

Mayor Lee Webster called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. Council Members present were Art Smyth, Kris Dawson, Dave Freels and Bob Fateley. Council Member Tretwold was absent. A quorum was present.

Council Member Freels moved to approve the minutes for 03/12/2008 as sent. The motion was seconded by Council Member Smyth and passed unanimously.

Vouchers audited and certified by the auditing officer as required by RCW 42.24.080, and those expense reimbursement claims certified as required by RCW 42.24.090, have been recorded on a listing, which has been made available to the City Council.

As of this date 04/09/2008 the Council, by a majority vote, does approve for payment those vouchers included in the voucher payment list and further described as follows: Claims Fund voucher numbers #41503 through #41524 in the total amount of \$204,347.55, and Claims Fund voucher numbers #41525 through #41608 in the total amount of \$125,265.47. Payroll Fund voucher numbers #10871 through #10934 in the total amount of \$85,750.26.

OTHER BUSINESS

WENDY WITT – BREWSTER SR. CLASS AFTER GRADUATION PARTY:

Wendy Witt, representative of the Brewster Senior Graduating Class and their parents, presented to Council to request the donation of the Rec Center and Pool on Friday, June 6th for the graduating class to hold their “after graduation celebration”. This celebration would be only for graduating senior class and their families to attend. It will be open to the public for a couple of hours, to serve cake and punch, but then will be closed to only the graduates and their families. Mrs. Witt stated that once someone leaves the party, they cannot return.

With respect to the use of the swimming pool, they would provide their own certified lifeguards. Recreation Manager Gary Reese stated that they would need to have an accurate head count of the people attending, as the pool will require an adequate lifeguard ratio to the number of people utilizing the pool. Mrs. Witt stated they were asking the graduates and their families to sign up, giving the coordinators a more accurate count for food, lifeguards, etc. There will be a cut-off date for sign-up and will get those numbers to Rec Manager Reese prior to the event.

Mrs. Witt also stated they would need use of the kitchen area at the Rec Center as well, since they will be cooking food for the party as well. They will provide clean up. The group will not be playing loud music, so noise should not be an issue.

MOTION: Council Member Smyth made the motion to waive the Rec Center and Pool rental fees on June 6, 2008 for the 2008 Brewster Senior Class after graduation party, with the event outline as noted above. Council Member Dawson seconded the motion and the motion passed unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

STARR CROSS – “LIGHT POLLUTION”:

Starr Cross, Brewster resident, presented to Council to discuss lighting within the City

of Brewster. She stated this thought has been on her mind since moving here three years ago. She would like to discuss relighting the river walk trail. Ms. Cross presented Council with a "Dark Sky" report, which focuses on "saving the night sky" and ways to prevent "light pollution" by having street lights that light the ground, and not the sky. Ms. Cross asked who was in charge of maintenance on the trail. Mayor Webster stated that Douglas County PUD owns the trail. The City works in conjunction with the DCPUD as far as maintaining the trail and trash removal (the City performs a trash clean up twice a year on the trail).

Mayor Webster also stated that due to an increase in vandalism on the trail, the DCPUD is in the process of installing down-cast lighting to better illuminate the trail. This lighting will basically be the type of lighting Ms. Cross is referring to. Mayor Webster also stated that the Brewster Police Department will begin patrolling the area more frequently once the safety measures are in place, ie: improved lighting, etc.

Ms. Cross asked if the City would consider this form of lighting throughout the town as it is very beneficial to preserving the night sky. Council Member Fateley stated that as he understands it, Chelan has already gone to this form of lighting. Mayor Webster encouraged Ms. Cross to bring in a written proposal to the City so the Council can formally consider this. Ms. Cross stated she would be willing to do this.

MAYOR WEBSTER

GEBBERS/CITY LAND SWAP UPDATE:

Mayor Webster stated that at this time, he has no news. Negotiations have slowed to this point. He will keep Council informed of any information he becomes aware of regarding this subject.

ORDINANCE NO 806, HIGHWAY ACCESS STANDARDS:

Public Works Director Smith stated that Chuck Zimmerman, City Attorney, had reviewed the previously approved ordinance #801 and determined that the City should consider adding a clause to adjust the standard openings of the access widths. Ordinance #806 gives the Council authority to modify the access widths, and therefore repeals Ordinance #801.

Council Member Fateley asked if this ordinance refers specifically to what the City can do with the access widths, not the number of accesses. Public Works Director Smith stated yes, this ordinance will allow the City to be able to modify the access widths only. With respect to the number of accesses, we have been granted a specific number of accesses, which will never decrease. However, if we need additional accesses in the future will need to submit a request to the DOT, in accordance with current RCW's.

