

# COUNCIL



# MINUTES

**Work Session**  
*March 1, 2010*

## **Call to Order / Pledge of Allegiance**

Mayor Dennis Kendall called the March 1, 2010 meeting of the Marysville City Council to order at 7:00 p.m. at Marysville City Hall and 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.

**Mayor:** Dennis Kendall

**Council:** Councilmember Jon Nehring, Councilmember Lee Phillips, Councilmember Carmen Rasmussen, Councilmember Jeff Seibert, Councilmember John Soriano, Councilmember Jeff Vaughan and Councilmember Donna Wright

**Absent:** None

**Also Present:** Chief Administrative Officer Mary Swenson, City Attorney Grant Weed, Finance Director Sandy Langdon, Chief Smith, Community Development Director Gloria Hirashima, Public Works Director Kevin Nielsen, Parks and Recreation Director Jim Ballew, Community Information Officer Doug Buell and City Clerk Tracy Jeffries

## **Committee Reports**

Councilmember Soriano reported that the LEOFF I Board met on February 24 where they reviewed and approved two claims. The new chairperson for 2010 is Jeff Cole.

Councilmember Soriano reported on the Public Safety Committee meeting on February 24. Items discussed included the following:

- Pro-Act Team is doing well in terms of the value of some recent seizures. The team has also been dealing with graffiti issues at Regal Cinemas and has caught three individuals responsible for the graffiti.
- Transients who are being too aggressive alongside car traffic have been issued warnings.

- Detectives are currently working on an embezzlement case. Washington's Most Wanted recently profiled the case of Jenifer Brinkman.
- Lt. Rasmussen is currently working with the Nite Team in the evenings.
- Crime Analyst Don Castanares has been compiling lots of data on graffiti. He has also been invited to a training seminar on the growing problem of human trafficking.
- Bob Dolhanyk is continuing work on the Emergency Management Plan.
- Commander Lamoureux noted that the department is working on implementing an electronic ticketing system for the motors unit which will utilize the barcode on licenses and registrations and will save a significant amount of time.
- Chief Smith noted that dealing with stray animals is an expensive issue to deal with.
- Councilmember Wright alerted the department that as of July 1 all real estate brokers will be part of a fingerprint database and will have to do a background check.

### **Approval of Minutes**

1. Approval of February 8, 2010 City Council Meeting Minutes.

### **Consent**

2. Approval of February 17, 2010 Claims in the Amount of \$600,259.43; Paid by Check No.'s 61069 through 61251 with Check No. 60147 Voided.
3. Approval of February 24, 2010 Claims.
4. Approval of February 19, 2010 Payroll in the Amount of \$794,036.16; Paid by Check No.'s 22354 through 22398.

### **New Business**

5. Local Agency Detour Agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation for the SR 529 Bridge Replacement Project.

Mayor Kendall reviewed this item. Jeff Seibert asked about public notice of the intermittent detours and placement of the signs. He recommended that notification be placed at locations such as 528 or 47<sup>th</sup> Street. Mayor Kendall suggested that Kevin Nielsen could answer this when he returns from investigating odors.

6. Utility Construction Agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation to Install Luminaries for the SR 529 Bridge Replacement Project in the Amount of \$172,842.67.

Parks and Recreation Director Jim Ballew reviewed this item.

7. Utility Construction Agreement with Washington State Department of Transportation to Relocate Existing Watermain Infrastructure to Accommodate the SR 529 Realignment and Drainage Facilities in the Amount of \$267,777.58.

There were no comments or questions on this item.

8. Release and Settlement Agreement between Snohomish County Fire Protection District No. 12, the City of Marysville, Marysville Fire District, and the City of Arlington.

City Attorney Grant Weed explained that this would bring to a conclusion the asset transfer that the fire district is required by law to make to the City of Arlington following the annexation of part of the area served by the fire district.

9. Interlocal Agreement between the City of Marysville and Snohomish County Concerning Provision of Fire Investigation Services.

Tom Maloney explained that this is just an update of the current agreement.

