

City of Medical Lake
Regular Council Meeting
S. 124 Lefevre Street, 6:30 PM
May 20, 2008

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

Council present: Brenda Redell Shirley Maike John Paikuli
Art Kulibert Howard Jorgenson A.J. Burton
Jeff King

Staff present: Doug Ross Pam McBroom Joe Mehrens
Chris Johnston Jake Keith

Others present: 10 Visitors and Cheney Free Press Reporter Cara Lorella.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

None.

MINUTES:

May 6, 2008 Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilmember Maike; second by Jorgenson to approve the minutes of the May 6, 2008 regular council meeting. Council polled; all ayes.

INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:

Lahnie Henderson of 611 E. Ladd, Medical Lake, Washington approached the podium and addressed Council with the following information:

- The Medical Lake Cemetery will have a Memorial Day service on Monday, May 19, 2008 at 10:30 am. Ms. Henderson extended an invitation to anyone interested in attending.
- She asked for better notification to citizens when City is going to be flushing water mains. She encountered a problem with brown sediment from the flushing on two separate occasions in May.
- She also requested Council reconsider their ordinance allowing the use/discharge of fireworks on July 4th. It was noted that if the city passes an ordinance banning the use of fireworks it would not be in effect until 2009.

Mary Funge of 616 W. 5th, Medical Lake Washington addressed Council with the following questions/information.

- Status of hiring a Police Chief.

City Administrator Ross explained that several factors need addressed prior to initiating the process of hiring a Police Chief. At this time officer recruitment is a high priority. If city can get the department back up to full staffing then the hiring process of a Police Chief will begin.

- She addressed codes and ordinances that are currently in place to regulate illegal discharge of fireworks on or in city property (streets), city parks, city buildings as well as protection of lakes and shorelines.
- She noted that if current ordinances were enforced new ordinances would not be needed.

MAYORS REPORT

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITION:

None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Introduction of Police Officer Chris Johnston

Acting Chief Joe Mehrens introduced Police Officer Chris Johnston. He explained the application process, selection process, and academy training that Johnston has been through; it was noted that Officer Johnston completed his 5 months of academy training and is now in field training for about three month. Once that is complete he will be able to begin regular shift work. Mayor, Council and Staff welcomed him.

MEETINGS AND OTHER INFORMATION:

None.

STAFF REPORT:

Mayor Higgins reported on the Skate Park. The Mayor had closed the skate park for a short period of time due to the high volume of complaints about the noise, vandalism of the property and excess trash left by the user groups, etc. Since that happened the youth have taken steps to prove they will make an effort to keep the area clean. They actually got a clean up crew together the week after it was closed and our maintenance staff has reported that it has been picked up since that time. The Mayor will keep council informed.

Ordinance 989; Adding Chapter 2.09 Public Records to the Medical Lake Municipal Code: First Reading

City Attorney McMullen prepared Ordinance 989; Adding Chapter 2.09 Public Records to the Medical Lake Municipal Code; public record requests have become a big liability issue in recent years, with the penalties quite harsh for failure to follow proper procedures. This ordinance will establish rules to be followed - for the city as well as the requester as it pertains to public records. Motion by Councilmember Maike; seconded by Jorgenson to approve the First Reading of Ordinance 989: Adding Chapter 2.09 Public Records to the Medical Lake Municipal Code. Council polled; all voted aye. First Reading by City Administrator Doug Ross; Second Reading was set for June 3, 2008.

A&K Development, Inc. Lawsuit Update

City Administrator Doug Ross gave an update on the Petitioner's Notice of Appeal to the Court of Appeals, Division III.

Fireworks Discussion

City Administrator Doug Ross asked council if they want an action item to come before them to consider the continuation of fireworks within the City of Medical Lake. The following was discussed:

- Sending out a city wide survey for citizen input on whether they want the city to continue allowing fireworks or to discontinue it.
- Public education of ordinance rules, violations and penalties pertaining to fireworks
- Articles in Free Press Publishing and West Side Voice prior to July 4th outlining rules.

After discussion it was decided that the above mentioned methods will be done before an action item is brought to council proposing the banning of fireworks.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilmember Jeff King reported on last Thursday's committee meeting:

- Electrical outlet updates are being done at Waterfront Park and Coney Island Park.
- An Eagle Scout helped with the electrical outlet design layout for WFP.
- Shepard Field soccer goals are broken and will need replaced. Some discussion on that topic.
- Pioneer Park picnic shelters will soon be ordered and installed.
- Recreation Coordinator is researching some grants to apply for – if received more improvements can be done at Pioneer Park (new playground equipment and possible micro soccer field).
- Events for Founder’s Day were discussed.

FINANCE:

None.

PLANNING REPORT:

City Administrator Doug Ross reported that he and Planner Glen Scholten have been receiving calls pertaining to subdivision applications, an annexation request as well as rezone requests. Council will be kept updated.

PUBLIC WORKS:

Councilmember Jorgenson reported on the following:

- Committee will meet tomorrow.
- Discussion tomorrow will primarily concern what streets need prioritized for street work/reconstruction.
- Cost of water sensitive irrigation sprinkler heads was also brought up.

There was Council discussion on impact fees, the water moratorium, and possible water connections to Spokane County’s water line.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT:

None.

MEMBER REPORTS:

Councilmember Jorgenson announced the following:

- Medical Lake High School Booster Club raffle tickets sold out; the drawing is May 31, 2008.
- The Wine and Hops Tasting will be at St Anne’s Parish Hall on June 13, 2008 – tickets still available.
- Medical Lake Dollars for Scholars Yard Sale was a success; all students who applied for scholarships from MLDFS will receive one.

Councilmember Kulibert reported that the City flower beds are doing well and do not require much water; Cheney Care Center has decided to duplicate what has been done around Medical Lake City Hall for their centers flower beds.

City Administrator Doug Ross reported that City Hall had an ant issue that has been resolved, and that new lights will be installed in the City’s Auditorium this week.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Claims and Payroll

Claim Warrants 15207 through 15265 in the amount of \$58,583.61 and Payroll Warrants 8418 through 8422 in the amount of \$20,755.00 were approved by motion from Councilmember Maike, second by Redell. Council polled; all voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

Ordinance 988: Vacating a Portion of Spence Street; Second Reading

Motion by Councilmember Jorgenson; seconded by King to approve the second reading of Ordinance 988: Vacating a Portion of Spence Street. Council polled; all voted aye. Second Reading by City Administrator Doug Ross.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Executive Session was called at 7:22 p.m. to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price and the City's position with regard to collective bargaining issues. It is anticipated that the executive session will last 15 minutes. No action will be taken on these issues. After the Executive Session, the Council reconvened the Regular Meeting at 7:37

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:40 p.m.

Mayor Higgins

City Clerk / Finance Director