

MARYSVILLE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

April 2, 2007

7:00 p.m

City Hall

CALL TO ORDER / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Pro Tem Jon Nehring called the April 2, 2007 meeting of the Marysville City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. and then led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Chief Administrative Officer Mary Swenson gave the roll call. The following staff and councilmembers were in attendance.

Council: Mayor Pro Tem Jon Nehring, Lee Phillips, Carmen Rasmussen, Jeff Seibert, John Soriano, Jeff Vaughan, and Donna Wright

Staff: Mary Swenson, Chief Administrative Officer; Grant Weed, City Attorney; Sandy Langdon, Finance Director; Paul Roberts, Public Works Director; Gloria Hirashima, Community Development Director; Rick Smith, Chief of Police; Kristie Guy, Human Resources Manager; and Laurie Hugdahl, Recording Secretary.

It was noted that Mayor Kendall was out of town.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember John Soriano reported that last Wednesday, March 28, the LEOFF1 Board reviewed and approved five claims. There was also discussion about pre-approving one claim.

Councilmember Soriano then reported on the Public Safety Committee meeting. Topics discussed included:

- Overtime is down from this time last year.
- Two recent arrests have been made related to graffiti. Commendations to Mike Robinson for his part in that.
- Update on hiring.
- Wiring is being prepared for new jail door system. Marla Ringen has offered a tour to any councilmembers who are interested.
- Chief Smith has held meetings with his staff to review department goals, objectives, expectations and priorities. The mood is very upbeat in that department.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Snohomish County Tourism Bureau Annual Report – Amy Spain.

Amy Spain delivered a PowerPoint presentation (as distributed to Council at the meeting) regarding the 2006 Annual Report. A summary of that presentation is as follows.

- Tourism in Snohomish County was up 10.6% resulting in a total economic impact of \$746.7 million
- 14,202 requests for information were generated from ads; up 47.9%
- Web visitors for Snohomish.org, SnohomishCountyWeddings.com and RoomsAtPar.com were up from 2005 by 4.4% with 234,569 visits.
- Visitors to SCTB visitor centers county-wide were up, but were down in the north county because of the temporary closure of the north county VIC.
- Off season program bookings were relatively flat compared with 2005, but represented \$1.2 million in economic impact
- 14,580 definite and tentative group and convention room nights were booked in 2006 representing \$10.2 million in economic impact – a 2% increase in room nights and a 85.5% increase in economic impact
- Hotel occupancy levels were up 4.0% to 70.1%
- Hotel motel tax collections were up 22% representing healthy growth
- Achieved \$342,133 of media coverage, up to 45.6%

Following the presentation, Mayor Pro Tem Nehring asked who was generally invited to the Sports Marketing and the Economic Impact of Sports Business educational programs offered by the SCTB. Ms. Spain replied that they are open to anyone throughout the community who is interested and generally a wide variety of people attend. Mayor Pro Tem Nehring commented on the huge economic impact of youth sports tournaments. Ms. Spain concurred. She noted that Marysville's Park and Recreation Director Jim Ballew has been very involved in this. She commented on the lack of tournament-quality fields (3 or 4 fields together, parking, lights) in Snohomish County.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. **Approval of March 26, 2007 City Council Meeting Minutes.**
2. **Approval of April 2, 2007 City Council Work Session Minutes.**

CONSENT AGENDA

3. **Approval of March 21, 2007 Claims in the Amount of \$719,708.84; Paid by Check No. 37796 through 37969 with Check No. 34908 and 37588 Void.**
4. **Approval of March 28, 2007 Claims in the Amount of \$511,032.24; Paid by Check No. 37970 through 38132 with Check No. 37933 and 37895 Void .**

Councilmember Jeff Vaughan referred to page 17 of 43 and asked what the payments to Matrix Business Technologies were for. Sandy Langdon indicated she would check on that.

Councilmember Nehring wondered why there was an invoice for the petting zoo animals for \$2000 (page 14 of 43). Chief Administrative Officer Swenson explained that the school district is discontinuing the Future Farmers of America program which usually provides the animals. The City has struck a deal with the school district in order to provide the petting zoo for this year. The City will need to decide what to do about the program after that.

