

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

January 12, 2021

Mayor Carl J. Florea called the January 12, 2021 Leavenworth City Council meeting to order at 6:31 PM. The meeting was held by Zoom Conferencing.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Carl J. Florea, Carolyn Wilson, Mia Bretz, Sharon Waters, Clint Strand, Jason Lundgren, Anne Hessburg, and Zeke Reister.

Staff Present: City Administrator Ana Cortez-Steiner, Chantell Steiner, Lilith Vespier, Herb Amick, and Andrea Fischer.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of December 8, 2020 Study Session Minutes
3. Approval of December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting Minutes
4. December 2020 Payroll \$239,731.77
5. 2020 Claims \$1,809,161.12
6. 2021 Claims \$315,883.03
7. Professional Services Agreement with TD&H Regarding Alley Whitepaper
8. Mayoral Appointment of Rob Eaton and Kenzie Converse to the Residential Advisory Committee

Councilmember Hessburg motioned to add Item 11.A Modified Budget for Cairncross Law Firm with Andy Lane under Resolutions, Ordinances, Orders, and Other Business. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

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

COUNCILMEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Wilson reported that she attended the Parking Meeting, Festhalle Oversight Committee Meeting and the Economic Development Committee Meeting.

Councilmember Bretz reported on the Economic Development Committee meeting and stated that they had a presentation from the Chelan Douglas Regional Port Authority. They have an interest in supporting light industrial and manufacturing expansion in the area. She added that the Committee reviewed a lodging tax grant request from the Cascade Medical Center for their golf event and noted a future study session discussion on the Mountain Pact.

Councilmember Waters reported that she attended the Javier Ramos Cooperators Meeting, which is an extension of the Latinx Advisory Group; she provided an updated on the status of COVID-19 statistics and testing information that is currently available. She reported that she also attended

the County Planning Commission Meeting, Cascade Medical Foundation Meeting, Autumn Leaf Festival Association Meeting, and the Chelan-Douglas Health District Meeting. She stated that a suicide training will be taking place to begin phase one of suicide prevention training for a few staff at Cascade Medical Center and Cascade School District so they could be qualified to lead other training of various groups (students, staff and community members) around our area.

Councilmember Strand reported that the Washington State hospitals compact means that if there is room in a hospital, they will take overflow from another hospital so there is room for everyone. Washington State is the only state that has this kind of agreement among its hospitals. He received his COVID vaccine and reports muscle soreness at the injection site as the only side effect he has experienced.

Councilmember Lundgren reported that he attended the Parks and Public Works Committee meetings. Public Works discussed security issues at the Public Works facility. There has been a vehicle stolen, some equipment stolen and a couple of break-ins. They will be looking at bringing in some professional security. The Committee reviewed Public Works Project Updates and noted that the Water Treatment Plant bids will occur next week. He added that the Council will be receiving some change orders for the South Interceptor in preparation of the completion of that project.

Councilmember Hessburg reported that she attended the Residential Advisory Committee (RAC) meeting; the Committee continued to discuss membership and how to continue to increase diversity and representation on the RAC. It was noted that two new appointments for former Mayor Rob Eaton and Kenzie Converse have been appointed to the RAC with this evening's approval of the consent agenda. The group discussed the Osborn property and the Phase II Environmental Assessment Study, which came back clean; the City will now continue to move forward with purchasing the property. The Request for Proposal (RFP) for a Consultant to conduct the visioning process and community engagement is actively underway. She stated that the forum held for the students to vision what they would like to see for the Osborn property, that was run by the City of Leavenworth went well. The Committee discussed the downtown street closure and coordination with downtown businesses during inclement weather. She then reported on the Parking Advisory Committee Meeting stating that they are working on finalizing the new code section and map to bring to the Council for review. The Committee continues to work on the policy for parking enforcement and will be looking at areas such as loading zones, signage, and Highway 2 access. She announced that Parking Enforcement Officer Mr. Aaron Stark has accepted a new position and the City will have temporary employee Christie Voos taking over in the interim.

Councilmember Reister reported that he attended the Osborn student forum, and found it interesting to see this project from the youth perspective. He was not able to attend the Festhalle oversight committee meeting this month.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Carl Florea stated he is hoping to see a transition to more normalcy soon, although the pandemic will still be around for a while longer. He continues to work on keeping everything going in a safe manner downtown and that the Winter Special Use Permits will keep going until Phase 2.

