

**City of Medical Lake**  
**Regular Council Meeting**  
S. 124 Lefevre Street, 6:30 P.M.  
March 20, 2012

Mayor Higgins called the regular meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

**Council present:**      A. J. Burton                      Shirley Maike                      Howard Jorgenson  
   Jeff King                              Laura Parsons

**Council Absent:**      Art Kulibert and Brenda Redell

Councilmember King made a motion, seconded by Maike to excuse Councilmember's Kulibert and Redell from this council meeting. Council polled; all ayes.

**Staff present:**              Doug Ross                              Cindy McMullen

**Others present:**      Cheney Free Press reporter James Eik, Sheriff Deputy Bratton and 14 citizens.

**ADDITIONS/DELETIONS TO AGENDA:**

None.

**MINUTES:**

Councilmember Maike made a motion, seconded by King to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes for March 6, 2012. Council polled; all ayes.

**INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:**

Tyler Preeo, 403 N. Silver Lake Avenue, ML

Brandon Boeoy, 4006 N. Howard Street, ML

Both individuals, primarily Preeo discussed the Skate Park and Community Center. The following information was discussed:

- School petition signed by 102 individuals in favor of reopening the Skate Park - 3 days per week and establishing a Community Center
- Of the 102 signatures, 93 support both items
- Preeo stated that students were working on a plan (which will include an adult, Mr. Carver) for monitoring the Skate Park after school. Carver is only available 3 days per week to help, so the monitoring plan will be prepared with that in mind

There was much discussion by Mayor, council and staff. Mayor Higgins did explain to Mr. Preeo and Boeoy that the City would not be involved in setting up a Community Center, although they would support one. Council and staff discussed the monitoring situation as well as some of the issues that would be encountered in the cleanup of the skate park and restroom. Council asked if the kids would support a permanent ban for someone caught vandalizing the park or breaking the rules. They seemed to think that would be fair. Mayor Higgins asked the boys to set up a meeting with Mr. Carver, the Mayor and the kids heading up this proposal for reopening of the skate park and the monitoring plan. Whatever is developed will have to come back to be reviewed by the

Parks and Recreation Committee. Administrator Ross also reminded council that the city is bound by some rules set by the courts from the skate park lawsuit. There was also a question on what the schedule the park would have in the summer time. Sheriff Deputy Bratton also addressed council and had suggestions that council and staff may want to look into. Apparently Liberty Lake has had similar issues with their skate park and they installed video cameras which have helped deter some vandalism and other crimes. He also noted that whoever is monitoring the skate park should not attempt to enforce any rules or laws. If there is an offender, the Sheriff's office should be called to handle the problem. Administrator Ross stated that the city had looked into installing video cameras last year. They are very expensive and there would not be enough city funds to put cameras in all city parks. It was suggested that Ross contact Liberty Lake and get more information from them pertaining to this topic. Councilmember Jorgenson also asked that the city judge be made aware of the seriousness of the violation in the park and seek meaningful penalties. Attorney McMullen reminded the council that many of the violators are juveniles and that we have no real input in the Juvenile Court, but that court seriously pursues cases that are filed in our municipal court. After discussions, Mayor and Council thanked the students for all their hard work and commitment and stated that they want to support their efforts and would like their plan to be successful. Contact information will be given to them to find out more about available building for a community center.

#### **MAYORS REPORT**

#### **PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITION:**

None.

#### **APPOINTMENTS/RESIGNATIONS:**

None.

#### **MEETINGS AND OTHER INFORMATION:**

None.

#### **STAFF REPORT:**

None.

#### **FINANCE:**

None.

