



Council Minutes January 17, 2006

At 7:30 p.m. Mayor Maxwell called the regularly scheduled evening meeting of Tuesday, January 17, 2006 to order.

Roll call found present: Loren Hoboy, Nick Petrish, Erica Pickett, Brad Adams, Bill Turner, Cynthia Richardson, and Brian Geer. The Pledge of Allegiance followed roll call.

Minutes of Previous Meeting

Mr. Turner moved, seconded by Mrs. Richardson, to approve the minutes of January 3, 2006 as if read. Vote: Ayes – Petrish, Pickett, Adams, Turner, Richardson, Geer, and Hoboy. Motion carried.

Citizen Hearings

No citizens present wished to testify on matters not on the agenda.

Mayor/Council Communication

Election: Mayor Pro-Tem/Sub-Committee Appointments

Mr. Hoboy moved, seconded by Mr. Adams to nominate Mr. Petrish for Mayor Pro-Tem. Vote: Ayes – Pickett, Adams, Turner, Richardson, Geer, Hoboy, and Petrish. Motion carried. Mr. Petrish asked for staff recommendations and for a current list of all Council committees and committee members. Mr. Petrish said his goal as Mayor Pro-Tem is to work closely with the Mayor to continue moving Anacortes forward.

Appointment: Planning Commission

Mrs. Richardson moved, seconded by Mr. Hoboy, to confirm the appointment of Mr. Bertis Rascoe to the Planning Commission. Mrs. Richardson added that Mr. Rascoe brings an architectural background and experience in community development to the Planning Commission. Vote: Ayes – Adams, Turner, Richardson, Geer, Hoboy, Petrish, and Pickett. Motion carried.

Proclamation: Salvation Army Celebrating 100 Years in Anacortes

Mayor Maxwell read a Proclamation proclaiming January 21, 2006 as Salvation Army Day in the City of Anacortes in recognition of 100 years of service and faithful ministry to the community. A celebration of this significant event will be held on January 21st at Brodniak Hall.

Appointments: Board of Adjustment Alternate Members

Mayor Maxwell said that based on recent Council action, two alternate Board of Adjustment positions can now be filled. In that regard, the Mayor received letters of interest from Mr. Stuart Janke and Mr. J.B. Smith which were forwarded to Council for review. With that, the Mayor asked for Council to confirm the appointment of Mr. Stuart Janke and Mr. J.B. Smith as alternates to serve on the Board of Adjustment. Mr. Petrish so moved, seconded by Mrs. Pickett. Vote: Ayes – Turner, Richardson, Geer, Hoboy, Petrish, Pickett, and Adams. Motion carried.

Mrs. Richardson asked the Council and audience to recognize one of the many organizations and individuals who have contributed to the Forestlands Conservation Easement program; the Program has now reached the \$1,000,000 mark. Mrs. Richardson invited Ms. Nancy Chapman of the Plymouth Congregational Church to tell how their small organization worked for 5 years to contribute \$5,000 to adopt a 5-acre grove through the Easement program. Ms. Chapman challenged other small groups and congregations to participate. The Mayor and Council expressed appreciation for this noteworthy effort.

Mr. Adams then noted the significant sidewalk projects recently constructed throughout the City. In particular, Mr. Adams said that the new 41st street sidewalk from "A" to "O" Avenue makes for safer pedestrian travel.

Highlands Preliminary Plat: Deliberation and Action

Mayor Maxwell introduced the Highlands Preliminary Plat deliberation phase. The Council held a Closed Record Meeting on the Plat application on January 9th and continued the matter to discuss project conditions and development agreement details. The project, a 2-phase 47-lot residential subdivision located east of Georgia Place, was reviewed by the Planning Commission in Public Hearing. The Commission recommended approval subject to 30 conditions including upgrades to 17th Street and cost sharing arrangements between the applicant and the City for 17th street and associated drainage improvements.

Mr. Fred Buckenmeyer, Assistant City Engineer, recapped the meetings of the Public Works Committee subsequent to the Council meeting of the 9th. The Committee discussed the Planning Commission recommendation that the entire portion of 17th Street be completed. The Committee determined that this project is worthwhile and warranted shared costs with the developer with a specific target of \$350,000 of City funds. The owners then worked diligently to hold down costs and offered a revised project cost of \$378,000; staff recommends approval. Additionally, the owners are guaranteeing that there will be no increase in the contract amount over time even though the cost of materials may go up during construction. Additional considerations are that the engineering work for the improvements will be provided at no cost to the City and there will be no mobilization charges. Again, Staff recommends approval of this. Further, the City will have an opportunity to place a latecomers agreement on a portion of the project to recoup a portion of the funds; plat fees, stormwater General Facility Charges, and transportation impact fees will also offset costs. The finished project will provide for a continuous sidewalk from the plat to "D" Avenue.

Mrs. Richardson re-emphasized that with this proposal, over time the City will recoup significant project costs. Mr. Hoboy pointed out that the improvements provide an alternate emergency connection to the west end. Mr. Adams and Mr. Turner spoke in favor of the project and of the efforts by both the applicant and the Public Works Committee to move this project forward. With that, Mrs. Richardson moved, seconded by Mr. Hoboy, to approve The Highlands Preliminary Plat application subject to the conditions recommended by the Planning Commission as modified in a January 11, 2006 Memorandum from Fred Buckenmeyer, Assistant City Engineer, entitled "Staff Proposed Revisions to Planning Commission Recommendations"; and to authorize the Mayor to enter into a project Development Agreement in an amount not to exceed \$378,000.00. Vote: Ayes – Richardson, Geer, Hoboy, Petrish, Pickett, Adams, and Turner. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Mr. Petrish moved, seconded by Mr. Adams, to approve the following Consent Agenda items. Vote: Ayes – Geer, Hoboy, Petrish, Pickett, Adams, Turner, and Christiansen. Motion carried.

