

City of Medical Lake
Regular Council Meeting
S. 124 Lefevre Street, 6:30 PM
September 16, 2008

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

Council present: A.J. Burton Shirley Maike John Paikuli
 Art Kulibert Howard Jorgenson Jeff King
 Brenda Redell (arrived at 6:45 pm)

Motion by Councilmember Maike, second by King to excuse Councilmember Redell's late arrival.
Council polled; all ayes.

Staff present: Doug Ross Pam McBroom Ian Hays
 Cindy McMullen Bryan Musser Glenn Scholten

Others present: 12 Visitors and Cheney Free Press Reporter Cara Lorella.

ADDITIONS TO AGENDA:

None.

MINUTES:

August 19, 2008 Regular Meeting

Motion by Councilmember Maike; second by King to approve the minutes of the August 19, 2008 regular council meeting. Council polled; all ayes.

INTERESTED CITIZENS: AUDIENCE REQUESTS AND COMMENTS:

Kathy Litts, 812 E. Angie Street, M.L. wanted to discuss a police issue. City Attorney McMullen advised the Mayor, Council and public that if a particular employee (Sgt. Joe Mehrens) was the topic – it would not be advisable to discuss any issue Ms. Litts may have at this meeting. There is pending charges pertaining to this employee and open discussion would not be appropriate. Mayor, Council and Staff were advised by City Attorney McMullen that per city policy, if any citizen would like to discuss any concerns and/or file a complaint with the city they are encouraged to come into city hall and meet with the Mayor or City Administrator. Ms. Litts stated that she is concerned about sexual harassment in the police department and wanted to discuss it as well as how long Sgt. Mehrens will be on paid leave. Again, she was asked to come into city hall with these questions.

MAYORS REPORT

PROCLAMATIONS, PRESENTATIONS & RECOGNITION:

None.

APPOINTMENTS:

Christian Best and Travis Metheny have both been appointed as new volunteer firefighters. Chief Musser informed council that neither one was available to attend council tonight and he'd have them attend a future meeting.

MEETINGS AND OTHER INFORMATION:

None.

STAFF REPORT:

Shoreline Master Plan Discussion and Deliberation

Glenn Scholten City Planner, gave council an overview of the process that has taken place in the preparation of this Shoreline Master Plan. The city is required by the Washington State Department of Ecology to update its current SMP. The updated version has been accomplished in accordance with the Shoreline Management Act of 1971 as well as the 2004 Shoreline Master Program Guidelines. The Planning Commission has reviewed all information and a public hearing was held on June 19, 2008. Planning Commission is forwarding this plan to council with the recommendation to approve it as proposed. After discussion, Councilmember Jorgenson made a motion, seconded by Maike to approve the Shoreline Master Program as presented. Council polled; motion passed with 6 yeas (Maike, Redell, King, Jorgenson, Paikuli and Kulibert) 1 abstain – Burton.

Out of State Travel Request: Jennifer Willoughby

Jennifer Willoughby, Police Administrative Assistant has been invited to attend the Law Enforcement Run for Special Olympics 2008 International Conference in Dallas, Texas on October 30 through November 1, 2008. The Washington State Special Olympics pays for hotel and travel expenses for Ms. Willoughby. The city will be responsible for meals only. Jennifer has been invited to attend this event the past few years as a “thank you” for all the hard work and dedication to Special Olympics. Councilmember Jorgenson made a motion, seconded by Burton to approve the Out of State Travel Request for Jennifer Willoughby. Council polled; all ayes.

Declaring Items Surplus and Setting Method of Disposal

City Administrator Ross explained that the city has seven computers that are at least 4 years or older and due to memory and hard drive constraints, obsolete. It is staff’s recommendation that the following items be declared surplus and set the method of disposal as donation and/or destruction.

1. Dell City ID #250
2. Dell City ID #174
3. Dell City ID #819
4. US Micro City ID#248
5. Micron City ID #26
6. Dell City ID#192
7. Destroyed City ID#156

Councilmember Maike made a motion to declare items #1 through #7 surplus and set the method of disposal as donation and/or destruction. Motion seconded by Councilmember King. Council polled; all ayes.