Public Works Director Smith also stated that when an access is requested, the DOT will look at how the property is zoned/designated, whether it is commercial, industrial, etc. The DOT then bases their recommendation on how it is zoned. We do have to go to the DOT with any additional access requests, which would be done through a permit.

MOTION: Council Member Freels made the motion to approve Ordinance #806, relating to the State Highway Access Standards; repealing Ordinance #801; containing a severability clause; and setting an effective date. Council Member Dawson seconded the motion and the motion passes unanimously.

GARY REESE – REC CENTER UPDATE:

Recreation Manager Gary Reese presented to Council to give an update on the Columbia Cove Community Center. He stated that in December, we had three-hundred (300) paid members. Now in April, there are only sixty-nine (69). He is working on getting the memberships renewed and paid. One plan is to have yearly memberships.

Recreation Manager Reese then went on to discuss the Men's Soccer League. He stated that this usually runs from April through September. There are roughly four (4) to six (6) teams that utilize the soccer fields on Sunday. As he understood it, the fee charged to the Soccer League is \$409.00 and an additional \$135.00 for each tournament. Manager Reese believes that the amount of the league fee that we are currently charging is not adequate enough to cover the amount of teams in the league. He would like to see the City charge \$250.00 per tournament as well as a per person fee, similar to the rates that Okanogan uses. He has also not received a schedule of the tournaments for this year.

Manager Reese stated that the men's league is to play on one field, and the women will use the other. The tournaments are to be held on Sunday, but there have been games played on Saturday as well, with the men playing games on both fields. Public Works Director Smith stated that he would like to move the youth soccer field off of the Little League field, which could be accommodated on the already existing soccer fields.

Public Works Director Smith stated that we need to have the fees revised, including the membership fees and tournament fees. This needs to be set in a policy. Manager Reese stated that there are major repairs that need to be done on the water lines for watering the fields and these cannot be done at this time. Mayor Webster asked Rec Manager Reese to begin revising the fees associated with the Rec Center. He also stated that Manager Reese has done great things since being hired last September and has continued to do an outstanding job. Public Works Director Smith stated that we need to incorporate the processes that should have been in place all along.

In other Rec Center news, Manager Reese stated that they will begin offering a Monday morning Senior exercise class at 10:00 am, instructed by Chelise Becker, starting April 21st. They will continue to have the Monday night fitness class at the Rec Center from 6:30 to 7:30 pm as well as a new "punch" class offered on Fridays from 6:30 to 7:30 pm at the old Rec Center Building.

Manager Reese also stated that the HVAC compression is out of order again in the Head Start area. This has been repaired twice in the recent past. Finance Director Pamela Olsen suggested checking with our insurance company to see if this is covered under our boiler maker policy. Manager Reese will check into this.

PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR - J.D. SMITH

MONTHLY PLANNING COMMISSION REPORT:

Public Works Director Smith stated that with respect to the UGA, they are still working on setting up zones and the types of buildings that will be allowed, particularly at the Airport. The extension of the UGA is still being worked over. He will keep Council informed as more information becomes available.

AIRPORT REPORT:

Public Works Director Smith stated that they are ready for the concrete to be poured for the pilot's lounge; to begin work on the electrical upgrades and the new well. However, after the last meeting, the Airport Commission may be looking into redirecting and reprioritizing some of the projects planned for the airport. There have been other areas of interest raised for example, Med Star has expressed an interest in purchasing or renting a hangar and there has been serious interest in acquiring a fuel card lock system at the airport. Public Works Director Smith stated that Med Star would like to associate their business with the City. He also stated that they would either be building a hangar, or the possibility of the City building a hangar and leasing it back to them is also an idea. He will be meeting with them to get all of the information before any further discussion takes place.

He also stated he recently received a call from a small business consultant regarding Orford's hangar and that they are still interested in pursuing this.

Smith also met with CTED regarding fuel, the taxiway and hangar stalls. He stated that possibly with some funding from CTED and the FAA, we may be able to some of these bigger projects. He will get more information on all of the projects, existing and proposed, and further discussion will be held at that time.

HIGHWAY 97 SIDEWALK/MAIN STREET PROJECT – Local Agency Participation Agreement:

Public Works Director Smith presented Council with the Local Agency Participation Agreement, which is the agreement between the City of Brewster and the WSDOT combining the Highway 97 Sidewalk Project and the Main Street Project. City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman and Mayor Webster have reviewed this agreement. Public Works Director Smith stated that there are a couple of changes that they are going to request be made.

