

**CITY OF BLAINE**  
344 H Street  
Blaine, WA 98230  
**CITY COUNCIL MINUTES**

**Monday, August 27, 2007**

**7:00 PM**

**A. Study Session – 5:30PM Boardwalk**

**6:00PM Expansion of Fee Deferral Program**

**6:35PM Change of Drayton Harbor Name Change - Costs**

Present: Bonnie Onyon, Mike Myers, Ken Ely, John Liebert, Charlie Hawkins

Adjourned: 6:45pm

**B. CALL TO ORDER – 7:00PM**

➤ MOMENT OF SILENCE

➤ PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

➤ ROLL CALL: Ken Ely, Charlie Hawkins, John Liebert, Mike Myers, Bonnie Onyon, (Jason Overstreet requested to be excused)

**MOVE BY JOHN LIEBERT TO EXCUSE JASON OVERSTREET,  
SECONDED BY BONNIE ONYON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY, 5 - 0**

➤ Staff Present: Gary Tomsic, City Manager; Terry Galvin, Community Development Director; Steve Banham, Public Works Director; Mike Haslip, Chief of Police; Meredith Riley, Finance Director; Sheri Sanchez, City Clerk

**C. AUDIENCE PARTICIPATION**

Sign-up/Comment Forms in Foyer of City Hall

1. Christina Alexander, 9351 Owl Lane, Blaine – regarding spoof on Comedy Central regarding Peace Arch, introduction of sculptress Jana Vizdal and her donation of a sculpture to Blaine School, and donations related to the Peace Arch.
2. Blaine Builder Award – Community Garden – Presented by Mike Myers and Gary Tomsic to the 7<sup>th</sup> Street Community Garden.

**D. CITY MANAGER AND STAFF REPORTS**

1. Lighthouse Point Update – Steve Banham reported – This will be address later in the council action items. The designers have reviewed the design and things are moving forward.
2. State & Federal Projects – Steve Banham reported – Federal Government began demolition of the buildings and will be meeting with State regarding 276 work. Truck route project includes 2nd round of saw cutting.
3. Water System Chlorination – Steve Banham reported – issues with Bell Bay Jackson prompted review of chlorine disinfection system and no issues were found now, but the City is working on reducing detection of chlorine in the system.
4. Bid Advertisement for Recoating Lincoln Park Water Tank – Steve Banham reported – Public Works will open bids on the 7<sup>th</sup> of September and plan to award bids before the end of September.
5. Major Projects Update – Terry Galvin reported – determination of completeness of Grandis Pond was made. Lincoln Park is progressing.
6. Lighthouse Park Report – Terry Galvin reported – working on integration with public works facilities.
7. Public Safety Staffing Update – Mike Haslip reported – City is in position of making final offers on new police officer position. Replacement for two positions being reviewed. A new position was created with existing funding for a non-commissioned position of Community Service Officer, which Jay Panches has accepted. Gary Tomsic endorsed the position and is already seeing good things happening.
8. Vacant Council Position Update – Sheri Sanchez reported – Harry Robinson who lives on Great Blue Heron, and Max Shelton who lives on H Street have declared their candidacy. The Council declined the option to appoint someone to the vacancy while awaiting the election results in November.
9. Letter from Doug Ericksen – Gary Tomsic reported – Doug Ericksen is holding Small City 2008 Strategy Session on Monday, September 10<sup>th</sup>, at 10:30am in the City council chambers. The Council has been invited to attend.
10. Passport Requirements – Gary Tomsic reported - he had gone onto the website and made brief comments to the effect that we are on the border and how this would affect the City. The Tourism Association of Canada

11. Cheryl Fischer as American Citizen – reported by Gary Tomsic and Sheri Sanchez – Office Specialist Cheryl Fischer has passed her test to become a US citizen, and will be sworn in on September 6<sup>th</sup>.

**E. PUBLIC HEARING (MEETING)**

1. Deferred Building and Utility Connection Charges – Art Wiener  
Mike Myers read Doctrine of Fairness  
Council responded unanimously with nays to having any interest, financial gain, and communication with persons regarding this issue, and ayes to fairness.

Sheri Sanchez read into the record an email from Betty Nunamaker

Testimony was received from the following people:

Rick Osborne, 138 So. Garden St., Bellingham, Washington  
Art Wiener, 44 Greenbrier, Napa, California  
Dennis Olason, 860 Georgia Street, Blaine, Washington

Council asked questions of Art Wiener and discussed Betty Nunamaker's email.

Mike Myers declared the public hearing closed.

