



# McCleary Regular City Council Meeting

Wednesday, October 27, 2021 – 6:30 PM

McCleary Community Center & WebEx Virtual Meeting

## Minutes

### WebEx Meeting Link:

<https://cityofmccleary.my.webex.com/cityofmccleary.my/j.php?MTID=m49b8af089fe876143ea03c0d40ad9a5e>

Join By Phone: **+1-408-418-9388**

Meeting number (access code): **2553 951 2422**

Meeting password: **3iJgPeJmr43 (34547356 from phones and video systems)**

### Call to Order/Flag Salute/Roll Call

### Agenda Modifications/Acceptance

There were no changes or modifications to the agenda

#### Accept the Agenda

**Motion made by Councilmember Amsbury, Seconded by Councilmember Huff.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

### Public Hearing

1. Combined Revenue Resources

Mayor Orffer opened the Public Hearing at 6:32PM

There were no Public Comments.

Mayor Orffer closed the Public Hearing at 6:34PM

2. Ad Valorem Tax Levy Ordinance

Mayor Orffer opened the Public Hearing at 6:34PM

There were no Public Comments

Mayor Orffer explained the Ad Valorem Tax Levy is a 1% increase annually in property tax revenues. Discussion took place among Mayor and Council.

**Motion to approve a zero increase in property tax.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Amsbury, Seconded by Councilmember Huff.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

Mayor Orffer closed the Public Hearing at 6:37PM

### Special Presentation

3. Greater Grays Harbor Presentation

Lynette from Greater Grays Harbor did a presentation outlining our Municipal Service Agreement.

She provided a snapshot of the 4 focus areas, Encourage Favorable Business Climate, Support Small Business, Attract and Assist Relocation of New Business and Address Issues Hindering Business

Expansion. Lynette gave an overview of the City of McCleary for the past year. She discussed available

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business assistance, small business grant opportunities, COVID relief efforts, surveys, business and entrepreneur development and tourism.

Councilmember Amsbury inquired about a Worksource sponsored program in which businesses can receive funding for enhancing skills, and local training. Lynette elaborated on the Worksource funding and services eligible for the funding. This is through Worksource, not Greater Grays Harbor.

Councilmember Huff asked if there were any leads on new Childcare Providers in McCleary. Lynette shared that there was one new Childcare facility in the works. Discussion took place regarding legislature and the modification of required certifications. A focus on rural areas was discussed.

### **Consent Agenda**

4. Regular Council Meeting Minutes July 14, 2021
5. Regular City Council Meeting Minutes August 11, 2021
6. Regular Council Meeting Minutes October 13, 2021

Motion to approve the Consent Agenda and past meeting minutes.

**Motion made by Councilmember Huff, Seconded by Councilmember Heller.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

### **Public Comment**

Bob Pringle shared his concerns with an event at the VFW this past weekend. The music was very loud, and he wondered if an officer had addressed the noise complaint. He continued on to say there was garbage everywhere and a lot of drinking.

Mayor Orffer said this is the first she had heard of the noise complaint and he would check with the officers. She then encouraged Mr. Pringle to call in these types of issues in the future.

Chris Vessey thanked Mayor Orffer, Councilmember Huff and Councilmember Heller for voting in favor of the annexation. With the property annexed into the City, rather than the County, proper sewer, water, sidewalks and infrastructure will be implemented. The City will have control on development if it occurs.

Mr. Vessey inquired of the outcome of the buried asphalt and asbestos investigation. He stated there was a person present in the audience that had agreed to apologize publicly if they were wrong. Public Works Director, Todd Baun, will follow up with Mr. Vessey and provide him a copy of the letter from Grays Harbor County.

### **New Business**

7. Council Chambers Relocation

Mayor Orffer discussed a possible relocation of City Council Chambers to the Museum. The current Council Chambers can not accommodate the public, there just isn't enough space. The Museum has adequate space with a capacity of 92. Mayor Orffer is aware there would be some cost associated with the relocation. This could create a permanent location for Council Chambers, while creating a partnership with the Museum and Historical Society, and it would bring members of the community to the Museum, so they could see what it has to offer.

