

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

December 11, 2007

Mayor Mel Wyles called the regularly scheduled December 11, 2007 Leavenworth City Council meeting to order at 6:00 P.M., and led the City Council in the Flag Salute.

ROLL CALL

Council Present: Rob Eaton, Peter DeVries, Tibor Lak, Cathy Miller, Chris Rader, Michael Molohon and Lucky Moore.

Staff Present: Rich Brinkman, Terry McCauley, Connie Krueger, Chantell Steiner, David Schettler and Carrie Brewer.

APPROVAL OF THE CONSENT AGENDA

Mayor Wyles asked for a motion to approve the consent agenda as follows:

Consent Agenda:

1. Approval of the Agenda
2. Approval of November 27, 2007 Regular Meeting Minutes
3. Claims \$81,200.47
4. November 2007 Payroll \$98,756.53

City Administrator Brinkman noted an additional amount in Claims for a new total of \$82,967.35.

Councilmember DeVries moved to approve the consent agenda with the amended Claims figure. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rader, which passed unanimously.

PUBLIC SAFETY REPORTS

Lieutenant Kent Sisson of the Chelan County Sheriff's office provided statistical data on the activities in the City over the past year and noted that more data would be available to compare prior years against the current year's data. He noted that the traffic violations have increased for the safety of the citizens and pedestrians. He continued to say that the festivals were well attended this year, as expected, and even with the large amount of activity, the enforcement was comparable to prior years with no major problems occurring. He said overall, things have gone very well and it has been a great year.

Fire Chief Kelly O'Brien reported on a structure fire this evening and said the turnout of firefighters was good. There have been 479 runs to date, which is just slightly behind what happened last year. He noted that medical aid is roughly 70% of the runs that are made. Many of their members have been working in California on the FEMA driven project to fight the ongoing forest fires. He said he would have a full year-end report in February. He thanked Mel Wyles for all of his assistance over the last four years and looks forward to working with Rob Eaton in the future.

COUNCILMEMBER AND COMMITTEE REPORTS

Councilmember DeVries reported that the Finance Committee met today to review the budget presentation that will be presented this evening.

MAYOR AND ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

Mayor Wyles said that he would like the Public Works Committee to review the issues with Benton Street in the January Study Session. He would like them to look at making the south side no parking, and keeping the north side open closest to the church. He continued to add an Ad Hoc Committee for the Senior Center and appointed Councilmember Moore as the representative and would officially start in January.

City Administrator Brinkman welcomed the new Public Works Director, David Schettler. Mr. Schettler has come from Phoenix, Arizona and has many years of experience. He continued to report that he and Councilmember Eaton met with Vice President for Passenger Operations Rich Wessler of Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railway. He said it was an extremely exciting meeting looking at the prospects for the final site location for the Amtrak station. He believes it was the most positive meeting thus far, and that we should know the final location by the end of the month, with a possible opening as early as October 2008. He also mentioned that there would be a new agreement drafted between Leavenworth Summer Theatre, the Chamber of Commerce, and the Festhalle for continued use. He then thanked all of his staff for all of the hard work that has been done over the last year.

Directors Krueger and Steiner thanked Mel Wyles for all of his hard work, dedication, and commitment to the City and the Staff.

RESOLUTIONS, ORDINANCES, ORDERS, AND OTHER BUSINESS

1. Resolution No. 10-2007: Rate and Fee Schedule

City Administrator Brinkman explained that each year the Council is presented with recommended changes for the fees. He noted that a small increase each year is easier on the citizens rather than having to increase the fee by a large amount every few years. He explained that a majority of the changes were for a \$1 increase in water, sewer, and garbage. However, to keep in line with the Ordinance specification of outside city limits percentages, some have increased slightly more, less or stayed the same. Community Services Director Krueger explained the changes and additions that she has included as well for the Community Development fees. City Administrator Brinkman noted that there are no increases in this resolution for overage rates, senior discounts, taps, or miscellaneous fees. Councilmember Lak moved to approve Resolution 10-2007 Rate and Fee Schedule. Councilmember Molohon seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

2. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Resolution No. 11-2007: Amendment of the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan

City Administrator Brinkman reminded the Council that this plan is reviewed every year and was last reviewed in July 2007. He said the Chumstick Multi-Use Trail and the Highway 2 Pedestrian Crossings are two new projects that need to be added to the plans priority list. Mayor Wyles opened the Public Hearing at 6:24 P.M. and invited input from the public. Hearing no comments from the public, Mayor Wyles closed the Public Hearing at 6:25 P.M.

Ken Coffin, 257 Scholze Street, Leavenworth: Mr. Coffin asked if the streets would be fixed as part of this plan. City Administrator Brinkman responded by saying that both the commercial and residential sector streets are part of the plan and that he would be talking about some of the specific dollar amounts in the budget presentation that would be set aside each year for residential repairs.

Councilmember Eaton moved to approve Resolution 11-2007 Amendment of the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Plan. Councilmember DeVries seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

3. Ordinance No. 1301: 2007 Budget Amendment

Finance Director Steiner explained that the Council has done a single budget amendment at the end of each year. She explained that she learned from the audit process that amendments should be done throughout the year and would implement that process in 2008. City Administrator Brinkman noted that the amendments were approved by the Council in previous meetings. Councilmember Eaton moved to approve Ordinance 1301, 2007 Budget Amendments. Councilmember DeVries seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

4. PUBLIC HEARING - Ordinance No. 1302: Adoption of 2008 Budget

City Administrator Brinkman presented the third version of the 2008 Budget to the City Council. Overall, this comprehensive well-balanced budget will allow many projects to occur in 2008 that the Council defined as City Goals. Some of the more notable projects include the downtown infrastructure projects, the new Amtrak Icicle Station, the Park Plan update and park improvements, ongoing beautification of streets, sidewalks, and benches, street improvements, and several others. He noted that at the previous hearing many funds were showing a deficit in regards to expenditures over revenues, which have successfully been reduced by the staff since the first meeting to retain healthy beginning fund balances. Mayor Wyles opened the Public Hearing at 6:35 P.M. and invited input from the public.