#### **PLANNING REPORT:**

Administrator Ross gave council an update on the JLUS issue. There will be information coming to council at the next regular council meeting pertaining to this issue. A full staff report with information from the outcome of the Planning Commission Public Hearing which will be held on March 30, 2012. Mayor Higgins and Administrator Ross are trying to set up a meeting with the FAFB Commander to discuss exactly what the base needs from Medical Lake. We would like to be able to maintain the current UGA. There has recently been a lot of opposition to the proposed new casino in Airway Heights which has come up at public meetings on the subject. Councilmember Burton commented that at the last JLUS committee meeting, County Commissioner Richards stated that the county will not let Medical Lake annex its current UGA if it is R-1. Administrator Ross reminded council that per current City ordinance, all property is R-1 when annexed. Councilmember Parsons commented that it is her personal opinion that there are problems with infringement on FAFB but we should be able to work it out. The bottom line is that FAFB is more important than Medical Lake boundaries. Councilmember King questioned the decibel levels set for MIA 3 and 4. There was some discussion. Councilmember Maike asked what the next steps are in this process. Administrator Ross stated that our Planning Commission will hold a public hearing on JLUS the 29<sup>th</sup> March. The overall deadline for this issue is April 14 and we'll need a decision

from council on whether to approve what the JLUS Committee has prepared as guidelines and decide what will be included in our comp plan.

**PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Non-Discrimination in Community Athletics Programs Policy

The Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) has asked that all of its member cities approve a policy prohibiting discrimination against any person on the basis of gender in the operation, conduct or administration of community athletic programs or sports. There is a legal requirement to have this policy and WCIA has drafted the version before council tonight. This will not mean that every program, whether offered by the City or put on in City facilities by private parties, will have to be co-ed, just that the same rules and opportunity must be applied to offerings for both males and females. After council discussion, Councilmember Jorgenson made a motion, seconded by Burton to approve the Non-Discrimination in Community Athletics Programs Policy. Council polled; all ayes. Administrator Ross explained that this policy will be an attachment to the cities special events permit application and/or facilities use permit application.

**PUBLIC WORKS/RECYCLING COMMITTEE REPORT:**

Councilmember Jorgenson asked Administrator Ross to report on what he has found out from Spokane County regarding chip sealing City streets. Ross explained that he had spoken with Howard Hanby at Spokane County. Originally, the county had told the city it did not have time to do any city streets, but now the supervisor has said they don't want to close that door. The City and County will probably enter into a general contract (not project specific) that will allow for this work to be done if the county ends up with available time. The county has estimated that the cost to do 1.1 to 1.3 miles of street, 22 feet wide, is approximately \$100,000. This equates to about 14 city blocks. The next step will be to identify the blocks most seriously in need of work. The treatment is an asphalt smear, topped with a gravel emulsion which a vehicle rolls down and is then sealed. Administrator Ross is more comfortable with this process than the regular chip sealing. This is only a temporary fix that will last 8 to 10 years. There was council discussion and it was noted that the arterial streets look good because there is grant money available to keep them up. There is not any grant money attainable for other streets not considered arterial.

Councilmember Parsons asked what work was being done at the compost trailer site. Ross explained that the work was being done on the actual pit the trailer sits in. Ecology blocks are being installed and once complete Barr Tec will be bringing the compost trailer. Hopefully the site will be open for public use next week.

Administrator Ross reported that the city is checking with Spokane County Sign Shop to see if we can get some road restriction (seasonal weight limits) signs. If the county does not have any we will get National Barricade to make some. This is in reference to our ordinance pertaining to weight limits on certain city streets. Also, Ross explained that the city has had a lawsuit filed against them. This is because we had a claim from a sewer backup. The claim was turned over to WCIA (as all claims are). WCIA investigated the claim and denied it, the homeowners insurance then had to pay the claim and turned around and filed this suit against the city. Information has been turned over to WCIA.

**PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT:**

None.

**MEMBERS REPORTS:**

Councilmember Jorgenson asked staff to have Liberty Lake tell us about their park surveillance system.

**CONSENT AGENDA:**

Approval of Claims and Payroll

None.

**OLD BUSINESS:**

**DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:**

None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

None.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

Mayor Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:20 pm.

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Mayor Higgins

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City Clerk / Finance Director