

ORIGINAL

000148

MARYSVILLE CITY COUNCIL WORK SESSION

May 2, 2005

7:00 p.m.

City Hall

CALL TO ORDER / INVOCATION / PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Dennis Kendall called the May 2, 2005 work session of the Marysville City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. He led those present in the Pledge of Allegiance. There was no invocation.

ROLL CALL

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

Mayor: Dennis Kendall

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

Staff: Mary Swenson, Chief Administrative Officer; Grant Weed, City Attorney; Sandy Langdon, Finance Director; Gloria Hirashima, Community Development Director; Kevin Nielsen, City Engineer, Doug Buell, Community Information Officer, and Laurie Hugdahl, Recording Secretary.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember John Soriano reported on the **Public Safety Committee's** recent meeting. The north precinct is now fully-operational and the CAD system is in-place. There was discussion regarding increased geographical areas to cover as a result of the recent annexations. Officers are working many overtime hours and this will have an impact on the budget. It is likely that a budget amendment will be necessary. National Night Out will be held on August 2, possibly at Comeford Park. Mary Swenson added that the hiring process for new officers is proceeding along as quickly as possible, but it is a slow process.

Councilmember Jeff Seibert reported that he attended the meeting to draft revisions for the Prosecutor Standards. They discussed the Sentence Reform Act.

Councilmember Donna Wright attended the **Snohomish County Commission for Housing Resolution Information Board**. There will be three seminars addressing Fair Housing – the Tenant/Landlord Relationship. One will be held in Marysville on May 16 and will be broadcast on Channel 21.

PRESENTATIONS

A. Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan; Martha Neuman, Snohomish County.

Martha Neuman from Snohomish County presented a PowerPoint overview of the Snohomish River Basin Salmon Conservation Plan. The main purpose of her visit was to encourage the City to pass a resolution making a commitment to the Plan. Her presentation reviewed the background of the plan, the need for a plan, and the process. The final plan is to be adopted in June of this year. The regional plan is to be submitted at the same time. Marysville is located in the Lowland Tributaries / Urban Areas part of their planning map. They are aware that the area is a low-level fish area and is already degraded. The recommendations for this area are to keep urban development in urban areas and to maintain current habitat levels. She broadly reviewed implementation strategies, commitment examples and potential benefits of commitments.

Discussion:

- Councilmember Wright commented that this would assist the City in being legally defensible. City Attorney Grant Weed agreed that this would help with liability concerns.
- Councilmember Seibert asked if Ms. Neuman had reviewed the CAO. Ms. Neuman replied that she had not, but that the City might want to highlight changes that had been made in that.
- Grant Weed asked if the resolution proposed by the County could be amended. Ms. Neuman encouraged the City to tailor it to suit the City's needs. It was presented only as a sample.

B. PEG FUNDING: Dick Walsh; Cable TV Advisory Committee Member

Dick Walsh showed a video presentation describing TV3 created by the high school students. He reviewed the history of video programming, which began ten years ago at the junior high and then moved into high school. The high school now boasts a full studio/control room. The students produce 17 live ball games, 90 versions of Tommie Talk, and 170 morning announcements each year. Additionally, they have provided video services for the county. Students used their own money to purchase a truck to be used as a mobile studio. The truck was then outfitted with equipment donated by Seattle TV stations. Mr. Walsh acknowledged a vast amount of community support. He proudly referred to the Vocational Advisory Board as the best in the country and noted that there have been a tremendous amount of donations from local broadcasting companies. He stated that the vision for the program is to be the finest video production program of any high school in any country on the planet. He feels they are very close to that.

He encouraged the City to use the cable channel to communicate with citizens. He felt the channel should inform the community, help to foster a sense of identity and community, be a source of community pride and help to market the City. He discussed new technology, which would allow this to be achieved rather inexpensively and with minimal labor costs.

Councilmember Seibert asked if the school had its own access channel. Mr. Walsh explained that the City has two channels and lets the school use Channel 26. Councilmember Seibert asked about grants and donations. Mr. Walsh noted that they have a strong private-public partnership.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. PEG I-NET Fee.

