

**Montesano City Council Meeting Minutes
August 9, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. at Montesano City Hall**

1 **Mayor Vini Samuel, Presiding**

2 **Meeting was called to order by Mayor at 7:00 p.m.**

3
4 **FLAG CEREMONY** – Pledge of Allegiance

5
6 **COUNCIL MEMBERS PRESENT:** Dave Skaramuca, Ian Cope, Dan Wood, Nikki King, Lori Benedict and
7 Tyler Trimble.

8 **ABSENT:** Chris Hutchings – Motion was made by Trimble to excuse Hutchings from the meeting
9 and seconded by Cope. Motion Passed 6-0 Vote

10 City Attorney Coker - Excused by Mayor Samuel

11
12 **STAFF PRESENT:** Police Chief Brett Vance, Forester Loren Hiner, Public Works Director Rocky Howard,
13 Fire Chief Corey Rux, , Deputy City Clerk Debbie Wisdom

14
15 **AGENDA CHANGES:** Councilman Wood requested that the McBryde Culvert Project be added under
16 Unfinished Business and to add Fleet Park Memorial under New Business. Mayor Samuel requested to
17 move her City Economic Development Planning Presentation to follow New Business. There were no
18 objections.

19
20 **APPROVAL OF BILLS:**

21 Trimble presented bills totaling \$45,316.56 for Check #'s 51755-51788. Trimble made a motion to
22 approve the bills as audited and was seconded by Wood. Motion Passed 6-0 Vote

23
24 Payroll - \$182,139.94 Check #'s 39587-39614

25
26 **MEETING MINUTES APPROVED:**

27 Motion to approve minutes as written for July 26, 2016 was made by Trimble and seconded by
28 Skaramuca. Motion Passed 6-0 Vote

29
30 **PUBLIC COMMENT:** None

31
32 **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

33 **Public Works Committee:** Met on Monday August 8, 2016 at 7:00 p.m. Cemetery paving project is
34 completed. Progress is being made on nuisance properties.

35
36 **Parks & Rec Committee:** Met on August 9, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. Discussed working closer with other
37 entities and the Parks Board. Details regarding development of an updated Parks Comp Plan were
38 discussed. No update at this time regarding Vessey Field nets and Crait & Nelson Field bleachers.

39
40 **Public Safety Committee:** Met on 7-27-16 at 6:00 p.m. **Discussion of:** **1)** feasibility study for building a
41 public safety facility and seeking budget money and/or grants to fund the study **2)** requesting council
42 approval to seek a bond for \$800K to replace an aging fire engine (400 to 600K) and aging ambulance
43 (200K) **3)** increasing volunteer firefighter stipends & using a tiered system as a retention & recruiting
44 incentive and **4)** need of a new patrol car. Status update on the potential High School Fire Cadet
45 Academy program for the 2017-2018 school year. The new tax is passing and should produce
46 approximately \$100K next year for law enforcement.

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48 **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

49 **Schedule B of the Beacon Park Grading Bid Packet status** – Schedule B will allow the installation of top
50 soil and necessary seed to get the field ready for play. A sprinkler system will also be included. It will be
51 U19 Soccer ready by spring of 2017 but will not be used until the fall to allow the grass to take root.
52 Local Soccer Club is committed to \$10K (5K from the Club & 5K from a local family) and will continue to
53 fund raise to attempt to raise the additional funds needed. Representatives of the Soccer Club were in
54 attendance and are thankful the project is moving forward. The Club is requesting permission to sell
55 sponsorship signs for the field as a fund raiser. The goal is, in time, to have a fully functional park with
56 concessions stands, grandstands, permanent bathrooms, lights and trails. The club will have a fund
57 raising committee and is requesting that donations be passed through the city so it doesn't affect the
58 club's non-profit status. The city would then disperse the funds to the club as needed for projects.
59 Mayor Samuel commended Becky Scott, Gerilynn Lindley and the soccer club for the many years of
60 service and commitment. Councilman Cope also commended them for their service. Rocky Howard
61 apprised the council that this will be a change order with Quiggs and they will start later in August.
62

63 **Audit Costs** – The State Auditor's Office has advised they are coming to audit the city later this month.
64 The audit will include follow up on the 2015 exit interview with the city. This was not budgeted for so
65 there will need to be a supplemental budget item to cover the approximately \$14,500 cost.
66

67 **McBryde Culvert Project** – Small project grant from Flood Authority (FH) with an August 12, 2016
68 deadline. The McBryde culvert is a tributary of Cedar Creek so is a FH grant eligible project. This is a
69 shovel ready project at a projected cost from \$80K to \$90K. This will be submitted to the FH by the
70 deadline and the submitted documents will be presented to the council for approval at the August 23,
71 2016 council meeting.
72

73 **NEW BUSINESS:**

74 **Stop Signs** – The Model Traffic Ordinance Committee met on August 27, 2016 regarding a request from
75 the public for two additional stop signs at the intersection of East Simpson & North Satsop making it a 4-
76 Way Stop. There has been an increase in traffic and visibility issues. The Mayor apprised the council
77 that the City Attorney warns that by placing additional stop signs it exposes the city to liability. Motion
78 to add two stop signs making it a 4-way stop at East Simpson and North Satsop was made by Trimble
79 and seconded by Skaramuca. Motion Passed 6-0 Vote – Police Department will do educational
80 enforcement.