10. Snohomish County Tomorrow Inter-jurisdictional Housing Feasibility.

Community Development Director Gloria Hirashima reviewed this item which is related to creation of a longer term program to address affordable housing. Staff is looking for Council feedback on participation in a county-wide inter-jurisdictional housing program and support of the member consortium through its existing staff and offices. Mayor Kendall discussed his recommendation.

Councilmember Rasmussen thanked Mayor Kendall for his leadership on this group. She expressed support for the idea, but concern that the City might enter into this as an unequal partner. Given the current budget situation it would be important to know if Everett and Snohomish County were going to participate. She also expressed concern about utilizing the Housing Authority as she did not feel that they are well-versed in issues regarding zoning and economic development even though they do an excellent job in other areas. Community Development Director Hirashima commented that this would be a good opportunity for the Housing Authority to work and develop more relationships with other cities. Mayor Kendall commented that this would stay under the direction of Snohomish County Tomorrow. Councilmember Rasmussen commented on her experience with the Housing Authority in the CDBG process.

Councilmember Wright agreed with Councilmember Rasmussen's concerns.

Councilmember Seibert asked how organizations like Housing Hope play into this. Community Development Director Hirashima indicated that they would be involved, but was not sure how.

Public Works Director Nielsen briefed Council on odors he had been investigating.

Councilmember Seibert referred to item 5 and asked about the timing and placement of notices for road closures. Director Nielsen stated that they would have reader boards, but at this point they don't know the schedule. They are trying to do as much of the closures at night as possible. He noted that they would also have detours at 4<sup>th</sup> and State. He indicated that they could take a look at notices at other locations.

Councilmember Soriano asked about impacts of railroad. Director Nielsen indicated there would be some impacts.

12. An **Ordinance** of the City of Marysville Amending Section 10.04.150 of the Marysville Municipal Code, Relating to Fees for Voluntarily Surrendered Animals and Effective Date.

Chief Smith reviewed this item and discussed the financial impacts of this change.

Councilmember Seibert expressed concern about citizens having to pay \$185 when they bring in a stray animal. Chief Smith explained that currently the City is paying this cost and some people are bringing in many animals at one time. This is costing the City a tremendous amount of money. Councilmember Seibert discussed the situation with stray cats in his neighborhood and reasons why people are trapping animals and bringing them in.

Councilmember Nehring asked if the motivation was to have people call the police department for the code enforcement officer to come out. Chief Smith said it was not.

Councilmember Rasmussen did not think it was right for people who bring in stray animals to have to pay the fee. She felt that most people would just let the animals stay free rather than pay the fee. She suggested some mechanism to declare that the animal does not belong to them in lieu of paying the fee. Chief Smith indicated that the Council could craft what they want to allow for certain circumstances, but indicated that they should have a cost recovery mechanism of some sort. Councilmember Rasmussen suggested having a limit of being able to drop off an animal no more than once a year or something along those lines. Chief Smith commented that the ordinance just allows the mechanism to do what the Council decides to do.

Councilmember Wright clarified that the actual policy would be discussed later. Chief Smith concurred. Chief Administrative Officer Swenson suggested working on some kind of internal policy to bring back to Council.

Councilmember Seibert commented that people who bring in strays are actually doing the responsible thing as opposed to letting them run wild. There should be a mechanism to allow them to do that.

CAO Swenson commented that the Everett was anticipating charging Marysville just under \$100,000 for the upcoming year and that does not include the annexation area. Chief Smith commented that they are thinking outside the box in other ways and trying to problem-solve this situation. CAO Swenson noted that several years ago when they

were reviewing this issue the City had offered free licensing for altered animals. She suggested taking a look at that to see if it is working. Councilmember Rasmussen commented that most licensed dogs are loose because they have slipped out of the collar attached to the license. She recommended having free licenses if the animal is micro-chipped.

