

**GRANDVIEW CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING MINUTES
DECEMBER 3, 2007**

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Norm Childress called the regular meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. in the Council Chambers at City Hall.

Present were: Mayor Childress and Councilmembers Bill Flory, Pam Horner, Jan McDonald, Robert Morales, Javier Rodriguez and Joan Souders.

Staff present were: City Administrator Scott Staples, City Attorney Jack Maxwell, City Treasurer John Myers, Police Chief David Charvet and City Clerk Anita Palacios.

2. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Kendall Roberson, student of the month at Harriet Thompson Elementary School, led the pledge of allegiance.

3. PUBLIC COMMENT

Mary Barrett, 301 Douglas, Grandview, thanked the City for purchasing new Christmas decorations.

Walt Bratton, 1304 West Fifth Street, Grandview, expressed concern with the costs that the City pays for medical and life insurance for City employees, the salary increases for the three non-union positions proposed in the budget, staffing levels at the Police Department, and that the Council would approve councilmatic bonds to construct a new aquatic facility.

Larry Bolan, P.O. Box 664, Grandview, provided statistics from L&I regarding confined spaces and indicated that he still had concerns with the purchase of the sewer Camel truck in the amount of \$280,000 with no statistical justification. He also expressed concern with the Capital Facilities Element and the lack of public input.

Richard Cassidy, County Line Road, Grandview, expressed the importance for the purchase of the sewer Camel truck to protect the safety of the employees in confirmed spaces. He recommended Mr. Bolan attend study sessions in order to be more informed of the issues.

4. CONSENT AGENDA

On motion by Councilmember Horner, second by Councilmember McDonald, Council unanimously approved the Consent Agenda consisting of the following:

- A. Minutes of the November 19, 2007 study session
- B. Minutes of the November 19, 2007 regular meeting
- C. 2007 Claim Warrant Nos. 80395-80466 in the amount of \$55,323.40
- D. Payroll Warrant approval for November 30, 2007
- E. Resolution No. 2007-33; Accepted the bid and authorized the Grandview Herald as the official newspaper for the year 2008
- F. Ordinance No. 2007-23; Authorized the payment of claims and payroll by check pursuant to RCW 35A.40.020

5. ACTIVE AGENDA

A. Resolution No. 2007-35

- Authorized the Mayor to sign the 2008-2009 Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with Yakima County

Police Chief Charvet explained that the Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with the Yakima County Department of Corrections allows for the housing of each others prisoners. The Department of Corrections would bill the City for each day one of our prisoners was held in their facility, as well as the City would bill the Department of Corrections for inmates that the City holds for them through bookings from the Yakima County Sheriff Department and Washington State Patrol. Past history had shown that the City had not housed many long-term inmates in the County jail on local charges. Notable changes in the new contract included a two year agreement for 2008 and 2009 and the daily housing rate increased from \$65.43 to \$71.25.

On motion by Councilmember McDonald, second by Councilmember Flory, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-35 authorizing the Mayor to sign the 2008-2009 Interlocal Corrections/Detention Agreement with Yakima County.

B. Resolution No. 2007-34

- Authorized the purchase of real estate at 134 Division Street

City Administrator Staples explained that it had come to the City's attention that the property located at 134 Division Street, between Mahoney & Sons and the VFW, might be available for purchase. He explained that the City's interest in acquiring the property would be to provide an accessible pathway to and from Division Street and the City's public parking lot on Avenue A. The purchase of this property would assist in the implementation of the City's downtown revitalization plan. He stated that the property owner has agreed to sell the property to the City for \$14,000 plus closing costs which was a reasonable price based upon the current assessed value.

On motion by Councilmember Souders, second by Councilmember Horner, Council unanimously approved Resolution No. 2007-34 authorizing the purchase of real estate at 134 Division Street.

C. Ordinance No. 2007-24

- Amended the 2007 Annual Budget

City Treasurer Myers explained that during the course of the year, there were numerous budget accounts identified to be amended. He presented the budget changes by fund as follows:

CURRENT EXPENSE: Increase revenues: FEMA Grant, Sale of Property.

Decrease revenues: Natural Gas Utility Taxes, Building Permits and Plan Checking Fees.

Increase Expenditures: Legislative – Professional Services, Court - Professional Services, Police Patrol Wages, Police Community Programs - Wages, Police Communications - Wages and Benefits, Fire Facilities - Exhaust System, Animal Control - Animal Shelter Planning and Design, Library - Remodel Project, Parks Maintenance - Wages and Operating Supplies.

Decrease Expenditures: General Management – Wages and Benefits, Human Resources – Wages & Benefits and Professional Services, Inspection & Permits – Wages & Benefits

E.M.S. FUND: Increase in Property Tax estimate and receipt of Dept. of Health EMS Grant.

CEMETERY: Increase estimates for Cemetery Service fees. Increase appropriations for Wages, Benefits and other operating costs.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENTS: Increase in estimated Real Estate Excise Taxes received and ending fund balance.

WATER/SEWER: Increase in estimated State Revolving Fund Drinking Water Loan proceeds. Increase appropriations for the maintenance and repainting of the Water Tower, Willoughby well, WWTP wages and benefits and Public Utilities at the WWTP. Reduction of the ending fund balance.

IRRIGATION: Decrease estimate of Interest Income. Increase appropriations for Wages and Public Utility Services.

SOLID WASTE: Decrease estimate of Interest Income. Increase appropriations for Wages and Operating Rentals.

EQUIPMENT RENTAL: Increase in Service Fees estimate. Decrease estimated Investment Interest. Increased appropriation for Repairs and Maintenance.

On motion by Councilmember Morales, second by Councilmember Flory, Council unanimously approved Ordinance No. 2007-24 amending the 2007 annual budget.

6. COUNCILMEMBER MEETING REPORTS

Councilmember Open House/Reception – An open house/reception honoring Councilmembers Bill Flory and Harv Rodriguez will be held on Thursday, December 13th from 4-6 p.m. at City Hall.

Open House for Sunnyside Mayor Pruluick – An open house/reception honoring Sunnyside Mayor Ed Pruluick will be held on Monday, December 10th from 5-7 p.m. at the Sunnyside Community Center.

Legislative Priorities – Mayor Childress attended a meeting of the Association of Washington Cities to develop legislative priorities. One of the high priorities was to pass legislation regarding the costs of medical expenses for indigent inmates.

Council Retreat – The Council retreat took place today and would continue tomorrow for Council and the management team would meet together on Wednesday.

7. CONTINUED BUDGET DISCUSSIONS

On motion by Councilmember Souders, second by Councilmember McDonald, Council unanimously approved Alternative C, which included reducing expenses by \$80,000 by not funding depreciation in 2008, reducing expenses by \$40,000 by changing staffing at the library, increasing the water utility tax from 17.5% to 24.2%, leaving the sewer utility tax at 6%, and increasing the solid waste utility tax from 17.5% to 40%.

8. UNFINISHED AND NEW BUSINESS – None

9. ADJOURNMENT

On motion by Councilmember McDonald, second by Councilmember Souders, Council unanimously adjourned the regular meeting at 8:50 p.m.

Mayor Norm Childress

Anita Palacios, City Clerk