

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES
July 26, 2022

Mayor Florea called the July 26, 2022 Leavenworth City Council meeting to order at 6:32 PM. Mayor Florea started the meeting with a moment of silence in remembrance of Councilmember Carolyn Wilson. Councilmember Strand led the City Council in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Carl Florea, Sharon Waters, Clint Strand, Jason Lundgren, Anne Hessburg, Zeke Reister, and Marco Aurilio.

Staff Present: Chantell Steiner, Lilith Vespier, Tom Wachholder, Christie Voos and Andrea Fischer.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of July 12, 2022 Study Session Minutes
3. Approval of July 12, 2022 Regular Meeting Minutes
4. 2022 Claims \$474,548.10
5. Transportation Benefit District Mid-Year Funding Update and History
6. Proclamation 02-2022 Declaring July 30, 2022 as Captain Charles Frederick Leavenworth Day

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

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORT: CORPORAL MONIKA HAYNES, LIAISON OFFICER

Chelan County Sheriff Corporal Monika Haynes reported on the current Sheriff Report for the month of June 2022 and provided information on the calls for service that have taken place around the City of Leavenworth and nearby surrounding areas. She stated the numbers of incidents, citations, traffic accidents, alarm calls, and arrests for June 2022. They are having more patrols on the four way stops and speeding on Pine Street. They are also looking for modified exhausts and will be writing citations for those.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Margaret Neighbors – She expressed her condolences for the passing of Councilmember Wilson. She was receiving the proclamation for Captain Charles Leavenworth Day for the Leavenworth Museum.

Kim Tobiason – She is asking that the Mayor do more research on who he will appoint to the open Planning Commission seat.

PUBLIC HEARING: ORDINANCE 1589 – DEVELOPMENT STANDARDS – TABLED FROM JUNE 11, 2019 @ 6:30 PM

Mayor Florea opened the public hearing at 6:44 PM.

Development Services Manager Lilith Vespier stated this ordinance was tabled back in 2019; however, the Planning Commission was working through mandatory amendments and was not able to get back to this item before the Housing Action Plan grant was obtained. It was determined to hold the work for the completion of the Housing Action Plan then COVID extended that timeline. The purpose of this ordinance is to streamline development by putting all the standards in one chapter. They also looked at residential height, which reduces the height by five feet up to 30 feet. There was discussion amongst the Council members clarifying height calculations.

Linda Colasurdo 10265 Ski Hill Drive – She asked Manager Vespier to include specifics to the graphic in the packet, as she finds it confusing.

Kim Tobiason 12380 Village View Drive – She asked for clarification on what are the ramifications of building over the height limit and are there administrative deviations that allow people to build over the allotted height requirement. She also asked how the height of the Adventure Park was calculated. Manager Vespier addressed the Adventure Park, where there was not height issue as the coaster is not a structure with a roof. These height requirements are made specifically for residential as commercial has different standards. She noted that developments are reviewed when built by the building inspection process to avoid violations.

Hearing no additional comments, Mayor Florea closed the public hearing at 7:12 PM.

PUBLIC HEARING: DESIGN REVIEW PORTFOLIO – OPTIONS FOR ADMINISTRATIVE APPROVAL @ 6:30 PM

Mayor Florea opened the public hearing at 7:12 PM.

Manager Vespier stated this Administrative Approval portfolio is a way to streamline the permitting process for outdoor seating areas, fencing, umbrellas and liquor control barriers. This has passed through the Design Review Board as well as the Planning Commission prior to being brought before the Council. There was discussion amongst the Council members on the types of approvals that will be considered administratively.

Hearing no additional comments, Mayor Florea closed the public hearing at 7:15 PM.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

7. Ordinance 1589 – Development Standards

Councilmember Lundgren motioned to untable Ordinance 1589 Development Standards. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Aurilio and passed by a vote of 5 to 1 with Councilmember Waters opposed.

Councilmember Waters noted that she is not certain she understands all of the changes that were suggested in the public hearing, hence her opposition; discussion ensued to clarify the final recommended changes by the Council for staff to incorporate.

Councilmember Hessburg motioned to adopt Ordinance 1589 Development Standards as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

8. Ordinance 1659 – Design Review Board Portfolio – Options for Administrative Approval

Councilmember Hessburg motioned to adopt Ordinance 1659 Design Review Portfolio – Options for Administrative Approval. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lundgren and passed unanimously.

9. Koff & Associates Salary Survey Acceptance

Mayor Florea stated that the Koff & Associates Salary Survey for Base Compensation Review, Results, and Recommendations needs to be approved in order to proceed with adoption of the new pay scales for non-represented employees.

Teamster Union Representative Paul Parmley spoke to the Council regarding this salary survey and would like to see this happen for the union employees as well. He provided the Council with some information related to the comparison's utilized for the bargaining unit in the recent negotiations and that he would like to see a similar study done for all positions of the City. Mayor Florea confirmed that the design of the new pay scale is to allow for inclusion of both represented and non-represented employees in the future. Councilmembers commented on the need to look at all positions of the City on an equitable basis and supported the need to consider the analysis for all positions.

Councilmember Lundgren motioned to approve and accept the Koff & Associates Base Compensation Review / Salary Survey for non-represented employees. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

10. Ordinance 1660 – Salary Schedule

Kim Tobiason asked for clarification on how the salaries were arrived at; especially using bigger cities for a comparable. Mayor Florea clarified that the larger cities did utilize a range of salaries to identify a median rate for those agencies.