## **Legal**

### **11. City of Marysville Contract for Public Defense Service.**

Grant Weed discussed the results of the RFP process. CAO Swenson commented that Tracy Jeffries and Grant Weed did a lot of work on this. She thinks this is a very good deal for the City and that it will provide better justice for folks who cannot afford to hire their own attorney.

## **Mayor's Business**

Mayor Kendall reported that CAO Swenson has announced her retirement on March 17.

**Motion** made by Councilmember Seibert, seconded by Councilmember Nehring, to appoint Gloria Hirashima as the Chief Administrative Officer for the City of Marysville. **Motion** passed unanimously (7-0).

Mayor Kendall also announced that the 18<sup>th</sup> Annual Chili Cook-off was scheduled for Tuesday at Public Works.

## **Staff Business**

Chief Smith commented that Mary Swenson was the best boss he has ever worked for. He greatly appreciates her effort and what she has given to the City. He was sorry to see her go.

Kevin Nielsen:

- They are pouring fresh concrete on 528/4<sup>th</sup>. Workers were stationed at those locations until it sets up enough to leave it.
- Annexation area work is still going very well.
- He discussed emergency preparedness as a result of the earthquake in Chile over the weekend. He noted that they are retrofitting all of the reservoirs with earthquake valves. If there is a big earthquake the reservoirs shut off so all the water doesn't drain out.
- He congratulated Ms. Swenson on her retirement.
- He congratulated Ms. Hirashima on her promotion.

Gloria Hirashima:

- She thanked the Council for appointing her as CAO. She is looking forward to serving Marysville in a different capacity.
- She thanked Ms. Swenson for all she has done over the years.

Jim Ballew congratulated both Ms. Swenson and Ms. Hirashima.

Doug Buell congratulated Ms. Swenson and noted that she has been an amazing boss. He congratulated Ms. Hirashima and stated that he is looking forward to working with her.

Chief Corn expressed appreciation for Mary's inclusive relationship with the fire department. He said he is looking forward to the opportunity to work with Gloria Hirashima.

Grant Weed commented on the great working relationship he has had with Mary Swenson over the years. He also pointed to Gloria Hirashima's unique qualifications to hit the ground running and keep the momentum going.

Sandy Langdon thanked Ms. Swenson for bringing her here to the City. She congratulated her on her time here. She congratulated Ms. Hirashima on her appointment.

Mary Swenson praised the Council and staff and noted that it was fantastic working together. She congratulated Ms. Hirashima and commended her abilities.

### **Call on Councilmembers**

Jeff Vaughan commented that it was hard to imagine Ms. Swenson not being there. He congratulated Ms. Hirashima and noted that he had confidence that she would step up to the requirements and do well.

Carmen Rasmussen also noted that it was sad Ms. Swenson was leaving, but congratulated Ms. Hirashima on her appointment.

Jon Nehring:

- He noted that it was hard to see Ms. Swenson leave. He commended her strength of constant communication and her ability to see things coming down the pike. He congratulated Ms. Hirashima and stated that she would do a spectacular job.
- He commented on the importance of maintaining a strong relationship with the school district.

Donna Wright wished Ms. Swenson well. She congratulated Ms. Hirashima on her accomplishments.

John Soriano congratulated Ms. Hirashima and noted that he had all the confidence in the world in her. He told Ms. Swenson what a pleasure it has been to work with her. He commended her ability of guiding Council through tough decisions.

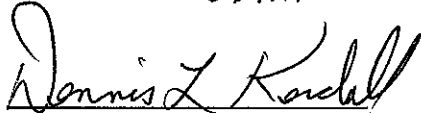
Lee Phillips congratulated Ms. Hirashima. He expressed appreciation for Ms. Swenson and wished her well.

Jeff Seibert reviewed his overall positive experience with Ms. Swenson and congratulated her on her retirement. He commended Ms. Hirashima on her appointment.


### Adjournment

Seeing no further business Mayor Kendall adjourned the meeting at 8:37 p.m.

Approved this 22nd day of March, 2010.



Mayor  
Dennis Kendall



Asst. Admin. Svcs. Director  
Tracy Jeffries