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Councilmember Amsbury said that she was uncomfortable with the idea of spending money on a new location, as the City owns the Community Center, and it has worked very well for Council meetings. We put money into the Community Center to make improvements, and she is uncomfortable spending additional funds.

Councilmember Heller agreed with Councilmember Amsbury. He doesn't want to invest money at a new location. We have made a lot of improvements here at the Community Center. Councilmember Heller mentioned he would be open to a possible partnership if the expenses for the relocation were shared by the Museum. He then asked if the Museum was ADA compliant.

Linda Thompson with the Museum said they had applied for and are expecting to receive a grant for \$42,000 for upgrades, including heating and air conditioning. Linda said they have ADA access including ramps and one restroom that is almost fully ADA accessible.

Councilmember Miller said he is on the fence. He would like to know the costs to relocate as he doesn't like to commit blindly, he wants to know the total costs up front.

Mayor Orffer will work on costs associated with a relocation to the Museum. If we do wind up partnering with the Museum, perhaps we could pay the utilities which are estimated at \$300 per month. If we do stay here at the Community Center, we will need to purchase new furniture.

8. DTF Property environmental assessment Proposals

We had 4 bids on our Request for Proposals to assess the DTF property and provide an overview. High bid was \$900,000 and low bid was \$35,000. Skillings was the low bidder.

**Motion to accept Skillings as low bid to assess the DTF Property.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Amsbury, Seconded by Councilmember Heller.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

**Old Business**

9. Resolution #740 - Adopt Mayor and Council Policies

This is a formal Resolution to adopt and solidify the Mayor and Council Policies.

**Motion to adopt Mayor and Council Polices under Resolution #740.**

**Motion made by Councilmember Heller, Seconded by Councilmember Huff.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

10. DTF Property Purchase Update

Mayor Orffer shared that the DTF accepted our proposal on the property purchase with our extended closing date. Staff is working on funding options and will have information to Council at or before the next Council Meeting.

We have 3 citizens interested in serving on the The Community Planning Committee, 2 are outside of City limits so we are doing some research to make sure this isn't a conflict.

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Legal Counsel Chris Coker said that there is not a clear black and white answer. It is our Committee so we can have members inside the City, and those nearby on the Committee.

Mayor Orffer asked the Council how they would like to structure the Committee. 2 councilmembers, 3 citizens, local businesses, a member of the Chamber, representation from the School and Simpson, and a City Staff member were discussed.

Councilmember Amsbury volunteered to be on the Committee, as did Councilmember Huff. The 3 citizens, Angela Rittinger, Marina K, and Andrea Watts will also serve on the Committee. We will reach out to local business', Simpson, the school, and the chamber for interest. There will be no decisions made at the Committee meetings, just discussions that will be brought back to Council for review and discussion.

### **Updates**

Councilmember Heller announced that the weekend trash clean ups will continue on the 3rd Saturday of the month, unless the weather gets bad, then they will be rescheduled. He went on to say that if anyone notices any areas that need attended regarding trash pick up, to let him know. He feels they are getting most areas quite well, but, if there is something that needs attention, please reach out.

Councilmember Huff shared that this Friday is the last day to vote for First Responder of the Year. Ballots are available at the Post Office, and he is emptying the ballot box daily.

Mayor Orffer reminded everyone of the Merchant Trick or Treat taking place this Friday from 4:00PM to 6:00PM. Please be aware there will be a lot of children out, and visibility may be difficult due to the rainy weather.

### **Ordinances and Resolutions**

None

### **Public Comment**

Bob Pringle asked if we would be sticking to the winter schedule of once a month Council Meetings. Mayor Orffer shared that we have 2 Council Meetings per month September through May, and 1 meeting per month June through August. Mayor Orffer mentioned that the 2nd November meeting, and the 2nd December meeting will most likely be canceled due to Thanksgiving and Christmas.

Kathy Elofson announced that the Historical Society will be selling Krispy Kreme donuts for \$10 per dozen, this Friday at Beerbower Park beginning at 9:00AM.

### **Adjourn**

**Motion to adjourn the meeting at 7:51PM**

**Motion made by Councilmember Heller, Seconded by Councilmember Amsbury.**

**Voting Yea: Councilmember Amsbury, Councilmember Huff, Councilmember Heller, Councilmember Miller, Councilmember Iversen**

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