5. **Approval of New Liquor License for Winco Foods #8 Located at 3947 116th Street N.E.**

Finance Director Sandy Langdon noted that Council is not required to approve the liquor licenses. Staff is considering leaving those off the agenda in the future and handling them administratively unless there is a denial, in which case Council would be notified. There was consensus to proceed with that suggestion.

REVIEW BIDS

6. **Jennings Park Irrigation Project.**

Finance Director Sandy Langdon remarked that the bids would be opened on Thursday.

PUBLIC HEARING

None.

CURRENT BUSINESS

None

NEW BUSINESS

7. Professional Services Agreement with Roth Hill Engineering Partners, LLC for Design Services on the 136th Street Trunk Sewer Project.

Public Works Director Paul Roberts explained that this is for design services on the 136th Street Trunk Project.

Councilmember Carmen Rasmussen referred to the assumption that stream classification would be done following the City of Marysville Municipal Code and not Snohomish County's Code. She asked why this distinction was made. Community Development Director Gloria Hirashima explained that the main difference is that Marysville's is much stricter since it was recently updated. Snohomish County is still in the process of updating theirs. Paul Roberts added that they are not expecting major environmental issues with this project.

8. Non-Union/Management Salary Grade Review.

Chief Administrative Officer Swenson explained that Gwendy Campbell began the City's process of reviewing the management job classifications. She assisted with creating a 5-step grid which allows more consistency between steps. After Ms. Campbell's assistance, Mary Swenson and Human Resources Manager Kristie Guy completed the process. Ms. Guy reviewed the process they undertook in creating the grids and job classifications. Ms. Swenson discussed the complex issues related to implementing the new grid. They decided the best way would be to review individual employees to determine where they would best fit in the grid and still allow room for growth.

Ms. Swenson mentioned that they had held a meeting with all the employees to discuss the development of these grids. They had committed to getting these to Council in April and hoped for implementation by May or June. She noted the cost of implementation is expected to be approximately \$150,000. \$50,000 is in the budget, but there will be a budget amendment needed for the other \$100,000. She added that during budget time they purposely did not take into account revenue from several new businesses in the city. Staff is comfortable that there is enough money to cover this implementation. She noted that City Attorney Grant Weed would be preparing an ordinance to implement this.

Staffing Proposal for Court

Suzi Elsner, Court Administrator, reviewed the court's staffing proposal as detailed in her handout distributed to Council. In summary, their recommendation is to appoint one part-time court commissioner, one business office supervisor position and two program specialist positions. She justified these requests because increased

annexation areas of the three cities served as well as increased number of officers for each city has created a tremendous increase in workload for the court staff.

Mary Swenson commented on the timeliness of doing this now, referring to the City's size and labor implications for the future. City Attorney Grant Weed added that city growth is a factor, but increased laws have also resulted in more court cases. He agreed that it is time to be proactive with this. Ms. Swenson noted that the additional passport processing has also increased the court's functions.

Councilmember Carmen Rasmussen asked about sharing the costs fairly with Lake Stevens and Arlington. Ms. Swenson discussed how they intend to proceed with this. She noted that they intend to start charging other jurisdictions what the true costs are. She explained that they have already been in discussions with them and they appear to be fine with the change. Staff feels comfortable moving forward even if it is just for the City of Marysville because the need will continue to grow.

Councilmember Rasmussen noted that with a part-time commissioner there would not be a need for a pro-tem judge, which could result in a cost savings. Ms. Elsner concurred.

Councilmember Phillips asked about the timeframe. Ms. Swenson replied that they plan to move forward with the office supervisor position immediately. They hope to move into the new court by June or July.

Councilmember Seibert expressed concern about the transition process as far as notifying the public is concerned. Ms. Elsner explained how this was handled when they moved into the current building. Stickers would be put on citations as the time approaches. Additional notices would be sent in June. Other forms of notification would be done in forms such as on the website, signage at the buildings, *The Messenger*, etc.

