

Mayor Vini Samuel presiding.

CALL TO ORDER: The meeting was called to order by Mayor Samuel at 7:00 p.m.

FLAG CEREMONY – Pledge of Allegiance

COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT: Councilwoman Valentine, Councilwoman Cristobal, Councilman Trimble (arrived at 7:15), Councilman Cope, Councilman Bryson and Councilman Skaramuca. Motion to excuse Councilman Wood was made by Councilman Cope and seconded by Councilman Bryson. Motion Carried/5-0 Vote

STAFF PRESENT: Public Works Director Mike Olden, Police Chief Brett Vance, Fire Chief Corey Rux, CFO/City Clerk Doug Streeter, Forester Loren Hiner, City Attorney Chris Coker and Deputy City Clerk Debbie Wisdom.

APPROVAL OF BILLS: Councilman Bryson presented bills totaling \$1,147,389.46 for Checks 53928-53950. Motion to approve the bills as audited was made by Councilman Bryson and seconded by Councilman Cope. Motion Carried/5 -0 Vote

PAYROLL - \$218,830.99 for Checks 40985-41019

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Motion to approve the June 25, 2019 minutes as corrected was made by Councilman Skaramuca and seconded by Councilwoman Cristobal. Motion Carried/5-0

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Keith Potts – 223 W. Kennaston – Voiced his concerns regarding the closure of the City Forest

Pam Burck – 816 DeVara Lane – Voiced her concerns regarding the speed bumps that suddenly erupted on McBryde on June 21st. No notice was given so many residents were blocked in. The bumps are not tapered enough thus jolting anyone who crosses them at the 25 mph speed limit. Signage is poor causing risks for motorcycles; pedestrians also at risk as there are no curbs or sidewalks. To her knowledge, there have not been any injury or non-injury accidents and no traffic studies have been done. The bumps are a solution to a non-existent problem and should be removed.

Mike Potts – 616 E. Spruce – He has a bad back so the jolts crossing the bumps are a problem. Believes police are not doing their job on McBryde or in the Forest.

Helen Hepp – 419 N. Calder – Good News, Lake Sylvia Legacy Pavilion foundation & framing are complete. Wishes the ailing tree on the France property could be saved.

Keith Potts – 223 W. Kennaston – Drivers need to be courteous to walkers when traveling for the speed bumps. The signs say City Forest is closed to the public; everyone, right?

COMMITTEE REPORTS:

FORESTRY – Councilman Cope stated they met tonight. Main discussion held was the entry restrictions of the City Forest to vehicle traffic until Labor Day. The restrictions are due to fire danger, vandalism and dumping. Signs were posted at the gates. He read the signs into the record. There is process in place where city utility customers can receive a two day pass for vehicle entry. The forestry committee will meet again next month to continue this discussion.

PUBLIC WORKS – No Meeting Held

PRESENTATION:

Financial presentation by CFO Doug Streeter – Report and commentary was presented. Where we have been and where are we now. 4-13-16 General Fund Balance was a negative \$98,000; now we are above the red line. We have 60 days cash on hand which is required for city's our size. Prior to my start the City had 5 audit findings in 4 years; during my time we had 2 audits with no findings. We adopted a financial policy, improved relations with local & state agencies, unions, and community; all employees worked to improve community relations. Our staff is our biggest asset; providing them the equipment they needs helps them tremendously. Our Mayor running unopposed for her second term confirms improved community relations. Discussion ensued.

OLD BUSINESS:

Cell Tower Lease Agreement – Authorize the Mayor to Sign –
Waiting for additional information; no action taken.

NEW BUSINESS:

Professional CFO Services Contract – Authorize the Mayor to Sign –

Mayor furnished updated Exhibits A & B that identifies services and compensation. Compensation will be \$100.00 per hour not to exceed \$10,000.00. Discussion held. Position has been advertised and will continue for at least four weeks. Some applications have been received; hope to make a decision within one to two months. Expects to keep the contract after new hire for overlap. Motion to authorize Mayor to sign the Professional CFO Services Contract with compensation and services as identified in Exhibits A & B was made by Councilman Skaramuca and seconded by Councilman Cope.
Motion Carried/6-0 Vote

DOE Commendation – No Action –

Kevin Hegel has done an outstanding job at the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Mayor said it was a very nice letter from DOE and she will e-mail it to the Council.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mike Potts – 616 E. Spruce – Checking out forest gate key for 2 days? I spend a lot of time in the forest. I pay my taxes, it's my land; you all work for me. All it takes is a couple people to get others riled up around here; no one is safe. That's all I have to say.

Keith Potts – 223 W. Kennaston – I've lived here since 1970; it's been my playground. County sold us out; hope you guys don't.

COUNCIL COMMENTS:

Councilwoman Valentine –

Thank you to Mike for having the forest trail map placed in the kiosk at Fleet Park.

There is a public park forum scheduled for July 23rd at City Hall; want lots of ideas from the public.

Councilwoman Cristobal –

Thank you to Doug for all his hard work.

I am looking forward to the Saturday Morning Markets.

Thank you and congratulations to Helen Hepp for all her hard work on Lake Sylvia Legacy Pavilion project.

Councilman Trimble –

Thank you Doug. Being the Finance Committee Chairman I've got to know you even more than we already did. You have taught me more than I probably would have learned from anyone else.

I was recently in LA Dodger Stadium when an earthquake hit; quite an experience with 50,000 people in a very old building. I suggest everybody be prepared.

Councilman Cope –

Doug, I knew, maybe better than anyone on the Council, what we were getting when we brought you on having worked with you at the PUD. I have not been disappointed. The City is on a solid foundation.

I encourage people attend the July 23rd Park Forum; our parks are a great asset and input is needed.

I know the forest restriction is a passionate issue. City Forester is advising us and I take a lot of stock in what he says. We made a tough decision and accommodations have been made for bicycle and foot traffic and some vehicles. This is only temporary. Public comments are appreciated. The forest is a valuable resource and has to be protected. Thank you Loren for what you are doing.

Councilman Bryson –

Doug, I appreciated working with you and learning about the budget from you.

I appreciate the public comments regarding the forest restrictions and am committed to continuing to allow use and we will continue to work on the process.

Councilman Skaramuca –

Thank you Doug, I will miss your talent. Good luck in the next chapter of your life.

Thank you to mountain bike group the Montesano Riders for their efforts in the upkeep of our trails.

To chime in on the forest restrictions, I represent all the users. We are working on remedies. We have had recent vandalism causing public safety concerns. This happens in the evening hours, it is hard for the police to control; they have limitations. We will find a balance.

MAYOR COMMENTS:

Ms. Burck's public comments are appreciated and well taken. We will take a look at your concerns and see what can be done to address them.

Tonight is about Mr. Streeter. I appreciate all the financial things you did; you made other Department Heads work easier. What I really like about you is that you have been the special advisor to the Mayor. This has been very important over the last 3 ½ years. You truly allowed me learn and become a good, effective Mayor. I will miss you but know how to reach you. Thank you.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion to adjourn was made by Councilman Bryson and seconded by Councilwoman Cristobal.

Motion Carried/6-0 Vote

Meeting adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

Debbie Wisdom, Deputy City Clerk
Recording Available.

APPROVED