pool because some sessions for use of the pool exceed the two hour limit. She suggested that pass holders could purchase a parking pass along with their seasonal pool pass for a small additional fee. Mayor Farivar noted that the City implemented the two hour timed parking in order to limit employees and visitors from parking all day in the pool lot and noted that the Council will consider this as well in the upcoming parking discussions.

5. Budget Retreat Meeting Topics

City Administrator Joel Walinski stated that the Council Retreat is scheduled for March 4, 2016 and briefly addressed the topics they will be discussing. He said that the Council will identify the goals that the City has in place and reaffirm those goals; review the individual details of the budget process; review how staffing is addressed by department; briefly review the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan, Capital Facilities Plan, and Financial Policy; determine where the Council would like to use the Lodging Tax funds; and individual Councilmembers will have a few minutes to identify their priority projects and/or new goals.

ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

Mayor Farivar reminded the Council that Group Funding Applications are due by March 1st and that the City Council Retreat is being held on March 4th from 8:00 AM – 2:00 PM at the Bavarian Lodge Montafon Room. Councilmember Wearne noted that the Loft is having a benefit for Hope on the Slope, a non-profit at Stevens Pass, to benefit cancer research until 9:00 PM this evening.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Molohon motioned to adjourn the February 23, 2016 meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Bretz and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:46PM.

APPROVED



Cheryl K. Farivar
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Finance Director / City Clerk