

MINUTES
CITY OF STEVENSON COUNCIL MEETING
October 17, 2019
6:00 PM, City Hall

1. CALL TO ORDER/PRESENTATION TO THE FLAG: Mayor Anderson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m., led the group in reciting the pledge of allegiance and conducted roll call.

Present: Mayor Scott Anderson; Councilmembers Hendricks, Taylor, Knudsen. Councilmember Weissfeld attended via by conference call. Councilmember Muth was absent.

City Staff: City Administrator Leana Kinley, Community Development Director Ben Shumaker, Public Works Director Karl Russell, City Attorney Ken Woodrich
Other: Jack Wallis, Wallis Engineering

Public Attending: Mary Repar, Karen Douglass, Mary Jane Loehrke, Andrea Byrd, Rick May, Rob Farris, Meaghan Young.

2. CHANGES TO THE AGENDA: No items added, document changes were noted.

Councilmember Matthew Knudsen requested the minutes from the September 19th City Council meeting be removed from the consent agenda and amended. An email from Rick May requesting an amendment to the September 19th minutes was also included in the Council packet.

3. CONSENT AGENDA: The following items were presented for Council approval.

a) Water adjustment - Marilyn Bolles (meter No. 204200) requests a water adjustment of \$641.73 for a water leak in their irrigation which they will repair prior to turning it on again.

b) Water Adjustment - David and Victoria Cassidy (meter no. 611700) requests a water adjustment of \$164.19 for a water leak which they have since repaired.

c) Water Adjustment - Bernadette Sanders (meter No. 612900) requests a water adjustment of \$358.98 for a water leak which they have since repaired.

d) Water Adjustment - Susan Impson (meter no. 503200) requests a water adjustment of \$211.60 for a water leak that has since been repaired.

e) Liquor License Renewals - Andrew's Pizza and Red Bluff Brewing.

MOTION: To approve consent agenda items a-e made by Councilmember Hendricks, seconded by Councilmember Taylor. Motion passed 4-0.

f) Minutes of September 19, 2019 City Council Meeting, requested changes to the September 19, 2019 minutes and the September 24, 2019 Special City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Knudsen requested additions be made to the September 19th, 2019 meeting regarding his dissenting vote on additional funding of the Russell Street project. City Attorney Woodrich cautioned the minutes needed to be accurate and suggested deferring approval of the minutes from September 19th for the next meeting. City Administrator Kinley spoke of the need to review the recording of the September 19th meeting to ensure clarity before any amendments would be made.

Adoption of the City Council meeting minutes from September 19th, 2019 was tabled to the next City Council meeting in November. Rick May requested revisions to the September 19th, 2019 minutes regarding discussion on the Del Ray Avenue right-of-way. City Administrator Kinley replied she would review the recording of the September 19th meeting in order to accurately record any changes needed.

MOTION: To approve the Special Council Meeting minutes from September 24th as presented made by Councilmember Knudsen, seconded by Councilmember Hendricks. Motion passed 4-0.

4. PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mary Repar spoke on several items: Disapproval of clearcutting within Stevenson City or Urban Growth Boundary limits; hiring process of the new Public Works Director; why so many residences are experiencing water pipe breakage; what the City of Stevenson's response will be following tribal call for removal of nearby Columbia River dams; and Del Ray project.

Rick May offered complimentary comments on his interactions with Karl Russell, the new Public Works Director.

Mayor Anderson responded to Repar's comments regarding the Public Work's Director by stating he stands by his decision to promote Russell to the position.

5. PRESENTATIONS FROM OUTSIDE AGENCIES:

a) Skamania County Chamber of Commerce - Executive Director Angie Waiss was invited to provide an update on recent Chamber activities. She spoke of a number of events, programs and projects the Chamber has taken part in or sponsored over the past few months. She noted the events have all gone smoothly. A membership drive for the Chamber is ongoing. Fundraising ideas to replace LTAC funds are being developed. A Small Business Showcase, Brown Bag Workshop and Christmas in the Gorge are the next big events taking place.