Approval of Vouchers/Cancellation of Warrants

Council voted unanimously that the following vouchers/warrants audited and certified by the City's Auditing Officer (Finance Director) and subsequently reviewed and approved by the Council Finance Committee on January 5, 2006 and January 13, 2006 for payment as of this date January 17, 2006.

Claims Warrants for the month of January

Warrant Numbers 34670 through 34875 in the total amount of \$1,167,247.44

EFT for the Month of January

EFT Numbers 34664 through 34669 in the total amount of \$490.00

Payroll # 1 for December 30, 2005 in the total amount of \$644,647.63

Warrant Numbers 28461 through 28530 in the total amount of \$219,261.63

Direct Deposit Numbers form 17024 through 17125 in the total amount of \$239,828.64
EFT Numbers from 466 through 497 in the total amount of 185,557.36

In the same motion Council:

Accepted the Thompson Trail Trestle Retrofit project (NM-200-008) as complete thereby initiating the mandatory 30-day lien period; if no valid liens are filed any retainage now held by the City will be returned to the contractor, Wilder Construction Company;

Accepted the "T" Avenue Overlay and Sidewalk Improvement project (05-058-TRN-001) as complete thereby initiating the mandatory 30-day lien period; if no valid liens are filed any retainage now held by the City will be returned to the contractor, CJ Construction (Corey Johnson); and

Accepted the Marine Drive Safety Improvements project (05-005-TRN-002) as complete thereby initiating the mandatory 30-day lien period; if no valid liens are filed any retainage now held by the City will be returned to the contractor, Island Construction Site & Utilities.

Anacortes Family Shelter Project: Update

Mr. Ian Munce, Planning Director, briefly described the Federal Department of Housing and Urban Development Community Development Block Grant program to fund city rehabilitation projects that benefit the low income. Through this program the City has earmarked grant funding for the Housing Authority as our contribution to the New Wilson Hotel project and has agreed to hold the Community Action Agency harmless for Agency social service programs in Anacortes. With regard to an additional request for community development block grant funds, Mr. Eric Johnson and many others have been working to develop a family shelter project in the City of Anacortes. Mr. Munce explained that a Public Hearing will be scheduled for March to consider this and other requests for next year's grant monies. Prior to that, however, Mr. Johnson has asked the Council for a draft letter from the City confirming that the Shelter Project will be considered for funding; however, the Council decision to fund would come after public hearing and input. Mr. Eric Johnson, proponent, said that the property at 1011-1017 27th Street is an appropriate location for a shelter close to schools and other facilities. The program to help those in need includes case management, an action plan, and support. Mrs. Richardson remarked on the considerable effort by Mr. Johnson and others to make this critical facility a reality. In response to a question from Mrs. Pickett, Mr. Johnson explained that a high percentage of homeless families find themselves in difficulty due to unexpected and inordinate medical expenses. By consensus, a letter of encouragement for the Shelter Project was to be prepared that that every consideration will be given to this project through our regular hearing/public input process.

Library Director Appointment: Geraldine Veenstra

Ms. Emily Schuh, Human Resources Director, was pleased to introduced Ms. Geraldine Veenstra, the new Library Director for the City of Anacortes. Ms. Schuh described the extensive recruitment process used to fill this position. From that process, Ms. Veenstra was selected as the top candidate and has accepted the position as Library Director subject to Council approval. With that, Mrs. Richardson moved, seconded by Mr. Hoboy, to approve the appointment of Ms. Geraldine Veenstra as the Library Director for the City of Anacortes. Vote: Ayes – Hoboy, Petrish, Pickett, Adams, Turner, Richardson, and Geer. Motion carried. The Mayor thanked both Mr. Doug Everhart, outgoing Director, for his 33 years of dedicated service and the Library Board for its diligence and commitment to the Library and to the community.

Forest Board Request Zoning on South Fidalgo

Mr. Rick Haley, 1804 Lea Place, Chair of the Community Forestlands Advisory Board, presented a request to the City Council from the Board. The Board has asked the City Council to consider urging the County to retain the current 10-acre zoning on the land adjacent to the Anacortes Community Forest Lands in order to preserve and protect the forestland habitats. Mr. Petrish suggested hearing

from proponents of the 2.5 acre zoning. Mr. Turner as a former member of the Citizens Advisory Committee , reported that surveys have indicated that landowners on south Fidalgo Island were not in favor of the 2.5 zoning. Mr. Ian Munce, Planning Director, explained that legislation already exists to protect fish and wildlife habitat conversation areas (City forestlands). In light of that, the Board's goal could be achieved with a letter to the County underscoring that there is no justification to change existing zoning next to a fish and wildlife habitat conversation area.

Resolution: Personnel Policy Update

Ms. Emily Schuh, Human Resources Director, presented a Resolution to Council for review and approval. If adopted the Resolution would update the City Personnel Policies Section 606 to accommodate legislation that establishes designated smoking outside areas. Under I-901, smoking outside is prohibited within 25 feet of entrances and exits, windows that open, and ventilation intakes. On a question from Mr. Adams, Ms. Schuh reported that employees have been notified of this new restriction. With that, Mr. Hoboy moved, seconded by to adopt **Resolution No. 1716** regarding personnel policies and benefits for the City of Anacortes employees. Vote: Ayes – Petrish, Pickett, Adams, Turner, Richardson, Geer, and Hoboy. Motion carried.

At approximately 9:30 p.m. the Mayor continued the meeting to Monday, January 23, 2006 at 7:30 p.m. for the purpose of reviewing Airport planning documents and the Airport Perimeter Buffer Encroachment Mitigation plan.