Councilmember Lundgren motioned to adopt Ordinance 1660 approving the Salary Schedule for the City with rates being retroactive to January 1, 2022. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

11. Highway 2 & Chumstick Mural Consideration

Manager Vespier stated that the option for a community mural at Highway 2 and Chumstick, along the existing wall was requested from the Healthy Communities group as a way to showcase local art, history and diversity of our town. The existing wall is regulated by the Washington State Department of Transportation (WSDOT) who would review and approve any art work. Cascade School District Superintendent Dr. Tracey Beckendorf-Edou commented that this opportunity is a way to value local partnerships and beautify a section of the highway. Councilmember Waters was concerned about graffiti destroying the mural, but it has been shown that graffiti doesn't seem to occur on mural walls. The Council was very supportive of this idea.

COUNCILMEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember Waters attended a parade in Olympia representing Leavenworth and will head to the Sea Fair Torchlight Parade in Seattle. She had a tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and found it interesting to see how much things have changed after the construction. She attended the Chelan-Douglas Health Board, the Mosquito District Board, the Leavenworth Area Promotion (LAP) meeting, Downtown Steering Committee meeting and the Housing Committee meeting. She made a tribute to Councilmember Wilson.

Councilmember Strand attended the Downtown Steering Committee where the MxM group who is looking at the Front Street Closure gave an update. They will also be at the City Block Party in August. New banners are here and they spoke about the graffiti issues around town.

Councilmember Lundgren attended the Public Safety Committee meeting where Jay from Pacific Security reported that they are expanding their patrol hours on the weekends and reported on parking violations. He reminded folks of the need to be safe on the river and to use personal floatation devices.

Councilmember Hessburg reported on the Finance Committee meeting. Parking is up while tax related revenues are fairly flat. She reported on the Link Transit meeting and the Icicle Road Roundabout which the City has discussed agreement to pay half of the engineering costs for. They are also unveiling the new wraps on the buses and the first one will be in October with Miss Veedol on it.

Councilmember Reister attended the tour of the Wastewater Treatment Plant and the Downtown Steering Committee Meeting. He also attended the Housing Committee Meeting where postcards have been sent out to let people know about the pre-approved Accessory Dwelling Unit plans. The Chelan County Housing Authority came to speak regarding the Bavarian Village remodel and will be approaching the Council for financial help. He also attended the Finance Committee meeting.

Councilmember Aurilio reported he toured the Wastewater Treatment Plant which he found interesting and the need to consider capacity in the future. He also attended the Chumstick tennis tournament. It wasn't well advertised, but was really busy. He helped with a swift water rescue for a kayaker that had drowned back in June. He noted that the Upper Valley Park & Recreation Service Area Board (PRSA) is looking at options for uses for the remainder of this year.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Carl Florea provided a clarification on the potential to assist in half of the cost of the engineering for the Icicle Road Roundabout. He stated that he was asked to be a part of the AWC Stakeholder Committee on housing issues. He proposed the idea to skip the second Council Meeting in August as there are no pressing items for consideration and the block party will be that week also.

Communication Analyst Christie Voos reported on Parking; they are patrolling for RV's camping where they aren't supposed to be. In Communications, she is working on coordinating the different agencies for meetings to work as a group for river safety. We are putting up signs and the Lifejacket station is fully functional. She is working on a brochure to help promote river safety.

Finance Director / City Clerk Chantell Steiner commented that the Mayor's Breakfast is coming up. The Audit exit conference will be a part of the September Study Session. The budget has been delayed and will be getting started in September. She has been working on the Clear Gov budget software, and making it live after the budget is completed. She announced that Andrea Fischer is the new City Clerk as of August 1, 2022. She will be working with the Union to fill the vacancy that Ms. Fischer left behind.

Manager Vespier reported they have been busy with code enforcement. We had a sign workshop a few weeks ago, so the Development Services team is walking Downtown and educating shop owners about signs that are not up to code standards. We have been short a building official as Mr. Spawn is out sick. Building Code/Inspector Kristian Winston has been stepping up and doing a great job filling in. She offered a tribute to Councilmember Wilson.

Public Works Director Tom Wachholder reported that Waste Management will implement their annual 3.25% price increase on October 1 that will affect our residential customers. Gray and Osborn has been selected to do the Water Treatment Plant update, and will provide a contract at the next council meeting. We have two open positions in Public Works Utility Maintenance that the team is working overtime to fill the void as well as one vacancy for a 7-month seasonal position in Parks. We are also looking for a Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Manager and will have interviews soon. He noted recent issues in staffing related to COVID and provided an update on the recent pool closure due to fecal matter. He noted that east Pine Street will be striped to hinder speeding. He shared a comment of Councilmember Wilson and her support of Public Works and how appreciated that was.

INFORMATION ITEMS & FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

12. Housing Committee Agenda Items
13. Public Safety Committee Agenda Items
14. Finance Committee Agenda Items
15. June Planning Commission Minutes

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Waters motioned to adjourn the July 26, 2022 meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lundgren and passed unanimously.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM.

APPROVED



Carl Florea
Mayor

ATTEST



Chantell Steiner
Finance Director / City Clerk