Ken Coffin, 257 Scholze Street, Leavenworth: Mr. Coffin asked if a bond could be issued for the street repairs. City Administrator Brinkman responded by stating that the \$55,000 that is budgeted to be put aside will be used as payments on bonds that will be taken out for the projects over the next ten years. Mayor Wyles closed the Public Hearing at 6:37 P.M.

Councilmember DeVries moved to approve Ordinance 1302 Adoption of the 2008 Budget. Councilmember Lak seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Councilmember Eaton thanked the Staff for creating and getting this budget put together so well in a short period of time. City Administrator Brinkman noted that even with all of the cuts that were made to get to the current budget figures, not one of the City Council priorities was taken out.

5. Ordinance No. 1303: Adoption of B&O Telephone Business Tax

City Attorney Terry McCauley explained that the Washington Legislature has changed the laws imposing taxes on telephone and cellular services for intrastate services. This ordinance will exclude intrastate commerce and comply with the new law. Councilmember Eaton moved to approve Ordinance 1303 Adoption of B&O Telephone Business Tax. Councilmember Lak seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

6. Motion to approve Fire Protection and Emergency Services Contract

City Administrator Brinkman noted that there are minimal changes in the contract from last year and are highlighted in bold. The main change relates to fire safety inspections, which will be contracted to an outside source rather than being done by the Fire District. He proposed some language adjustments to the first year of the contract as outlined. Councilmember Eaton moved to approve the Fire Protection and Emergency Services Contract as amended. The motion was seconded by Councilmember DeVries, which passed unanimously.

7. Motion to amend contract for City Attorney Services

City Administrator Brinkman noted that the City Attorney has not received a cost of living increase in several years and stated that this contract includes a slight increase. Councilmember DeVries moved to amend the contract for the City Attorney Services as presented. Councilmember Lak seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

8. Motion to authorize advertisement for bids for the Ninth and Commercial Street projects

City Administrator Brinkman asked the Council to authorize the Staff to proceed with the bid process due to the cancellation of the December 25, Council meeting. Councilmember Molohon moved to authorize advertisement for bids for the Ninth and Commercial Street projects. Councilmember Rader seconded the motion, which passed unanimously.

9. **PUBLIC HEARING** - Moratorium Considerations: Ordinance No. 1304

Mayor Wyles opened the Public Hearing at 6:45 P.M. Community Services Director Krueger explained that the draft Ordinance 1304 being presented would amend Ordinance 1300. She clarified that none of the original moratorium or second moratorium conditions are being modified. Ordinance 1304 does include new criteria and conditions that may or may not allow additional applicants to qualify for the exemption list. She noted that only applicants that had a pre-application on file before the moratorium would be able to participate and any new applicants would have to wait for the moratorium to be lifted.

Thomas Guthrie, 12795 Ranger Road, Leavenworth: Mr. Guthrie submitted a copy of his written statement concerning his personal situation with the Water Moratorium. He explained that the conditions being required by the City to hook-up to City water are extremely expensive and unfair. He noted that he has attempted to negotiate with the Community Services Department to no avail. Hearing no further comments from the public, Mayor Wyles closed the Public Hearing at 6:55 P.M.

Councilmember Eaton moved to approve Ordinance 1304 amending Ordinance 1300. Councilmember Lak seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. Mayor Wyles commented that not everyone can be pleased when a tough decision needs to be made, but sometimes things have to occur as they do. He said the Council will continue to work on this project over the next four months and the Staff and Council will do the best that they can to address all of the issues involved.

10. Motion to cancel December 25, 2007 City Council meeting

Mayor Wyles stated that it is customary to cancel the second meeting in December due to the holidays and asked the Council for a motion to do so. Councilmember Molohon moved to cancel the

December 25, 2007 City Council Meeting. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Rader, which passed unanimously.

COMMENTS FROM THE PUBLIC ON ITEMS NOT ON THE AGENDA

Mayor Wyles received several comments from Mike Cecka, Ken Coffin, and Bill Wells on his tenure with the City as well as his long-standing relationship with the Community. He was thanked and congratulated for his leadership, dedication, and inspiration to the People, the Staff, and the Community as a whole.

MAYORAL ADDRESS TO THE LEAVNORTH COMMUNITY

Mayor Wyles addressed the Community and Council on his tenure and started by thanking his wife for all of her support over the years. He explained how important the Mayor's position is in a Community such as Leavenworth and how he could not have done it without her. He continued to thank his mother, family, and the voters of Leavenworth, the City employees, and everyone else in the Community. He then proceeded to award two Employee of the Year awards to Thomas Radach and Evie Carpenter. He said both of these employees are well deserving of the award and he feels that the people of Leavenworth need to know what it is that the staff does for them and how hard and dedicated they are to the City and the Community. He commended all the Staff and Council for the hard work that they do and again thanked the Community for their support and trust in his abilities to run this great City.

Councilmember DeVries presented Mayor Wyles with a plaque of gratitude from the City of Leavenworth with sincere appreciation for his dedicated service.

ADJOURNMENT

Seeing no other business, Councilmember Devries moved to adjourn the December 11, 2007 meeting of the Leavenworth City Council. The motion was seconded by Councilmember Lak, which passed unanimously. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 P.M.

APPROVED

ATTEST

Rob Eaton, Mayor

**Chantell Steiner
Finance Director/City Clerk**