

LYNDEN CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

APRIL 16, 2007

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jack Louws called to order the April 16, 2007 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, Ron De Valois, Tobey Gelder, Gerald Kuiken, and Nick Laninga.

Members absent: Councilor Dave Burns with notice.

Staff present: Fire Chief Gary Baar, Administrative Assistant Rachel Byers, Planning Director Amy Harksell, Public Works Director Duane Huskey, and City Administrator Bill Verwolf. Also present was City Attorney Bob Carmichael.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Kuiken moved and Councilor Bode seconded that the minutes of the April 2, 2007 regular session be approved. The motion carried.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Scheduled – None

Unscheduled

Million Smiles Playground Project

Mr. Gary Vis, Executive Director of the Lynden Chamber of Commerce, appeared before Council and provided an update on the project. He stated that they have raised approximately \$203,000 for the project and hope to receive additional donations to reach their goal of \$218,000 (another \$15,000). He said that they have also received donations in kind from over 50 businesses around Whatcom County. Mr. Vis also provided Council with a partial materials list:

- 90,000 screws.
- 5180 pieces of lumber.
- 720 pounds of nails.
- 384 drill bits.
- 250 gallons of paint and stain.
- 230 screwdriver bits.
- 82 saw blades.
- 46 bars of soap.
- 4 rolls of duct tape.
- 1 can of WD-40.

Mr. Vis thanked Council for their continued support of this project.

Mayor Louws thanked Mr. Vis for the update and for attending the meeting.

II CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Claims

Manual Warrants No. 44961 through 44980	\$ 97,085.70
Voucher Warrant No. 44981 through 45178	<u>\$ 471,208.29</u>
Total	<u>\$ 568,293.99</u>

Consideration of Preliminary Planned Residential Development Contract Amendment – Woodfield Division 5

Resolution No. 765 – Increase in Revolving Cash Fund

Councilor Laninga moved and Councilor Adelstein seconded that the items on the Consent Agenda be approved. The motion carried.

III NEW BUSINESS

Consideration of Preliminary Approval – Bedlington Business Park

Mr. Dick Bedlington has applied for a rezone and binding site plan for the development of a business park located north of Front Street at the intersection of Front Street and Tromp Road. The Planning Commission discussed the future of the I-1 zone and the types of development the zone would attract.

The Planning Commission received one letter in opposition to the rezone. Windward Consulting had concern with the loss of heavier industrial property and the potential for allowing those heavier uses as conditional uses within the I-2 zoning. However, after the discussion, the Planning Commission did recommend approval of both the rezone and the binding site plan for the business park.

Councilor De Valois moved and Councilor Laninga seconded that preliminary approval for Rezone 07-02 and Binding Site Plan 07-01 for the development of the Bedlington Business Park be granted, as recommended by the Planning Commission, and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the Findings of Fact. The motion carried.

Mayor Louws thanked Planning Director Amy Harksell, the Planning Commission, and the Public Works Department for their work on this agenda item. He said that he is excited about the opportunities that are developing in the west Lynden area and the creation of new employment situations for the citizens of Lynden and the surrounding communities.

OTHER

Trees along Downtown Front Street

Mayor Louws discussed with Council the problems associated with trees along Front Street in the downtown area, such as the shifting of sidewalk panels due to large root systems. He stated that since work has already begun to improve the sidewalk wheelchair ramps along Front Street, now would be a good time to remove six trees in the downtown area, which will be replaced by three smaller trees.

Mayor Louws said that he, City Administrator Bill Verwolf, Public Works Director Duane Huskey, Public Works Programs and Environmental Coordinator Mark Sandal, and Public Works Foreperson Larry Nyhoff surveyed Front Street and selected the following locations to have a single tree removed:

- Northeast corner of 3rd and Front Streets;
- Northeast corner of 4th and Front Streets;
- Southwest corner of 4th and Front Streets;
- Southwest corner of 5th and Front Streets;
- Northeast corner of 6th and Front Streets; and
- Southwest corner of 6th and Front Streets.

Council agreed with Mayor Louws decision to remove the trees.

17th Street Culvert

Public Works Director Duane Huskey provided Council with an update on the 17th Street culvert that collapsed on March 19, 2007, stating that they have been working with the Fisheries Department to schedule a meeting to discuss whether the City can replace the old culvert with a 4 sided box rather than 3 sides which is more difficult to install.

Lynden Chamber of Commerce – Reasons to Shop in Lynden

Councilor Gelder informed Council that Mr. Gary Vis, Executive Director of the Lynden Chamber of Commerce, had appeared before the Community Development Committee and provided a list of Lynden businesses that have shown support for the Million Smiles Playground project. Councilor Gelder remarked that if anyone needs a reason to shop in Lynden, that Mr. Vis has a list that demonstrates why you should.

Stormwater Drainage - Meeting with Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering

Mayor Louws informed Council that he and City Administrator Bill Verwolf, Public Works Director Duane Huskey, and Public Works Programs and Environmental Coordinator Mark Sandal met with Mr. Greg Ebe and Mr. Nathan Zylstra, of Reichhardt and Ebe Engineering, to discuss stormwater drainage. He stated that they have prioritized five projects for which they will receive drawings and estimates. Mayor Louws said he would provide additional information to Council as the projects progress.

IV EXECUTIVE SESSION - Cancelled

V ADJOURNMENT

The April 16, 2007 regular session of the Lynden City Council adjourned at 7:22 P.M.

Rachel Byers, Administrative Assistant

Jack Louws, Mayor