

LYNDEN CITY COUNCIL

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR SESSION

JUNE 18, 2007

I CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Jack Louws called to order the June 18, 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, Dave Burns, Ron De Valois, Tobey Gelder, Gerald Kuiken, and Nick Laninga.

Members absent: None.

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor De Valois moved and Councilor Gelder seconded that the minutes of the June 4, 2007 regular session be approved. The motion carried.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Scheduled – None

Unscheduled - None

II CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Claims

Manual Warrants No. 45408 through 45422	\$ 89,610.64
Voucher Warrant No. 45423 through 45618	<u>\$ 455,403.30</u>
Total	<u>\$ 545,013.94</u>

Set Time and Location for 2007 Budget Workshop Scheduled for June 25, 2007

Raspberry Festival – Street Closures

Set Public Hearing Date for South Historic Business District Master Plan

Set Public Hearing Date to Receive Comments Regarding Bradley Meadows Estate Latecomers

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

III PUBLIC HEARING

Van Loo Development Standards Variance

Councilor De Valois stated that he must recuse himself from participating in the agenda item.

Mr. Everett Van Loo and his family have applied for a four lot short plat for the property at the east end of Birch Street. While short plats are an administrative action, the proposed improvements do not meet the requirements listed within the City's subdivision code and the Engineering Design and Development Standards and will require a variance.

Mayor Louws opened the Public Hearing at 7:06 P.M.

Speaking in favor: Attorney Jack Swanson, 900 Dupont Street, Bellingham, appeared before Council as Mr. Van Loo's representative. He had provided Council with a memo and further documentation supporting the approval of the variance, which he reviewed with Council.

Speaking against: None.

Other: Mr. Jack Veltkamp, 705 Birch Street, Lynden, stated that he is in favor of the 24-foot wide street; that the neighbors would like a decision made on the property; and that he does not think his property value will be negatively affected if the variance is approved.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor Kuiken seconded that the Public Hearing be closed. The motion carried 6-0 with Councilor De Valois abstaining

The Public Hearing closed at 7:30 P.M.

Councilor Gelder moved and Councilor Burns seconded that Variance 07-01, the Van Loo Short Plat, be tabled until the July 2, 2007 Council meeting to provide additional time for Council to review documents that were submitted just prior to the meeting. The motion carried 6-0 with Councilor De Valois abstaining.

Mayor Louws thanked everyone for their comments and he thanked staff for their work.

IV NEW BUSINESS

Location for Phoebe Judson Statue

Ms. Mary Michaelson, an assistant curator for the Lynden Pioneer Museum, has been working with the Community Development Committee to secure a location for the statue of Phoebe and Holden Judson. Several proposals have been investigated such as the Chamber of Commerce office, Centennial Park, the Library, and the new City Hall.

As Ms. Michaelson and her committee begin their fundraising efforts, it will be important to determine the final location for the bronze statue. The Community Development Committee met on June 13, 2007 and discussed the various locations. City Hall had been dismissed as a location previously due to the perceived delay in construction, but given the currently anticipated construction dates, it seems as though it would be the best place for this statue. The Parks Committee reviewed the potential location of the statue in Centennial Park and felt that City Hall would be a better location.

In addition to the statue, there will be special paving units and bronze plaques recognizing the major contributors to the statue project. The Committee concurred that working with the City's architects to locate the statue on the City Hall site would be appropriate.

Councilor Kuiken moved and Councilor De Valois seconded that the request to place the Phoebe and Holden Judson statue at the City Hall location on 4th and Liberty Streets be approved and that this final placement be recommended as part of the site design. The motion carried.

Development Contract – Bryce Park Planned Residential Development

Councilor Kuiken informed Council that he will be abstaining from this agenda item.

Mr. Jeff Fransen submitted a Planned Residential Development application for ten acres just east of Greenfield Village Planned Residential Development and will extend Aaron Drive to the east to connect to the Strawberry Meadows Plat developed by Mr. Troy Strong. This application was

heard by the Planning Commission and preliminary approval was given by the City Council in January of this year.

The contract is the final step in the approval process and includes more specific detail than the previous documents. The contract will be recorded against the property for future use and will ensure that the property is developed according to the concepts approved during the preliminary approval.

Recording of the contract, should it be approved, will take place with the completion of the DeJong Short Plat, separating this property from the property to the north. Staff will hold the contract until after the short plat is recorded.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor Adelstein seconded that the revised Bryce Park Development Contract be approved and that the Mayor be authorized to sign said contract after the recording of the DeJong Short Plat. The motion carried 6-0 with Councilor Kuiken abstaining

Resolution No. 770 – Authorizing Application for Economic Development Initiative Funding

The Economic Development Initiative is Whatcom County's program for the distribution of the rural sales tax rebates given to the County for use in economic development efforts. The City of Lynden has not applied for these funds previously, although staff has worked with the Port of Bellingham and others to prepare applications.

In order to ensure that the Lynden elected officials support these projects, one of the application requirements is that the City's legislative body pass a resolution authorizing the application and the expenditure of funds.

The application has been a joint effort between the Administration, Public Works, and Planning Departments. For this funding application only, we have combined the Main Street Project (SR 539 to Tromp Road extension) and the Tromp Road Utility Corridor as one project called West Lynden Infrastructure – Phase 1. This includes the water, sewer, and stormwater conveyance from Birch Bay Lynden Road to Main Street and the reconstruction of Main Street as noted. It includes grant funding in the amount of \$970,952 and loan funding through the EDI program. The loan funding will be repaid through latecomer's fees as well as water and sewer rates.

Councilor Kuiken moved and Councilor De Valois seconded that Resolution No. 770, authorizing the City to apply for funding through the Whatcom County Economic Development Initiative, be approved and that the Mayor be authorized to sign said Resolution. The motion carried.

Mayor Louws thanked the Public Works Department, Planning Department, and Administration for their work. He updated Council on the process to apply for these funds.

Award Bid for Mowing/Removing Field Grass contract – Heritage Park

The City recently advertised for bids to cut and remove field grass for approximately 6.5 acres at Heritage Park, located south of East Badger Road and west of Vinup Road.

Per direction of the Public Works Committee at their June 6, 2007 meeting bids were received on Monday, June 18, 2007 by 1:00 PM. One bid was received from Mr. Conrad Holleman in the amount of \$100.00.

Councilor Bode moved and Councilor Burns seconded that Mr. Conrad Holleman's proposal to cut and remove field grass at Heritage Park during the 2007 growing season, in the amount of \$100.00, be approved and that the Mayor be authorized to sign the contract. The motion carried.

OTHER

Council discussed whether a deadline should be established for the submittal of information to be considered by Council at their meetings. Council decided not to implement a deadline.

Councilor Laninga provided an update on the mitigation for local governments affected by streamlined sales tax changes.

Council discussed and confirmed that a public meeting will be held prior to a final decision being made on the 17th Street culvert.

Lynden Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Gary Vis asked if one of the Council members would be available to officially welcome those attending the Patriotic Concert on June 29, 2007 since Mayor Louws and Mayor Pro-Tem Bode will be out of town. Councilor Adelstein offered to serve in the requested capacity.

V EXECUTIVE SESSION - Cancelled

VI ADJOURNMENT

The June 18, 2007 regular session of the Lynden City Council adjourned at 8:05 P.M.

Rachel Byers, Administrative Assistant

Jack Louws, Mayor