One change is on page 3, item 2.3, with respect to the Bid, Award and Cost Adjustments. As is stands in this agreement, if the bid exceeds 20% of the total project bid, the City will be committed to this and we cannot take it back. TIB has reviewed this and does not agree, nor do Mayor Webster and City Attorney Chuck Zimmerman. Paul Maher, WSDOT, will go back to Olympia to get clarification on this item.

The second change is on page 6, item 6.4, with respect to the Increase in Cost, stating that if there are unforeseen conditions that require an increase in the cost of the work above the agreement amount by more than 25%, the Parties would agree to modify the agreement by executing a written amendment to cover the increase. Public Works Director Smith stated he does not believe that it will exceed 25%, if at all. This indicates that the State does not want to assume responsibility for extra costs if the actual costs exceed the bid amounts. Although the City has some money set aside in arterial streets fund, and TIB has the flexibility to help cover some of the costs should we go over, the \$57,000 the City has is all we have.

Public Works Director Smith will contact Paul Maher and Chuck Zimmerman to go over the areas of concern in the agreement. Public Works Director Smith will then call a Special Meeting of the Council to review the recommendations and/or changes. He will get this done as soon as possible as we need to have this agreement approved in order to have the project go to bid.

POLICE CHIEF – RON OULES:

POLICE DEPARTMENT UPDATE:

Police Chief Oules stated that all of the patrol vehicles are in service at this time. Sid at the Brewster Body Shop has been busy lately, but hopes to have the decals on the Explorer soon.

Chief Oules thanked Public Works Director Smith and the Public Works crew for trimming the low tree branches at the Little League field. This allows the officers to be able to spotlight the entire area, including the concession building, and will hopefully cut down on the graffiti and other vandalism that had been occurring regularly in the past. He also stated that the officers are looking forward to begin patrols on the walk trail, which he is hoping will also cut down on the vandalism occurring in this area as well.

Public Works Director Smith asked if the City of Brewster could adopt a similar Graffiti enforcement law like that of Wenatchee. Chief Oules stated that the County does not have funding for this. Although it is a great idea, the law would require that anyone apprehended for graffiti would be charged with a criminal offense. This would obligate the City to cover all of the legal costs associated with the prosecution, and the City does not have the money to cover those fees at this time. The Brewster Police could write infractions for those individuals caught making graffiti, but infractions cannot be written to juveniles, and juveniles under the age of 16 are the ones who perform a majority of the graffiti in our area.

STATS:

Chief Oules stated that overtime has decreased and hopefully will continue to decrease.

Police Chief Oules stated that the numbers of incidents are still pretty consistent with prior months. The Malicious Mischief numbers are primarily related to graffiti. Video aping certain target areas has been inconsistent in the fact that information has been “leaked out”. However, once the information about the cameras being installed at a certain location was known, there were no problems with graffiti in this area. He also stated the same scenario played out a local Church that was having problems with graffiti. Once they installed a camera, no further reports of graffiti were logged for this area. Chief Oules noted that Officer Cariker recently attended a Grant Writing class and developed a lot of great contacts and information through the class. Chief Oules hopes to apply for some tech grants to obtain more cameras that could be installed in “problem” areas with respect to graffiti.

Prior to convening to Executive Session, Mayor Webster called for a ten (10) minute break at 7:30 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – APPROXIMATELY 15 MINUTES

RCW 42.30.110 DISCUSSION: POTENTIAL LITIGATION AND PERSONNEL

Mayor Webster convened to Executive Session at 7:40 p.m. to discuss potential litigation and personnel. At 7:55 p.m., Mayor Webster announced that there would be an extension of the Executive Session for another 15 minutes to continue discussions on the potential litigation and personnel.

The Executive Session was adjourned at 8:10 pm. Mayor Webster then reconvened to the Regular Open Session.

In the open session, the following motion was made:

MOTION: Council Member Fateley moved to accept the Mediator's settlement recommendation authorizing a five-percent (5%) wage increase, effective January 1, 2008 for the Public Works Department and City Clerical Staff, Police Department and Police Clerical Staff and the Department Heads. Council Member Smyth seconded the motion. The motion passed with a vote of three (3) to two (2). Council Members Fateley, Council Member Smyth and Mayor Lee Webster in favor, Council Members Dawson and Freels opposed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council the meeting was adjourned at 8:15 p.m.

Mayor Lee Webster

ATTEST:

City Clerk/Finance Director Pamela Olsen, MMC