

1 Mayor Vini Samuel presiding
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3 **CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Samuel called the April 28, 2020 city council meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
4

5 **FLAG CEREMONY:** Pledge of Allegiance
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7 **ROLL CALL:** Councilman Wood advised that all council members were present.
8

9 **APPROVAL OF BILLS:** Councilman Trimble made a motion to approve the bills as audited with a second
10 by Councilman Bryson; bills totaling \$120,527.65 for checks #54562-#54588 and payroll totaling
11 \$114,381.08 for checks #41341 to #41345.

12 *Motion passed 7-0*
13

14 **APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Councilwoman Valentine made a motion to approve the minutes as written
15 with Councilman Skaramuca making a second.

16 *Motion passed 7-0*
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18 **COMMITTEE REPORTS:** Councilman Wood advised the Chehalis Basin Partnership met, we are
19 continuing to work on the Hirst decision concerning wells, when this gets to decisions being made on
20 policy we will want to have discussions on this.
21

22 Councilman Wood advised Flood Authority met with a request of another round of resolutions from the
23 members to support the dual project of building a water retention facility and doing the massive
24 investments for habitat improvement.
25

26 Councilman Skaramuca advised the Public Works Committee will be meeting May 6th at 4:30 with
27 sidewalk policy and sidewalk fund to be discussed.
28

29 Mayor Samuel advised C.O.G. met and talked about what everyone is doing concerning their budgeting.
30

31 **NEW BUSINESS:**

32 **Timber Sale Addendum**-Councilman Cope made a motion to authorize the mayor to sign the timber sale
33 addendum with Sierra Pacific which includes the additional 32 B-line acres which have been identified
34 for the price listed in the contract with Councilman Wood making a second.
35

36 Councilman Skaramuca added this is an estimated contract in the price we could get for the timber; a
37 pay as cut; it could be more it could be less, we won't know until they log it.
38

39 Mayor Samuel commented that the rates were specific but they couldn't identify the species and nature
40 of all the trees which is why they dovetailed it into the last contract agreed upon a couple of council
41 meetings ago. They just could not figure out the cost per board feet until they are cut. These funds will
42 be saved and put into 2021 unless we absolutely need it this year.
43

44 Councilwoman Valentine commented that one of the issues Forester Hiner brought to the council's
45 attention was the drawback of this was going to be that it is very visible from the lake.
46

47 Mayor Samuel stated she thinks this might make people less happy with us but feels this is a good
48 financial decision.

49 *Motion passed 7-0*

50

51 **City Update- Mayor Samuel**

52

53 Finance is the topic each day. Everything we are collecting now is for months prior; we probably will not
54 know what our situation is until the end of July, beginning of August. We have stopped all unnecessary
55 spending; there are items in the budget that were approved that we are not purchasing right now; she
56 had a meeting with the chamber; our businesses are doing okay, what the next waive will look like will
57 be determined in May and June; we will keep in touch with the chamber; there are a lot of things we did
58 not necessarily do wrong but we didn't do right, smaller businesses, sole proprietors who didn't have
59 accountants and CPAs didn't get their applications for grants or help in as speedily as those who had
60 more resources.

61

62 Mayor Samuel talked about different solutions and options for if this happens again and how to help our
63 small businesses. She would like to start compiling a template of how to handle these situations. Our
64 restaurants, hairdressers and a few other non-essential businesses are worried they may not be able to
65 reopen; some have talked of violating the governor's order and our position is that we follow the law,
66 the first step is education to convince people to do right and the second layer is we would have to
67 report violations so we are going to educate first.

68

69 Councilwoman Valentine suggested we try to put together the guidelines and criteria for reopening,
70 what's expected and what they should be doing to aid them in getting back open.

71

72 Mayor Samuel added the county's situational report has been that testing has expanded and there have
73 been no more positive results in the last week and a half; we have held steady. Our employees are doing
74 well, everyone is continuing measures; we will not be opening city hall until a couple more things
75 happen with the governor's office; residential construction is back, Spruce is out to bid, the rest of the
76 street projects will probably go out to bid in the next week or so.

77

78 Councilman Cope asked about the sidewalk issue on E. Pioneer and if it is the goal of the city to have a
79 sidewalk on the north or south side of Pioneer Avenue? Councilman Bryson stated on the north.

80 Councilman Cope wanted to know where we stand on this. Discussion ensued.

81

82 Mayor Samuel advised someone asked MTO for speed bumps on Church Street; Mayor Samuel can
83 agree there is fast traffic on this road and there are lots of kids on this road; it is a hazard.

84

85 Councilman Wood discussed on whether each city in the state will be allotted at the minimum of
86 \$25,000.00. Could we do something to help promote local spending when we open up? How do we
87 help businesses get back on tract? Discussion on options of how to do this ensued.

88

89 Councilman Wood requested we reach out to the chamber for some promotional activities for us to
90 consider funding. Mayor Samuel advised she would do this. He commended Mayor Samuel for the
91 efforts she and the staff have made to reach out to the businesses to see how to help.

92

93 Mayor Samuel told the council how much she has appreciated their single minded support and the fact
94 they have been consistent in the decision making. We are just starting this journey; we have a long way
95 to go and she appreciates the support. She asked the council to make contact with the city employees

96 and department heads if they have the opportunity and commend them for their hard work and their
97 ability to stick to it.

98

99 There was discussion on what was being done for our high school seniors.

100

101 Councilman Skaramuca inquired about how the supplies for our first responders are going. Mayor
102 Samuel indicated we had received 300 face masks from Summit Pacific, the police are on different
103 schedules, and the fire department is thoroughly cleaned two times a day. We are expending energy in
104 keeping everyone safe and healthy.

105

106 **ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:** None

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108 **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

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110 **COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

111

112 Councilman Wood advised he has spoken to a number of the businesses and have heard a lot of them
113 express appreciation as to what the city is doing for them. As to the idea of spending money, we should
114 not wait to get the 25,000 grant, we should approach the chamber and get the ball rolling, it will be
115 worth the investment.

116

117 Councilman Bryson commented on the great discussion tonight; we are likely to see changes in the next
118 couple of weeks; he appreciates everything we have done to support them.

119

120 Councilwoman Valentine had no comments.

121

122 Councilman Trimble had no comments.

123

124 Councilwoman Cristobal had no comments

125

126 Councilman Skaramuca thanked the mayor for all her hard work and efforts.

127

128 Councilman Cope commented we have discussed how we can help local businesses and has seen an
129 outpouring of folks supporting our businesses; the citizens have stepped up.

130

131 **MAYOR COMMENTS:** Remember all of you were elected by a great amount of people within the city,
132 we do a lot with businesses because we see return on their business but on the other hand, we have a
133 bunch of citizens who need care and positive energy; your leadership is critical at this time with all the
134 citizens; we need to be there for them; more positive focused energy about us as a group, team and city;
135 it is critical for us not to fracture.

136

137 **ADJOURNMENT:** Councilman Trimble made a motion to adjourn the meeting which was seconded by
138 Councilwoman Cristobal.

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140 *Motion passed 7-0*

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142 The meeting was adjourned at approximately 7:55 pm.

143 These minutes were transcribed by Clerk Lillegard from the Facebook video recording of the council
144 meeting. Clerk Lillegard was not present at the meeting due to corona virus meeting parameters set
145 forth by the governor.

146

147 Kim Lillegard, Deputy Clerk
148 Recording available.

APPROVED