6. PUBLIC HEARINGS:

a) 6:15 Proposed 2020 Budget Hearing - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented the 2020 proposed budget for public comment and council discussion. Copies of budget documents were included in the packet. Administrator Kinley highlighted the budgeting process and how revenue and expenditures are determined. She noted in 2020 water and sewer rates are currently projected to increase and there is a 1% property tax increase proposed. She provided details on projects, financing and anticipated maintenance,

equipment and personnel needs. There may be some drawing down of reserves to balance the budget for capital projects. The new tree maintenance plan was explained. Medical and dental plan costs will not be going up in 2020.

The Council held a substantial discussion on infrastructure and capital improvements and the importance of investing now for the future. Population growth will increase demand on services, roads and utilities. Councilmembers agreed there was a need to develop a plan regarding usage of reserves.

Further discussions will take place at the November 14th special budget meeting.

Mayor Anderson opened the Budget Public Hearing portion at 6:37 p.m.

Mary Repar appreciated there was some funding provided to the pool as she feels it is a community asset. She called for the School District to contribute funds as well. She asked why swimming lessons were not part of PE program at schools.

Mayor Anderson closed the Budget Public Hearing at 6:40 p.m.

7. UNFINISHED BUSINESS:

a) Approve Ordinance 2019-1146 Regulating Camping - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented Ordinance 2019-1146 regulating camping in the city for council consideration.

This ordinance was discussed at the August and September 2019 council meetings. Its adoption will allow the Skamania County Sheriff's Office to control camping in public areas. After considerable deliberation Councilmember Knudsen asked for the measure to be tabled to allow more time to identify possible solutions and interventions to the problems underlying homelessness. Councilmember Hendricks suggested revisiting the ordinance sometime in the spring. Attorney Woodrich provided clarification of reconsideration of the ordinance to the Council.

b) Sewer Plant Update - Public Works Director Karl Russell provided an update on the Stevenson Wastewater System and the Compliance Schedule. He shared information on his meetings with the largest producers and how they are cooperating to reduce their effluent via sidestreaming and new equipment installations.

Jack Wallis of Wallis Engineering presented an update on the Stevenson Wastewater Treatment Plant project and design. The PowerPoint showed the various phases of the project with existing and proposed construction features. Councilmember Taylor expressed appreciation for the clarity of the presentation with its timelines and funding explanations. Community Development Director Shumaker reported the city is finalizing grant applications, that, if successful will pay 80% of collection system improvements for lift stations, with the remaining portion funded by a USDA loan.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

a) Approve Resolution 2019-347 Regarding a Ballot Proposition for Creation of a Metropolitan Park District - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented this resolution for council discussion and consideration. She provided background information on the various boundaries and levy amounts that have been proposed and the ballot timelines. Council discussions focused on the structure and potential boundaries of the

Metropolitan Park District, the need for county-wide support of the pool and what levy amount would generate the most revenue with the best chance of passage. Council consensus was to direct city staff to develop a new resolution for a proposition that would include the Urban Growth boundaries, expand the MPD's purpose to include parks, and assess a levy rate of .35/1000. Administrator Kinley relayed she would come up with revised options and better numbers which include a capital plan for presentation at the next meeting.

b) Approve Waterfront Enhancement Contract Extension - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented the contract amendment with the Port of Skamania for Waterfront Enhancements at Beverly Park, extending the agreement through December 31, 2020, for council review and consideration. She directed Council's attention to the information in the Council packet regarding the Port's request for an extension. The Port is currently in violation of its City Shoreline Permit. During the discussion several Councilmembers expressed dissatisfaction at the delays and lack of communication and accountability throughout the project. There was discussion of dates for a joint meeting with the Port and County regarding the project to discuss other project delays and work out solutions. The meeting date was set for December 3rd. Attorney Woodrich advised it was incumbent upon the elected officials to overcome the challenges and find solutions to the problems.