Councilmember Soriano asked about the prerequisites of appointing a part-time commissioner. Ms. Elsner explained that they need to be a member of the Washington Bar Association. They do not have to live in the city limits, but they are appointed by the municipal court judge. She noted that they will be sending out a letter to everyone currently on the pro-tem list and also to the Washington Bar Association.

LEGAL

None

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

None.

MAYOR'S BUSINESS

9. Park Board Appointment: Keith W. Armstrong.

STAFF BUSINESS

Grant Weed stated that they would need an Executive Session to discuss one pending litigation matter and one personnel matter. It was expected to take thirty minutes.

Mary Swenson updated Council on the Tulalip elections which resulted in a new chairman. Staff is not sure how this will impact their connection with businesses, but they hope to know by the end of the week. Last week, she and Kevin Nielsen met with the Tribes and a consultant to discuss options regarding the wheeling agreement. She stated that it was a very good meeting. The Governmental Affairs meeting will be discussing this as well at their upcoming meeting.

Following the meeting, they talked a lot about the hotel going in there and the conference center. The Tribes were excited about the hotels happening in Marysville. They plan to talk at the next meeting about how they can work cooperatively to benefit both jurisdictions. She stressed that partnering is very important. They are looking at possibly doing some sort of joint marketing. She said they have discussed having an alliance signing ceremony at the time of the 116th Street opening.

Councilmember Vaughan expressed concern about the traffic related to the new hotel and conference center when this situation is already horrible. Ms. Swenson replied that they are discussing this with them. The Tribes will be paying for some improvements and staff will get an update on this to Council.

Councilmember Vaughan requested something more concrete about what they are going to do about the bridge. Ms. Swenson explained that they are waiting for WSDOT since it is their responsibility at this point.

CALL ON COUNCILMEMBERS

Councilmember Seibert commented that the 116th overpass is tagged on the bottom.

He asked about the code related to the 5-year moratorium after overlays. Gloria Hirashima distributed the engineering standards related to this. She emphasized that because of the growth in the City, the 5-year moratorium is rarely used; other options are generally pursued. She suggested additional measures being required if a road has been constructed within five years. She said they want to encourage projects to move forward and spoke strongly against maintaining the 5-year

moratorium provision in the standards. She said they will be bringing the design standards to Council in May for review. Councilmember Seibert thanked her for the information.

Lee Phillips asked when the mitigation rebate issues would be coming to Council. Ms. Swenson said it would be in the next cycle.

Councilmember Wright noted that the Soroptomists are putting together a cookbook and would like recipes from elected officials and staff.

Councilmember Rasmussen informed Council that the Cinco de Mayo festival planning is going well. Many multicultural partnerships are developing. She recommended supporting/endorsing the event even if no funds were requested of the City. There was consensus to go ahead with this. She stated that the Salvation Army will be partnering with the food bank and will be doing some outreach in the City.

Jeff Vaughan discussed the traffic situation on 88th. He asked where the mitigation dollars are going. Mary Swenson indicated that they would look into the answer to that and several other questions related to this. Councilmember Vaughan commented that traffic issues, especially 88th and 116th, are the number one thing that Marysville's citizens contact him about. Other councilmembers concurred. Mary Swenson noted that the RTID package is looking really good. She mentioned that staff has met with Joel Hylback, Bill Binford and a representative from Top Foods to talk about forming an LID to construct an overpass.

Councilmember Seibert commented that the City needs to look at a design philosophy that enables widening of bridges in the future.

INFORMATION ITEMS

None.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Pro Tem Nehring recessed at 8:50 into Executive Session which was scheduled to begin at 8:55 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council met in Executive Session at 8:55 p.m.; discussed one potential litigation and one personnel matter; and reconvened into Regular Session.

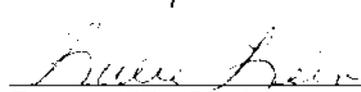
ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no further action to be taken, Mayor Pro Tem Nehring adjourned the meeting at 9:31 p.m.

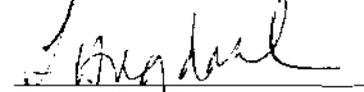
Approved this 9th day of April, 2007.



Mayor
Dennis Kendall



Deputy City Clerk
Lillie Lein



Recording Secretary
Laurie Higdahl