City Administrator Ana Cortez-Steiner, in regard to parking enforcement, she reported that enforcement will occur if you are in clear violation of the law. She stated that the Festhalle Oversight Committee discussed two business model ideas to create more revenue for the Festhalle. The first idea was a kitchen incubator that wasn't well received by the Committee. The second idea was to get a 3rd party to manage the Festhalle during the slow months; unfortunately, this was not well received either. The Committee will continue looking at other business model ideas to try to bring in more revenue.

Finance Director / City Clerk Chantell Steiner reported that it is a new year, with a new budget; the 2020 year will close on January 21st. She reported that she filled the part time office assistant position and Beverly Ward will begin on January 19, 2021. She noted that she is still looking to fill the Deputy Clerk position.

Development Services Manager Lilith Vespier reported that Nichole Perry would be coming on board as the new Assistant Planner starting on January 19, 2021. Ms. Perry is a brand-new planner right out of college. She will need some training, but should be a great fit.

Public Works Director Herb Amick reported that his crew continues to work on plowing from the recent storm event.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mr. Duane Goehner wanted to let the Council know that he appreciated the dialog during the study session and has talked with Ms. Vespier more this afternoon trying to understand about the storm water issue. He is still looking forward to having the basis of fact that the storm water was approved. Ultimately, the issue we have in the community is that storm water is properly functioning and it is not about occupancy. His biggest concern is property and environmental impacts of the storm water. As a member of the Residential Advisory Committee (RAC), snow berms were brought up, and they were thinking maybe Public Works could look at some tools to help them with the snow removal. Mr. Goehner also wanted to discuss with Andy his level of involvement with the Riverstone Ranch appeal. Should the friends of Leavenworth get their own legal council or should they offer the City some resources to help with the cause?

9. Presentation: Cascade School District Technology/Safety Levey Update

Dwight Remick from the Cascade School District gave a presentation on two levies that are coming up for renewal on the ballot this February. These levies are replacing current levies that will expire at the end of 2021. The school board has adopted resolutions for a 4-year levy for both an Educational and Programs Operations (EP&O) levy and a technology/safety levy. He stated that the overall cost of the levies will be lower than they were previously.

Councilmember Hessburg questioned what kind of outreach is the District doing? Mr. Remick said that the School District has a group doing outreach and they are trying to get onto every agenda for every meeting they can think of to talk about the levy.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

10. Action: Motion to Elect Mayor Pro Tempore

Councilmember Lundgren motioned to nominate and appoint Councilmember Hessburg as Mayor Pro Tempore. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Waters and passed unanimously.

11. Change order: AEG LLC/Phase II

City Administrator Ana Cortez-Steiner stated that the AEG Consulting Contract for the Phase II Environmental Assessment for Osborn School is running over budget by \$903.40; she requested the increase of this contract. There was a brief discussion about the project timing and whether there were any issues; no issues were identified.

Councilmember Strand motioned to approve an increase to the Associated Environmental Group, LLC Contract in the amount of \$903.40. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Waters and passed unanimously.

11a. Budget Increase of Attorney Fees for Riverstone Ranch Appeal

Mayor Florea reviewed the purpose for the increase in funding to continue the appeal process for the Riverstone Ranch. He stated that the increase is being requested by Andy Lane, legal counsel representing the City in this appeal. The City did not budget for the additional appeal process and there is currently around \$2,000 remaining in the original budget for Cairncross & Hempelmann. Council briefly discussed the logistics of the case thus far and a brief synopsis of the path forward.

Councilmember Bretz motioned to approve the budget amount increase for the services of Cairncross & Hempelmann by \$35,000, for a total potential expense of \$75,000. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hessburg and passed unanimously.

INFORMATION ITEMS FOR FUTURE CONSIDERATION

- 12. Mosquito Control Board Report
- 13. Mayor and Mayor Pro Tempore Committee Assignments – January 26, 2021
- 14. Joint Meeting with Planning Commission / 2021 Docket Acceptance – January 26, 2021

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Waters motioned to adjourn the January 12, 2021 meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 7:35 PM.

APPROVED



Carl J. Florea
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Finance Director / City Clerk