>Councilmember Amy Weissfeld ended her participation in the conference call at 8:12 p.m.

MOTION: To approve Amendment #1 to the Waterfront Enhancement agreement with the Port of Skamania was made by Councilmember Hendricks with a second by Councilmember Taylor. Councilmember Knudsen suggested penalties for failing to meet deadlines. The vote was 2:1, with Councilmember Knudsen voting nay. Attorney Woodrich confirmed the vote was permissible as it was not a new disbursement of funds.

c) Approve QCL 2020 Clearinghouse Change Order - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented the change order to the QCL contract for additional drug and alcohol testing services to comply with DOT regulations for council consideration. A copy of the original contract and a description of the reason for the change were attached. The cost impact is expected to be minimal and will ensure the city complies with DOT regulations.

MOTION: To approve the 2020 Clearinghouse Change Order with QCL as presented was made by Councilmember Knudsen with a second from Councilmember Hendricks. The motion passed unanimously on a 3:0 vote.

d) Approve Resolution 2019-348 Amending the HRA VEBA Policy - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented this resolution for council review and consideration. The policy was changed in August to remove the employer contribution in lieu of medical insurance, with consensus from staff, and mentioned to council at the August meeting. Upon further review, the policy change needs to be adopted by resolution.

MOTION: To approve resolution 2019-348 amending the HRA VEBA policy and guidelines was made by Councilmember Knudsen with a second from Councilmember Hendricks. The motion passed unanimously on a 3:0 vote.

e) Discuss Options for Financing Water and Wastewater Projects - City Administrator Leana Kinley opted to present options for funding the Loop Road sewer line extension, the Commerce Energy Grant match portion (Smart meter project) and the School Street waterline replacement project at a later time due to time constraints.

f) Approve Changes to Development Standards - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented changes to development standards to better align the criteria for private driveways and private roads.

Community Development Director Shumaker provided explanations to the amendments proposed in the ordinance. A main item is to change the language that requires a shared driveway between two homes to language that changes it to between two lots. Length of area to be paved was also revised. Councilmember Knudsen asked several questions about multi-plex housing. Following a short discussion, it was determined to have the ordinance reviewed at the next Planning Commission meeting to address concerns expressed by Rick May and Councilmember Knudsen.

g) Approve Retroactive Pay for Karl Russell - City Administrator Leana Kinley requested approval of retroactive pay for Karl Russell for additional work responsibilities as outlined in an attached memo.

City Administrator Kinley explained the reason for the request by highlighting the changes in Karl's job responsibilities starting in June 2019. As noted in the packet at that time he became responsible for 100% of the water system management tasks. Attorney Woodrich asked if the City had a policy regarding paying retroactively and beyond scale. Kinley relayed she would research past agreements that had been made with other employees. Attorney Woodrich recommended adopting policies to address retroactive pay and paying for out-of-scope work.

MOTION: To approve retroactive pay for Karl Russell in the amount of \$1,470.05 made by Councilmember Taylor with a second by Councilmember Hendricks. The motion passed unanimously on a 3:0 vote.

9. VOUCHER APPROVAL AND INVESTMENTS UPDATE:

a) September 2019 payroll and October 2019 AP checks were audited and were presented for approval. September payroll checks 13869 thru 13875 total \$96,867.71 which includes twenty-five EFT payments. AP checks 13876 thru 13933 total \$258,461.04 which includes four ACH payments. The AP Check Register was attached for review. Detailed claims vouchers were available for review at the council meeting. There was no investment activity.

MOTION: To approve vouchers and investments for September and October 2019 was made by Councilmember Hendricks with a second by Councilmember Taylor. The motion passed unanimously on a 3:0 vote.