Community Information Officer Doug Buell briefly reviewed the cable franchise agreement and the background of the fee associated with this. He explained some of the ways other cities have been using this fee. In his opinion, the I-net fee could be used for anything necessary to facilitate an I-net network aside from staffing needs. The PEG fee could be used for all costs related to production and distribution of the PEG. He encouraged the Council to utilize the fee to fund the channel. It was his opinion that Comcast would be collecting that amount from the end-user if the City did not. There was some debate about this, but Mary Swenson concurred and said that the cable company would likely raise the rates and the citizens would pay it anyway. She conceded that it was hard to prove, but history tended to show that this is what happens.

Councilmember Seibert had much to say about this matter. When this was initially brought to Council, it was clear that it was for a capital improvement and would save the City money. He felt it was justified as a one-time expense. Now that it is in place, he felt staff was trying to use it in ways not intended originally by Council. He had concerns that the cable customers subsidized the I-net portion. He believed the City should reciprocate by paying for the cable station and suggested using the general fund to pay for this. Councilmember Seibert also addressed the issue he has with the acronym "PEG". He feels the "P" should be dropped. In general, he was opposed to funding the cable channel with this fee.

Grant Weed clarified that this is a capital contribution that Comcast has agreed to make, but only if the Council agrees to take it. Mary Swenson stated that if it were not funded through this mechanism, it would be very difficult to fund upgrades to the cable system in the future. Ms. Swenson reviewed the previous method of obtaining equipment from cable companies. They have always provided the equipment in some manner. Previously they used to just give the equipment to the cities. The cable companies discovered that this was not efficient method, so they have gone to a set amount, up to a dollar. She emphasized that Marysville has not ever had to purchase equipment for the cable channel. If the City does not have a cable fee, it will have to come from the general fund.

Councilmember Lisa Vares stated that if the Council thinks it is a worthy enterprise to fund a cable channel, it ought to be paid for out of property taxes. It should not be "hidden" in the cable bill. Councilmember Phillips took issue with this and stated that the citizens were well aware of what the fee was used for. Ms. Vares disagreed. Councilmember Vaughan suggested that having the cable users pay for the cable channel makes more sense than using property taxes.

Councilmember Seibert reiterated that he feels the general fund should pay back the cable users for the I-net. He suggested that the franchise fee be allotted to supporting the cable

channel. Ms. Swenson stated the franchise fee must be used for city streets since it is "a compensation for the use of Right-of-Way".

Councilmember John Soriano stated that he could see both points-of-view. He noted that technology keeps changing and they need to have a source of funding to keep up with it. Councilmember Wright concurred.

There was consensus to continue this discussion at the next work session.

OTHER ITEMS SCHEDULED FOR MAY 9, 2005 MEETING

A. Approval of Minutes.

1. April 25, 2005 City Council Meeting.
2. April 25, 2005 Joint City Council/Marysville School Board Work Shop.
3. May 2, 2005 City Council Work Session.

CONSENT

A. Approval of April 27, 2005 Claims in the Amount of \$290,721.77; Check No. 22386 through 22566 with Check No. 21516, 22105, 22250, and 22278 Voided.

B. Approval of May 4, 2005 Claims.

C. Approval of May 5, 2005 Payroll.

D. Approval of Liquor License Renewals for Albertson's #471 (301 Marysville Mall), Albertson's #412 (11401 State Avenue), G.A. Maxwell (1204 Third Street), Home Plate Pub (9317 State Avenue, Suite B & C), Marysville Tobacco Bar (1102 State Avenue), and Soap & Such Gifts (7511-77th Drive N.E.).

There were no comments or questions regarding this item.

E. Approval of New Liquor License for The Village (220 Ash Ave.).

There were no comments or questions regarding this item.

F. Authorize Mayor to Sign Original Award Document with Washington State Department of Social and Health Services for the Juvenile Accountability Incentive Block Grant.

Mayor Kendall noted that this is a matching grant. Councilmember Soriano commented that he was sorry to hear it was the last year it would be available. Mayor Kendall concurred.

G. Approval of Park Board Recommendation to Officially Name the Waterfront Park Project, "Ebey Waterfront Park".

There were no comments or questions regarding this item.

REVIEW BIDS

None.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

None.

CURRENT BUSINESS

None.

