

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 10, 2024

Mayor Carl J. Florea called the December 10, 2024 Leavenworth City Council meeting to order at 7:03 PM. Councilmember Strand led the City Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Mayor Carl J. Florea, Sharon Waters, Clint Strand, Anne Hessburg, Zeke Reister, Shane Thayer, Travis McMaster and Mike Bedard.

Staff Present: Matthew "Selby", Chantell Steiner, Maggie Boles, Andi Zontek-Backstrum and Andrea Fischer.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Consent Agenda

1. Approval of Agenda
2. Approval of November 23, 2024 Council Fall Retreat Minutes
3. Approval of November 26, 2024 Study Session and Regular Meeting Minutes
4. 2024 Claims \$746,502.85
5. November 2024 Payroll \$407,108.62
6. Master Services Agreement – ChargePoint – Charging Station in Glacier Parking Lot
7. Cancel December 24, 2024 Study Session and Regular Council Meeting

The agenda was amended to add Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) Property Selection or Site Acquisition for 10 minutes with no action to follow and Closed Meeting: RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for planning or adopting strategy related to collective bargaining as part of such negotiations for 20 minutes with possible action to follow.

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

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

None.

8. Public Hearing – Local Project Review Act on December 10, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

Mayor Florea opened the public hearing at 7:05 PM.

Community Development Director Maggie Boles stated these are changes that were brought about by SB 5290, which amended the Local Project Review Act, RCW Chapter 36.70B, with the intent to increase the timeliness and predictability of local project review. Amendments to Chapter 36.70B are several and include updated local permit review timelines, clarifications regarding the determination of completeness process, a new exemption from site plan review for certain interior projects that contain no exterior

alterations, updated annual reporting requirements related to permit issuance. She went over the specific changes in the timelines that are being mandated.

Hearing no additional comments, Mayor Florea closed the public hearing at 7:11 PM.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS AND OTHER BUSINESS

9. Ordinance 1704 – Adoption of the 2025-2026 Budget

Councilmember Hessburg moved to adopt Ordinance 1704 – 2025-2026 Biennial Budget. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

10. Ordinance 1705 – Local Project Review Act

Councilmember Thayer moved to adopt Ordinance 1705 – Amendments to LMC Titles 21.07 and 21.09 in response to Local Project Review Act. The motion was seconded by Councilmember McMaster and passed unanimously.

11. On-Call Transportation Engineering – Ardurra Group – Task Authorization No. 5 – Blackbird Island Pedestrian Bridge Evaluation and Recommendations

Councilmember Waters moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute Task Authorization No. 5 with Ardurra Group for the Blackbird Island Pedestrian Bridge Evaluation and Recommendations project with a not to exceed amount of \$41,100. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hessburg and passed unanimously.

12. Amendment No. 1 – Bigbelly Connect Services Agreement – 10 Additional Units

Councilmember Bedard moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to execute Amendment No. 1 to the Connect Services Agreement between the City of Leavenworth and Bigbelly Solar, LLC for leasing an additional 10 garbage bins with a monthly cost of \$1,489.12 and a one-time shipping fee of \$3,247.14. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

13. Professional Services Agreement – The Local Event Co. – Festhalle Management Services for 2025

Councilmember McMaster moved to approve and authorize the Mayor to sign the Professional Services Agreement with The Local Event Co., LLC for a monthly flat rate of \$4,200 through 2025. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hessburg and passed unanimously.

14. Discussion – Partnership Agreement – Leavenworth Summer Theatre 2025

The Leavenworth Summer Theater has lost their venue at the Fish Hatchery and is using the Festhalle as a replacement venue. With the change of venue, it is creating a significant increase to their budget which is why they are requesting the partnership agreement. The

Council reviewed the potential partnership agreement with the Leavenworth Summer Theatre to pay for their room rental fees while performing at the Festhalle.

After discussion, the Council decided not to move forward with a partnership agreement with the Leavenworth Summer Theatre.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Waters stated that walking at the Festhalle is coming back on January 6, 2025 from 7:30-9:00 AM.

Councilmember Strand attended the Festival of Lights after action meeting.

Councilmember Hessburg had no report.

Councilmember Reister sat down with Public Works Director Andi Zontek-Backstrum to discuss water issues.