10. INFORMATION ITEMS:

a) Chamber of Commerce Activities - The attached report described some of the activities conducted by Skamania County Chamber of Commerce in September, 2019.

b) Municipal Court Cases Filed - A summary of Stevenson Municipal Court cases recently filed was attached for council's review.

c) Fire Department - A copy of the Stevenson Fire Department report for September, 2019 was attached for council review.

d) Planning Commission Minutes - Minutes were attached from the 9/9/19 Planning Commission meeting and the 9/23/19 Downtown Planning special meeting.

e) Sheriff's Report - A copy of the Skamania County Sheriff's report for September, 2019 was attached for council review.

f) Building Permits Issued - In Stevenson there are 17 Single Family Residences (SFRs), 4 cabins, 1 triplex, 2 duplexes and 79 building permits total for 2019. There are talks of development surrounding the bottom of Monda Rd, and two short plats in the works-one for Holstrom Road/Ryan Allen area and another for Carter Lane. In North Bonneville, there are 2 SFRs and one duplex finalized since the last council meeting.

g) Financial Report - City Administrator Leana Kinley presented the City's Financial Report for year-to-date revenues and expenditures through September 30, 2019.

11. CITY ADMINISTRATOR AND STAFF REPORTS:

a) Karl Russell, Public Works Director

PWD Russell shared steps he is taking to address future WWTP operations due to Jacobs leaving. Different options are being explored. Hood River approached him regarding their interest in still receiving Stevenson's bio-solids. A recent meeting with Department of Ecology went well.

Russell St. project bids anticipated to be out in mid-November. He is working on bringing Hegewald Well online as a permanent back-up water source. Road striping went well, no insurance claims were filed or other complaints. Good signage and timing of striping helped. The Russell St. undergrounding is nearly complete, but paving has been delayed near the McCloskey residence due to coordination problems with repairing a sewer lateral and by the Post Office due to WAVE being behind schedule. Finding funding for older infrastructure needs still problematic.

b) Ben Shumaker, Community Development Director

Extremely busy right now. Provided a brief update on the implementation strategies of the Downtown Plan, first steps to save heart of downtown are being completed with priorities the Council has established, including completion of Russell Street, the Park Plaza project, zoning amendments and design standards. Next priority is realigning Columbia in order to develop both sides and create a view corridor. Some funds are coming in for First Street. He is approaching the County for possible use of brownfield funding for area wide planning of the Columbia Avenue area, or potential industrial development near transfer site. An estimated cost for Columbia Street is not available due to multiple unknowns with existing infrastructure and eventual movement of road.

c) Leana Kinley, City Administrator

Her report was provided to the council in their meeting packets.

12. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS:

None provided.

13. ISSUES FOR THE NEXT MEETING:

None provided.

14. EXECUTIVE SESSION - City Council convened in Executive Session at 8:57 p.m. for an initial 10 minutes under:

a) RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) to discuss with legal counsel representing the agency litigation or potential litigation to which the agency is, or is likely to become, a party.

15. ADJOURNMENT - Mayor Anderson adjourned the meeting at 9:07 p.m.

=====

Approved _____; Approved with revisions _____

Name Date

Minutes recorded by Johanna Roe



Leana Kinley <leana@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Comments from Repar

1 message

repar@saw.net <repar@saw.net>

Wed, Oct 16, 2019 at 3:04 PM

To: City of Stevenson <citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us>

Dear City Council,

Recently, a new Public Works director has appeared out of nowhere. There are all sorts of rumors going around about what happened between Leana Kinley, City Administrator, and Eric Hansen, Public Works Director, to cause Eric Hansen to resign. Some rumors say he was first fired and then that there was a "mutual parting of the way." I don't know what really happened but it's never good when a Public Works Director who has been involved in so many high priority projects suddenly decides to leave, or is forced to leave. Shouldn't the City be advertising for a public works director so that we have all qualified applicants apply? The newly appointed public works director can also apply.

I don't know who did what to who but it is always distressing in a small community when sudden and rumor-filled changes come about. I think the City should clarify why Eric Hansen quit or was fired and why we have a new Public Works Director. Thank you.