NEW BUSINESS

None.

LEGAL

A. Recovery Contract for Lakewood School District #306.

Councilmember Seibert asked how many lineal feet this included. Kevin Nielsen responded that it was approximately 4,830 feet.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

A. An Ordinance of the City of Marysville, Washington Amending Sections of Ordinance 2549 Codified as MMC 3.63.040 to Add the Word "Claim" to MMC 3.63.040 (1) (b); An Ordinance of the City of Marysville, Washington Amending Sections of Ordinance No. 2566 Codified as MMC 5.02.070 to Add the Words "Per Day" to MMC 5.02.070(1)(d).

There were no comments or questions regarding this item.

B. An Ordinance of the City of Marysville Annexing Certain Unincorporated Area Know as the Allen Creek Baptist Church Annexation Area into the City of Marysville.

Councilmember Seibert asked if the issues had been resolved. Gloria Hirashima replied that they have not yet, but at least they are aware of what the issues are. She noted that they are anxious to get the property annexed to simplify things.

INFORMATION ITEMS

A. Mayor's Business

Mayor Kendall commented that many of the councilmembers had attended the dinner at the Historical Society before the meeting. He noted that they had received a letter regarding funding for the museum. He indicated that this would be discussed further at budget time.

B. Staff Business

Sandy Langdon stated that there was a need for a special meeting to be held on Tuesday, May 17 at 5:30 p.m. to take care of the revenue bond. She was pleased to announce the improved rating that the City has received. She thanked Council for adopting the policies that had allowed this to happen.

Kevin Nielsen announced that Public Works is commencing a "Save the Roads" campaign to address the need for residential overlays.

Gloria Hirashima had no comments.

Grant Weed stated that he had two items for Executive Session that would take approximately ten minutes.

Mary Swenson

- Noted that she had an additional item for Executive Session.
- Raised the issue of purchasing banners for Maryfest as an alternative to painting the streets. This would cost approximately \$8,000 and would need to be ordered soon. There is a possibility that this could be funded through the Hotel/Motel Grant or economic development funds. Councilmember Seibert suggested the possibility of using stenciled manhole covers. Ms. Swenson indicated they would get more information.
- Commented that there would be an auction this weekend at the Tulalip Boys and Girls Club and the City would have a table.
- Announced that the City did very well on the gas tax. It will cover design on the 529 bridge with construction to begin in 2007; 116th Street; 172 Street – full improvements on the interchange.

C. Call on Councilmembers

Donna Wright requested an excused absence for the next meeting, as she will be in Washington D.C.

Lisa Vares also requested an excused absence for the next meeting since she will be working.

Jeff Vaughan had no comments.

Jeff Nehring stated that Mayor Kendall and Aaron Reardon did a fine job at the chamber breakfast meeting.

Jeff Seibert commented on the "No Trucks" sign at Alder Street. He had concerns about what this would mean for truck routes. Kevin Nielsen indicated he would look into this.

Lee Phillips had no comments.

John Soriano commended one of the members of the Public Safety Committee, Patricia Duemmell who was in charge of a fund-raising event held at the high school to benefit Special Olympics.

Mayor Kendall added that there would be a Cinco de Mayo Taco Feast held at Public Works on Thursday, May 5th.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kendall recessed the meeting at 9:18 p.m. into Executive Session, which was scheduled at 9:20 p.m. There were three items to be discussed per Grant Weed and Mary Swenson.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council met in Executive Session at 9:20 p.m., and discussed one real estate, one personnel, and one pending litigation item.

Council reconvened into Regular Session at 9:35 p.m. **Motion** by Councilmember Seibert, second by Councilmember Phillips to authorize Mayor to sign the extension for the option agreement for the Guzman property. **Motion** carried unanimously (7-0).

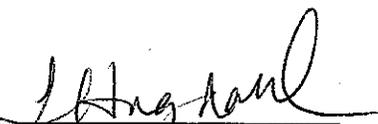
ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Kendall adjourned the May 2, 2005 City Council Work Session at 9:36 p.m.

Approved this 9th day of May, 2005.


 Mayor
 Dennis Kendall


 City Clerk
 Gerry Becker


 Recording Secretary
 Laurie Hugdahl