

LYNDEN CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

FEBRUARY 2, 2009

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jack Louws called to order the February 2, 2009 regular session of the Lynden City Council at 7:00 P.M. at the Lynden City Hall Annex.

ROLL CALL

Members present: Mayor Jack Louws; Councilors Doug Adelstein, Gary Bode, Dave Burns, Ron De Valois, Tobey Gelder, and Nick Laninga.

Members absent: Councilor Jerry Kuiken with notice.

Staff present: Fire Chief Gary Baar, Administrative Assistant Rachel Byers, Public Works Director Duane Huskey, Human Resource Manager/Deputy City Clerk Linda Peterson, and City Administrator Bill Verwolf. Also present was City Attorney Bob Carmichael.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor De Valois seconded that the minutes of the January 20, 2009 Regular Council Session be approved. The motion carried.

APPROVAL OF PAYROLL

Direct Deposits, Draws and Warrants No. 13437 through 13491 \$ 424,144.35

Councilor Adelstein moved and Councilor Gelder seconded that the payroll be approved. The motion carried.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Scheduled - None

Unscheduled - None

Memorandum to Council Ending the Local Emergency Declared as a Result of Flooding

Mayor Louws' memorandum to Council outlined why the Mayor's Proclamation dated January 8, 2009 was made, stated that Council had ratified the declaration, and that now that the event was over an ending date must be established.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor Adelstein seconded that the close date for the Local Emergency be January 31, 2009. The motion carried.

Special Council Meeting Called to Hear Comments from the Public Regarding the Recent Flooding

Mayor Louws stated that he had been approached by community members who had asked to schedule a meeting to discuss the recent flood. As the number of people who wanted to meet with him increased, Mayor Louws decided to hold a public meeting on the issue on February 5, 2009 and announced that it would be Special Council Meeting in order to allow for more than three Councilmembers to attend.

II PUBLIC HEARING

Ordinance No. 1340 - Amending Section 8.24 of the Lynden Municipal Code - Vegetation

On January 5, 2009 Council reviewed two draft ordinance for amending Chapter 8.24 of the Lynden Municipal Code in regard to vegetation encroachment at the Lynden Municipal Airport. At that time the Council approved a motion to extend the public hearing until February 2, 2009 in order for the Public Works Committee to review the information further.

This proposed code revision is in response to the Federal Aviation Administration's report on runway safety at the Lynden Municipal Airport which noted the height of a stand of trees that encroach on the approach path of Runway 25 as a hazard to aviation. The trees are located on the property east of the airport in the Depot Road and Woodfield Drive areas. Approval of this Ordinance No. 1340 would allow for the encroaching trees to be topped, removed, or replaced.

Mayor Louws stated that this Public Hearing began on January 5, 2009 and was continued to this meeting and asked if anyone from the audience would like to address Council at 7:12 P.M.

Speaking in favor: None

Speaking against: None.

Other comments:

Ms. Janet Anker-Werderits, 1424 Woodfield Place, Lynden, WA, 98264 appeared before Council and asked if an arborist had been contacted to see if the trees will grow any taller and if a survey has been done to determine the height of the trees.

Mayor Louws and Public Works Director Duane Huskey stated that the trees have already been determined to be at a height that would be in violation of this Ordinance and that the City will do a survey before any action is taken.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor De Valois seconded that the Public Hearing be closed. The motion carried.

The Public Hearing closed at 7:15 P.M.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor De Valois seconded that Ordinance No. 1340, Revising Section 8.24 of the Lynden Municipal Code Regarding Vegetation, be approved and that the Mayor be authorized to sign said Ordinance. The motion carried.

Other

Public Safety Committee

Councilor Burns stated that the Public Safety Committee meeting scheduled for February 5, 2009 has been cancelled.

Streamlined Sales Tax Update

Mayor Louws provided Council with a brief update on how the Streamlined Sales Tax system has been working.

III EXECUTIVE SESSION - Cancelled

IV ADJOURNMENT

The February 2, 2009 regular session of the Lynden City Council adjourned at 7:23 P.M.

Rachel Byers, Administrative Assistant

Jack Louws, Mayor