Mary Repar
50561 WA-14
P.O. Box 103
Stevenson, WA 98648

tel: (360) 726-7052

citycouncil@ci.stevenson.wa.us

October 14, 2019

Yakama and Lummi Nations Call for Removal of Three Columbia River Dams

On October 14, 2019, Indigenous Peoples' Day, the Yakama Nation and Lummi Nation made history by calling for the removal of the John Day, The Dalles, and Bonneville dams. [Read Yakama Nation's press release](#) and [Lummi Nation press release](#). Read a message from Columbia Riverkeeper's Executive Director below.

Message from Brett VandenHeuvel, Executive Director, Columbia Riverkeeper

Today I stood on the Columbia's shores at Celilo Park and watched history in the making. Yakama Nation, supported by Lummi Nation, announced a bold vision: a Columbia River teeming with salmon, a restored Celilo Falls, and a Pacific Northwest powered by clean energy that does not drive salmon and orca to extinction. Yakama Nation Chairman JoDe Goudy stated:

The Columbia River dams were built on this false legal foundation [the doctrine of discovery], and decimated the Yakama Nation's fisheries, traditional foods, and cultural sites.

Salmon—and the people and orcas that depend on salmon—are in crisis. Today the Yakama and Lummi nations called on federal leaders to remove the John Day, The Dalles, and Bonneville dams.

Columbia Riverkeeper stands in solidarity with Yakama and Lummi nations. We respect the tribes' rights to advocate for and defend treaty rights, including today's vision of a free-flowing lower Columbia River.

For Columbia Riverkeeper, it comes down to this: the decades-long effort to recover endangered salmon is not working. The Columbia River is too hot for salmon survival. The stagnant reservoirs behind the dams create dangerously hot water. Climate change is pushing the river over the edge. Year after year, the river gets hotter. The system is broken.

Dam removal is a complex issue that will require intense analysis and must ensure solutions for clean and reliable electricity and transportation. In the decades ahead, I'm confident we can replace the dams with truly clean energy, transport cargo to ocean ports, and save salmon runs from extinction. What about flood control? The three lower Columbia dams are "run-of-the-river" dams and do not provide significant flood control, unlike large storage dams in British Columbia.

Re-powering the Pacific Northwest with wind, solar, and battery storage will create local jobs for decades. This transition will take time, and it's smart to start planning today. It may have been heresy to say this 40 years ago, but hydropower is not clean energy. It is destroying salmon runs, orcas, and cultures that depend on salmon. And it's not cheap anymore; wind and solar are becoming more affordable than electricity from dams. In this age of extinction and climate change, we must take bold action.

When was the last time you were asked to imagine the unimaginable? Imagine a free-flowing Columbia coursing through the Gorge. Imagine record salmon runs returning year after year. Imagine the roar of Celilo Falls, which some still remember.

As you let today's historic announcement sink in, join me in embracing Yakama and Lummi Nation's call to consider bold, new ideas. Just imagine.

PO Box 238 Stevenson, WA 98648
509-230-7092
clellandv@hotmail.com

October 17, 2019

City of Stevenson

Leana Kinley

Dear City of Stevenson Council:

As you consider helping to support the Skamania County Pool, I would like to share some thoughts and experiences.

Having lived in Skamania County my whole life, I have not seen the pool run so efficiently as it is now. When I am at exercise class, there are children playing, swimming lessons going and lap swimmers all at the same time. The pool to my knowledge or experience has not utilized in such a manner. The revenue is also more than it has been in years and I believe it has a good chance to survive if it has help for a bit longer. Meaghan Young and the team are great!

In our exercise class we have a lady who comes from Washougal, Carson and surrounding areas locally but also there are people that only live here part time that join us and state how wonderful the pool is and how they look forward to coming when they are in town.

Please consider helping them, our Community benefits from the pool.

Vickie Clelland
City of Stevenson Resident