Department Head Residency Requirement Discussion

Administrator Ross asked for discussion on the city residency policy. At this time applications are being accepted for Police Chief. Ross noted that we may be limiting a possible candidate if we require that the Chief live in Medical Lake. Open discussion ensued. Varying opinions were expressed. Councilmember’s Jorgenson, Burton and Paikuli all feel that it is important for the Chief to be a part of the community. It was noted that ML has affordable housing – so that is not an issue and it shows commitment to the City if they live in town. They are opposed to getting rid of this requirement. Councilmember Kulibert noted that if it came down to a person living in the city limits as opposed to living just outside of town, he would think that would be essentially the same and should not be a problem. Councilmember Maike does not think the restriction should apply – some people prefer country living and we may be eliminating the best candidate because of this

restriction. Councilmember's King and Redell see both sides to this issue. Bottom line, the city should be picking the best candidate for the position and address the residency issue if and/or when it becomes a problem.

PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE REPORT:

Councilmember King reported on the recent Parks and Recreation Committee meeting. He updated the council on the following:

- Youth sports are up and running – numbers look good
- Mack Sports – Coed softball are done
- Hatha Yoga starts Sunday and has 15 individuals signed up
- New soccer goals have been ordered for Shepard Field
- The new shelter for Pioneer Park won't be here until October some time – staff has been contemplating the possibility of creating a micro soccer field at Pioneer Park

FINANCE:

No action items tonight. Councilmember Jorgenson asked if a budget workshop is going to be scheduled. It will be sometime in October. Staff will be asking council for possible dates that will work with the majority of members.

PLANNING REPORT:

No additional items.

PUBLIC WORKS:

No action items. Administrator Ross updated council.

The following paving projects are in the works;

- Fire Station Driveway Entrance
- Evergreen Drive – miscellaneous repairs
- Spence Street – N 200 block – miscellaneous repairs

The City Annex Building had a leak and while being worked on three additional leaks were discovered; hence the portion of road torn up in front of the building. Cause is old galvanized pipes just wearing out.

Maintenance worker Scott Pella was given thanks for the excellent job he's been doing with the street and parking striping.

PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE REPORT:

Resolution 445; Declaring Emergency Situation and Designating Authority to Equip Newly Purchased Fire Truck

Administrator Ross gave council background info on this request. The City recently purchased a surplused fire truck. It has been determined by the Fire Chief that there numerous items the truck needs to be equipped properly to be effective for fire fighting. This list of equipment is extensive and due to the extreme fire danger Spokane and Lincoln County have been subjected to this year, an emergency declaration is being requested so that the equipment may be purchased and installed in a more timely manner than if bid documents and a bid process were undertaken. Motion was made by Councilmember King, seconded by Burton to approve Resolution 445; Declaring Emergency Situation and Designating Authority to Equip Newly Purchased Fire Truck. Council polled; all ayes.

MEMBER REPORTS:

None.

CONSENT AGENDA:

Approval of Claims and Payroll

Claim Warrants 15607 through 15663, 815613 and 915607 in the amount of \$150,611.13 and Payroll Warrants 8537 through 8569 in the amount of \$131,292.81 dated September 2, 2008; Claim Warrants 15664 through 15724 in the amount of \$68,102.38 and Payroll Warrants 8570 through 8573 in the amount of \$20,350.00 dated September 16, 2008, were approved by motion from Councilmember Maike, second by Redell. Council polled; all voted aye.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

DISCUSSION OF ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA:

None.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

An Executive Session was called at 7:11 p.m. to last approximately 40 minutes. The following will be considered: *The minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. Also, complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee, unless the officer or employee asks for a public hearing or meeting thereon.* No action will be taken after executive session.

ADJOURNMENT:

Mayor Higgins adjourned the meeting at 7:51 p.m.

Mayor Higgins

City Clerk / Finance Director