



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
May 27, 2009**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

1. Mayor Irish called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM
2. Pledge of Allegiance
3. **ROLL CALL:**

Council:

Mayor Irish	Present
Councilmember Birdwell	Present
Councilmember Smith	Present
Councilmember Van Dinter	Present
Councilmember Nolan	Present
Councilmember Tracy	Present

Staff:

Jeff Sarvis, Public Works Director
Tim Hopkin, Chief of Police
Suzanne Levis, Finance Director
Dale Miller, City Planner
Sue Lawrence, WWTP Supervisor
Dan Kearns, Attorney
Bart Stepp, Public Works Engineer

Guests:

Candi Irish
Al Luiz
Virginia Larson
Kevin Sherry

4. **CONSENT AGENDA:**

- A. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS FOR ~ 5-27-09
- B. REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING MINUTES ~ 5-13-09

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER TRACY SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SMITH AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE CONSENT AGENDA FOR MAY 27, 2009

5. **COUNCIL LIAISON REPORTS/COMMENTS:**

- A. MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Irish reminded Council about the work session scheduled for tomorrow at 6 PM for sewer issues and June 3rd work session (6 PM) for sign code discussion; both are at City Hall

- B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT

- Updated the Council on the GMHB/Judge Harris decision in the City's favor reversing the Growth Mgmt Hearings board decision; an appeal is expected (Court of Appeals, Division 2)



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
May 27, 2009**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

- No new federal decision on Cowlitz; the Senate confirmed Larry EchoHawk as the Assistant Secretary of the Interior for Indian Affairs (the head of the BIA). The current backlog of decisions will likely go forward over the next few months, including a decision on the Cowlitz Tribal request.

C. LEGISLATIVE REPORT ~ JERRY SMEDES (no report)

D. SEWER LIAISON REPORT ~ COUNCILMEMBER VAN DINTER

- Councilmember Van Dinter reported that he and Councilmember Birdwell met with staff regarding tomorrow night's work session, which will be on the regional sewer proposal.
- Councilmember Van Dinter reported on the dewatering equipment; currently the City is experiencing a significant savings (of water & natural gas costs) from the equipment. In addition, the total cost of that equipment ended up coming in approximately \$80,000 less than anticipated. In 2009 water and gas rates increased significantly; even with the rate changes we should realize a five year payback on the equipment.
- Councilmember Van Dinter provided an update on line cleaning activities.
- Staff is applying for a grant from Clark Public Utilities for energy savings based on the new plant design for \$189,000.
- Notice to proceed awarded on May 26th for the WWTP expansion. The contractor has 10 days to begin construction.

E. FINANCE LIAISON REPORT ~ COUNCILMEMBER TRACY

- Councilmember Tracy presented the monthly financial report

F. COUNCIL COMMENTS

- Councilmember Nolan – citizens have expressed appreciation for handicapped ramps newly installed; 2nd annual Little League tournament was held last weekend
- Councilmember Smith – nothing to report
- Councilmember Birdwell- reported on open house for sub-area planning; Patrol Officer Berry was involved in the annual bike fair, as was Councilmember Birdwell. It was well attended.
- Councilmember Tracy - Reported on Hazel Dell parade; the City float received the Best Spirit Award. Councilmember Tracy updated the Council on the upcoming Starlight Parade. Councilmember Tracy updated the Council on the Circus (occurred May 22nd); there was excellent attendance and the Circus appeared to be very enjoyed by all. Councilmember Tracy expressed great appreciation for PW Director Jeff Sarvis and his staff for all their assistance.

CITIZEN'S PUBLIC COMMENT:

- No comments

6. PRESENTATIONS:

7. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS:

A. PUBLIC HEARING ~ Ordinance 2009-05 Parking

The ordinance is designed to address a current problem by prohibiting the parking of large trucks on residential streets. Council discussed. Chief Hopkin addressed the enforcement portion and pointed out



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
May 27, 2009**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

that there is not a process yet in place; City Attorney clarified that this was the equivalent of creating a new function in the city and could be time consuming. Council recommended staff work out the details.

Mayor Irish opened the public hearing at 7:55 p.m.

- Kevin Sherry – commented that there has been one truck that has been a problem; feels it is both unsightly and unsafe; asked when the enforcement would begin. Chief Hopkin responded that the police department is available immediately to assist with resolution of the issue.
- Virginia Larson – is in favor of the council adopting the parking ordinance

The public hearing was closed at 7:59 p.m.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER SMITH SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER TRACY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ADOPT ORDINANCE 2009-05 REPEALING TITLE 10, CHAPTER 10 OF THE LCMC AND ADOPTING A NEW TITLE 10, CHAPTER 10.10 OF THE LCMC AS AMENDED

Mayor Irish called for a roll call vote:

Councilmember Birdwell:	Yes
Councilmember Smith:	Yes
Councilmember Van Dinter:	Yes
Councilmember Nolan:	Yes
Councilmember Tracy:	Yes

Mayor Irish called for a five-minute break at 8:30 p.m.; the meeting resumed at 8:35 p.m.

B. PUBLIC HEARING ~ SUB-AREA PLAN UPDATE

City Planner Miller presented Phase I documents and briefed the council on recent meetings. The project web page is accessible from the City’s homepage and continues to see additions. Tonight’s hearing is an opportunity for the City Council to provide any necessary mid-course corrections.

Mayor Irish called for public comment at 8:45 p.m. Public comment was closed at 8:46 p.m. without public comment.

Council extended a “well done” for the public outreach to date.

8. NEW BUSINESS:

- A. School Impact Fees - School districts are required to review and update their capital facilities plans and school impact fees at least every other year. This year’s update proposes to reduce the fees for multi-family dwelling units by half largely because the average assessed value of such units has doubled. Staff has reviewed the proposal for comprehensive plan and municipal code compliance and included proposed finding of fact in the staff report. Staff recommends the City Council defer action until a compiled comprehensive plan amendment is ready later this year. City Planner Miller will advise the school district of probable timing.



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING/PUBLIC HEARING
May 27, 2009**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER SMITH
AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO DEFER ADOPTION OF THE LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT
CAPITAL FACILITIES PLAN FOR 2009-2015.**

Councilmember Birdwell requested a review of all impact fees prior to the annual comprehensive plan amendment.

- B.** Shoreline Master Program - City Planner Miller stated the city is required to update its shoreline master program by the end of 2010 under a funded mandate from the state. State funding is insufficient for each jurisdiction to proceed independently. Staffs suggest pooling available state funding to develop a county-wide model program, hence the interlocal agreement. Each jurisdiction may then modify the model as necessary for local conditions. Department of Ecology has indicated their approval process may push the project into 2011. City of Vancouver will serve as project and grant manager. Planning directors from local jurisdictions will serve as the project management team and will generally operate by consensus.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VAN
DINTER AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE THE MAYOR TO ENTER INTO AN
INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN CLARK COUNTY, THE CITIES OF CAMAS,
WASHOUGAL, RIDGEFIELD, LA CENTER, BATTLE GROUND, THE TOWN OF YACOLT AND
THE CITY OF VANCOUVER FOR COOPERATIVE SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM UPDATE.**

12. ADJOURNMENT/CONTINUE MEETING TO CERTAIN DATE

Meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM

Mayor James T. Irish

Finance Director/Clerk, Suzanne Levis