81 **Annexation proposal** – Chuck Caldwell is representing Paul Willis in a single petitioner annexation
82 request of 20 acres adjacent to City's Beacon Park property. Instructions have been request of the City
83 Attorney. The County Boundary Review is not required because it abuts the city limits. A public hearing
84 will be necessary. The Council will receive a review packet before the next council meeting at which
85 time it will be discussed further.

86 **Fleet Park Memorial Project** – Former Mayor Estes was unable to attend so this is tabled until the next
87 meeting.
88

89 **PRESENTATION: Mayor's Economic Plan** – Mayor Samuel stated that the City funds have had stagnant
90 funds for some time now with the primary sources being 1) property taxes 2) City Forest and 3) retail
91 sales tax. The City is fortunate to have a Forest as a source of income for water and its infrastructure.
92 The City is at a do or die point and needs to bring jobs and promote current businesses. Streets and
93 sidewalks are in need; the City has a 4K population but serves a 15K school and county seat population.
94 She requested input from the Council.

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95 **Trimble** – He will take time to brainstorm and bring back ideas at future meetings.

96 **Skaramuca** – He doesn't see huge industry coming to town and that we need to promote our
97 community and the natural resources we have. People work elsewhere but move here because we are
98 small, quiet, safe community.

99 **Cope** – Agrees we have a great community to raise a family in and that our natural resources are a draw.
100 We are geographically positioned in the natural resources gateway and need a way to capture tourists
101 as they pass by. We have small business such as Savory Faire and Gene's Stop & Go reopening which is
102 very encouraging.

103 **King** – We need to increase signage on the highway to encourage tourists to come into town.

104 **Wood** – There are many potential billboard sites the City should utilize to draw in the heavy traffic that
105 goes thru/by Montesano. Look at having a summit with local banks, real estate offices, contractors, etc.
106 to work on nudging improvements/interest in empty businesses such as Mary's River Lumber. Also
107 need to look beyond our boundaries for employment opportunities.

108 **Mayor** – Her plan is its infancy and stakeholder input is critical. The city has phenomenal fire and police
109 services. Funding is a critical need in this process. Promote small businesses that will support the
110 owner's household. Promote outdoor recreation-there are 6 million tourists who come to the
111 Washington Coast and we need to capitalize on that; if 1 percent shopped here it would be a great
112 boost to our economy. Promoting frequent downtown activities/festivals and athletic tournaments is
113 part of her plan. She is working on upgrading & using the city owned park and ride lot as a rest stop.
114 This discussion will be on future agendas for planning and discussion.

115

116 **ORDINANCES & RESOLUTIONS:** No ordinances or resolutions

117

118 **PUBLIC COMMENT:** City Forester Loren Hiner introduced is summer intern, Grays Harbor College
119 Forestry Student Brady Dier.

120

121 **MAYOR AND COUNCIL COMMENTS:**

122 **Wood** – Thank you to the Youth Soccer Club for all they have done and continue to do. National Night
123 Out (NNO) went well-thank you to King, Skaramuca, MPD, MFD and numerous volunteers for their
124 assistance.

125 **King** – Also thanks the Youth Soccer Club and all those who assisted in the NNO.

126 **Benedict** – Thank you to the Youth Soccer Club as well.

127 **Trimble** – A thank you to the Youth Soccer Club; he benefitted from the club in his youth. Appreciates
128 the city staff and asks that we thank them often. Thanks to all who assisted and participated in the
129 NNO.

130 **Cope**- Thank you to Youth Soccer Club; especially Becky Scott – Great Job. Thank you to the Mayor for
131 starting economic discussions.

132 **Skaramuca** –Thanks to Becky Scott and the Youth Soccer Club. Thanks to Dan Wood on the NNO.

133 Thanks to Mayor for beginning discussions on economic development projects.

134 **Mayor** – Very excited about economic plans. Excited about upcoming events - Saturday Farmers Market;
135 Chamber of Commerce City Wide Garage Sale; "Catch Montesano" Fish & Brew event; City's 1st Salmon
136 Derby (thank you Corey Rux). City staff expands out beyond their normal duties. Blessed to live in this
137 community.

138

139 **Motion to adjourn** was made by Cope and seconded by King. Motion Passed 6-0 Vote

140 Meeting adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

141 Debbie Wisdom – Deputy City Clerk

Recording Available