

City of Cosmopolis
Regular Council Meeting
May 15th, 2013

Mayor Vickie L. Raines presided.

Councilmembers Present: Frank Chestnut, Jonathan Fischer, Carl Sperring, Jim Ancich and Debbi Moran

Staff Present: Finance Director Kathy Welch, Fire Chief Al Burrows, Police Chief Casey Stratton, Attorney Steve Hyde, and Public Works Director Darrin Raines

Mayor Raines opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m.

It was moved by Debbi Moran and seconded by Frank Chestnut to approve the agenda with the addition under new Business item B. to add confirmation of Kyle Pauley to Board of Adjustment. Motion carried.

It was moved by Carl Sperring and seconded by Debbi Moran to approve the consent agenda consisting of Claims Vouchers #18744 – 18825 in the amount of \$91,576.67 and the minutes of the April 17, 2013 meeting with a correction; Karen Cox was not in attendance. Her resignation was effective in March and Mayor Raines made the announcement for Greater Grays Harbor “State of the Harbor breakfast”.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Parks – Debbi Moran reported that the Park Committee met April 23. The Festival will not be held until the Dam at Mill Creek Park is repaired or removed and the Park fixed up. They will be discussing bringing back the World City Picnic at the next meeting. They are scheduled to meet the last Tuesday of every month. The City clean-up is scheduled for May 18th. The Committee would like to see if it is possible to get a banner that could be placed on the Lion’s Park fence announcing these events. Debbi and Linda Springer, Park Committee members, attended the Planning Commission meeting. The Planning Commission approved the Comprehensive Park Plan Update and forwarded it on to Council for their review and approval. The Committee was pleased to see some of their suggestions included in the update. The Young Mother’s Group needs to come to City Council for approval to raise funds on City’s behalf. Mayor Raines said that she heard they would like to see a water park at the Franklin Park. There are a lot of issues that would need to be addressed for something like this to happen; parking, traffic, etc. Mayor Raines credited the group for their ambition to work towards such a project. The attorney also mentioned that there would be some major liability concerns for such an addition.

Public Safety – Carl Sperring and Jonathan Fischer met with the Police to discuss a training vehicle program for the police department. Darrin and Chief Stratton, in conjunction with Sherry Patterson Cosmopolis School, submitted a grant for “walk safe to school”.

Council of Governments – Frank reported that they upgraded their Public Disclosure Policy that will now require any request for public records to be submitted in writing; cannot be via E-Mail. Some committee members and staff expressed concern about members who are not fully up to date on their dues retaining full voting rights. Presently a member not in good standing has a one year grace period. Some of the members, due to budget constraints have paid only a portion of their dues. The concern is that the funding mechanism could dry up if this continues. This has been referred back to staff for further review and suggestions.

Greater Grays Harbor – Mayor Raines, Public Works Director Raines and Councilman Jonathan Fischer attended the State of Grays Harbor breakfast. Governor Inslee spoke about how he appreciates the Harbor and this area; he was positive in his remarks.

Legislative – Carl Sperring said the legislature is back in special session. They are looking at restoring Liquor excise funding for Cities. They are discussing DUIs. Governor Inslee’s priorities are education budget, transportation budget and a balanced budget.

Call to order

Approval of agenda

Consent agenda

Committee Reports

CITY OFFICIALS

Police – Chief Stratton said that they are still having a hard time getting ammo. Chief Stratton also said that he brought Councilman Fischer up to date on the car videos. Casey is currently working on getting viable quotes. Chief Stratton said that Officer Tarnowski would like to purchase 4 training mats and a full force suit for tactical defense training. He is currently using old mats at the school that are not adequate. Mayor Raines asked how often this equipment would be used. Casey said about five times a year. Officer Layman submitted a grant application for infrared equipment to assist the officers at night. They would be able to use this at night on the trails.

Fire Chief – Chief Burrows said they are doing hose and ladder testing. They received an EMS grant for \$1200 that will be used for medical supplies. They have had 54 calls to date. Chief Burrows and the department wanted to thank Mayor Raines and Council for approving the additional funding to bring most of the turnout gear up to date. Mayor Raines said that she would like to see a 10-year replacement program put in place so that we can buy a couple of sets a year and always be in compliance.

Public Works – Public Works Director Raines said that he would like permission to hire two summer workers to help clean up the playground equipment, paint hydrants and do the mowing and weeding. They would be paid \$10 and \$12 per hour, depending on their experience and ability to work independently. On duly carried motion by Carl Sperring and seconded by Debbi Moran, Public Works Director Raines is authorized to hire two summer crew. Darrin met with HDR last Friday to discuss the dam regarding the dam and related issues; funding, design and to evaluate the effectiveness of replacing or removing it. The current FEMA map is designed with the dam being used as a tool to help control flood waters. We would need to address the impact on the homes along the floodway if the dam were to be removed. A poll of our citizens showed that 60% of those responding would like to see the dam put back and the recreation area restored. The dike was also calculated with the dam's retention being a consideration in controlling runoff. Darrin calculates that it would take one year to do preliminary permitting, planning and engineering. Darrin reminded everyone that we are having a City Clean up volunteer day this Saturday. Everyone is to meet at 9:00 am at the Fire Hall. We will have a barbecue after the work party. Mayor Raines asked to be excused as she will be out of town.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Raines read a proclamation declaring Buddy Poppy Days May 23rd, 24th and 25th. Mayor Raines announced that we received a proclamation from Hoquiam Mayor Jack Durney and a letter from Hoquiam Police Chief Jeff Myers recognizing our police department's assistance regarding the response to their officer involved shooting on March 27th. Deputy Chief Layman and Officer Tarnowski were both recognized for their assistance. Mayor Raines said that the Mayor's group received a response back from the JC Penney Corp in regards to the letter sent asking JC Penney to reconsider and keep the South Aberdeen Store open. They will still be closing the store. The Mall is working on a comprehensive restructuring plan and hope to within five years have a full mall. John Barclay, Cosmo IT, has expressed interest in assisting the City with updating our network system. He will be submitting a proposal for his services. Updating our network would allow staff and Mayor and Council to access certain documents from a central server where they could retrieve it and print it out. We are looking at installing a network shared device. We have two computers that still are running Windows XP which causes some problems with our software operation. We would update these two computers to Windows 7.

NEW BUSINESS**A. – Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Stanna Cummings and Kyle Pauley to the Park Advisory Committee**

On duly carried motion by Frank Chestnut and seconded by Debbi Moran appointments to the Park Advisory Committee are approved.

B. – Confirm the Mayor's appointment of Valeria Husted and Kyle Pauley to the Board of Adjustment

On duly carried motion by Jim Ancich and seconded by Frank Chestnut the appointments to the Board of Adjustment are approved.

C. – Ordinance No. 1274 – 2013 Budget Amendment

Attorney Hyde read Ordinance No. 1274 in its entirety and on duly carried motion by Frank Chestnut and seconded by Debbi Moran, Ordinance No. 1274 was approved.

COUNCIL COMMENTS

Councilmember Jim Ancich asked when the trees on First Street are going to be removed. Darrin said some time this summer.

Finance Director

Attest:

Mayor