**MOTION MADE BY BONNIE ONYON TO PLACE FEE DEFERRAL  
ON THE AGENDA AND SECONDED BY KEN ELY. MOTION  
CARRIED 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

See Council Action Item #1

**F. COMMISSION, COMMITTEE AND BOARD REPORTS**

1. Planning Commission – Jeff Arntzen reported – reviewed public hearing regarding title 17 code amendments, work session scheduled for 9-5-07, and noted that the written communication regarding Public hearing on hearing examiner was closed.
2. Airport Commission - None
3. BTAC - None

4. Park & Cemetery - None
5. Ad Hoc - None

**G. WRITTEN COMMUNICATIONS**

1. Two faxes received from Joel Douglas

**H. CONSENT AGENDA**

1. Approval of Bills – Amount: \$ 88,965.89
2. Approval of Payroll – Amount \$ -0-
3. Approval of August 13, 2007, City Council Minutes

**MOTION MADE BY CHARLIE HAWKINS TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA AND SECONDED BY KEN ELY. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

**I. COUNCIL ACTION ITEMS**

1. Fee Deferral of Art Wiener Project

**MOTION MADE BY JOHN LIEBERT TO APPROVE THE FEE DEFERRAL AND SECONDED BY KEN ELY. MOTION CARRIED 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

2. Resolution 1469-07, Sponsoring Whatcom County Rural Library District into the AWC Benefits Consortium – presented by Joan Haroldi, Director of Whatcom County Rural Library District (with Patty Harris), and Sheri Sanchez

**MOTION MADE BY CHARLIE HAWKINS THAT THE CITY COUNCIL ADOPT RESOLUTION 1469-07, REQUESTING MEMBERSHIP OF THE WHATCOM COUNTY RURAL LIBRARY DISTRICT INTO THE AWC EMPLOYEE BENEFIT TRUST, SECONDED BY BONNIE ONYON, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

3. Ordinance 07-2672, Amendment to Title 17 International Fire Code, First Reading  
Presented by Terry Galvin, Steve Banham and Jim Bleecker, Whatcom Fire District 21

There was discussion between staff and council regarding any substantive changes between the 2003 and 2006 International Fire Code. The next review will be at the council meeting on September 10, 2007.

4. Resolution 1470-07, WSDOT Construction Noise Waiver – presented by Steve Banham.

**MOTION MADE BY CHARLIE HAWKINS FOR THE CITY COUNCIL TO APPROVE THE CONSTRUCTION NOISE WAIVER REQUEST WITH CONDITIONS AS NOTED ON RESOLUTION NO. 1470-07, SECONDED BY KEN ELY, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED, JOHN LIEBERT ABSENT FOR VOTE)**

5. Resolution 1471-07, Adopting the Lighthouse Point Water Reclamation Facility Plan – presented by Steve Banham

**MOTION MADE BY BONNIE ONYON TO ADOPT RESOLUTION 1471-07 ADOPTING THE LIGHTHOUSE POINT WATER RECLAMATION FACILITY PLAN AND WAIVE THE SECOND READING, SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

6. Award of Design Contract, 2007-2016 Street Reconstruction Program – presented by Steve Banham

**MOTION MADE BY KEN ELY TO AUTHORIZE THE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE PROFESSIONAL SERVICES CONTRACT WITH PERTEET, INC. FOR COMPLETE DESIGN OF H, BOBLETT, CEDAR, AND CLARK STREETS FOR 2008 CONSTRUCTION AND PROVIDE AERIAL MAPPING AND COST ESTIMATES FOR THE REMAINING ROADS AND WAIVE THE SECOND READING, AN SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS**

Bonnie Onyon asked about drainage issues, which was clarified by Steve Banham.

John Liebert asked if he could vote – response was that it is an arterial street.

Lenora Onyon, 9805 Harvey Road, asked about width of Street.

Pam Christianson asked for clarification on area mentioned on page 8, which was then corrected by Steve Banham and noted by Mike Myers.

**APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

7. Contract Change Order #7 to Marine Drive Equalization Tank Project to remove asbestos from old tank – presented by Steve Banham.

**MOTION MADE BY KEN ELY TO AUTHORIZE CITY MANAGER TO SIGN THE CHANGE ORDER #7 FOR ASBESTOS REMOVAL AND WAIVE THE SECOND READING, SECONDED BY CHARLIE HAWKINS, AND APPROVED UNANIMOUSLY 5 – 0 (JASON OVERSTREET EXCUSED)**

**J. UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

1. John Liebert requested that staff bring forward at the next meeting amendments to the fee deferral ordinances to include the central business district.

**K. COUNCIL NEW BUSINESS**

1. John Liebert requested that during the budget process, staff include speakers or a sound system that can be heard between H & G Streets.
2. John Liebert asked about the liquor store status. Pam Christianson advised that it has been awarded to Steve Lawrenson.

**L. MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS**

**M. ADJOURN – 8:38PM**

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Mayor

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City Clerk