Councilmember Thayer had no report.

Councilmember McMaster had no report.

Councilmember Bedard attended the Chelan County Solid Waste Council meeting.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATION REPORTS

Mayor Florea will attend the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Board Meeting and participated in Governor-elect Ferguson transition team to discuss housing in Olympia.

City Administrator Selby reported that the collective bargaining with the Teamsters Union is completed. He has acquired a contract for an asbestos remediation grant from the Department of Commerce for the Osborn property. He is still waiting to hear from Housing and Urban Development (HUD) on whether the technical correction the City requested will be accepted to put the entire \$941,000 grant toward the Osborn project.

City Hall is going to be remodeling the office space with cubicles with higher walls and doors to offer more privacy and to fit more staff. The parking department will be moving to the car wash building soon, which will free up space for public works staff to move, which will free up some space in City Hall.

The Golf Club contract negotiations are still underway, but the biggest issue is rent.

The City attorney is working diligently to settle with Becki Subido on the sewer easement. There has been email communication, and we are trying to not have to file the condemnation lawsuit.

The City debuted new barricades with directional information so visitors will know there are more shops down 9th Street.

There have been some tweaks with the traffic flow during Village of Lights: Christmastown. They are allowing left turns onto the Chumstick Highway with flaggers and using portable changeable message signs encouraging travelers to stay on Highway 2, rather than going on North Road. The Department of Transportation has issued a contingency plan to route traffic through the neighborhood and back to the Chumstick if it gets too backed up.

Finance Director Chantell Steiner stated the monthly finance report was emailed to the Council. The management team is working diligently on ClearGov and will be going live with the 2025-2026 budget on December 23, 2024.

Community Development Director Maggie Boles reported the Planning Commission (PC) is looking into the codes for manufactured housing and tiny homes. The PC is moving their monthly meeting from January 1, 2025 to January 8, 2025 at 7:00 PM. There are currently 3 Conditional Use Permit applications going through the approval process and a Binding Site Plan for four units on Stafford Street with the comment period to end this week. They will be using the Condominium code that was recently passed. The County will be adopting our code changes next week but is looking to adopt a change that was meant to help put Accessory Dwelling Units (ADU) in the Urban Growth Area (UGA). There is some confusion about it, and Director Boles will write a letter to the County Commissioners to ask them not to adopt the utility portion of our code.

She met with BHC Consultants to discuss the housing needs assessment and the land capacity analysis for the Comprehensive Plan update that is coming. They are a great team and will do a great job for the City.

Public Works Director Andi Zontek-Backstrum reported the Glacier Parking Lot restroom is opening on Friday, December 13, 2024 for use. The Front Street restroom project is progressing nicely.

She has brought back the Public Works Department monthly report, and it is in the packet and asked if there are any questions.

The Public Works leadership team is working on the 2025 strategic plan.

She is preparing for the utility rate study conversation at the special meeting on December 17, 2024.

INFORMATION ITEMS & FUTURE CONSIDERATIONS

15. November 2024 Public Works Department Report

Executive Session: RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) Property Selection or Site Acquisition for 10 minutes with no action to follow.

Councilmember Waters moved to recess into executive session for 10 minutes under RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) for property selection site or acquisition with no action to be taken. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

The Executive Session commenced at 8:15 PM and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:25 PM.

Closed Meeting: RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) Planning or Adopting Strategy Related to Collective Bargaining as part of such Negotiations for 20 minutes with possible action to follow.

Councilmember Thayer moved to recess into executive session for 20 minutes under RCW 42.30.140(4)(b) for planning or adopting strategy related to collective bargaining as part of such negotiations with possible action to follow. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Reister and passed unanimously.

The Executive Session commenced at 8:26 PM and the regular meeting reconvened at 8:46 PM.

Councilmember Bedard moved to ratify the collective bargaining agreement between the City of Leavenworth and Teamsters Local Union #760 as presented. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Hessburg and passed unanimously.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Reister moved to adjourn the December 10, 2024 meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Waters and passed unanimously.


The meeting was adjourned at 8:47 PM.

APPROVED



Carl J. Florea
Mayor

ATTEST



Andrea Fischer
City Clerk