

LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
June 12th, 2007

Mayor Mel Wyles called the June 12th, 2007 Study Session to order at 9:00 A.M.

Council Present: Rob Eaton, Peter DeVries, Tibor Lak, Larry Langston, Cathy Miller, and Chris Rader.

Staff Present: Richard Brinkman, Ron Hupp, Al Kulp, and Connie Krueger.

1. Holiday Lights and Decorations

Director Krueger discussed the current emergency moratorium in place regarding holiday lights and decorations. She wanted to clarify with the Council exactly what types of decorations and lights would be allowed so she could draft an ordinance for the Council to vote on. The Council decided that animated, mechanical, and inflatable decorations and blinking lights would be prohibited and asked Director Krueger to put a date in the ordinance specifying when the colored lights must be turned off in January.

2. Contracts for: Stormwater, Development Review, Transportation Plan, Park Plan, and Interim Community Development Assistance

Director Krueger stated she had received many statements of qualifications from different firms and had reviewed some of them but needed more time to review them and discuss them with Director Kulp. She stated she would do more work reviewing the statements and would get back to the Council with recommendations.

3. Snow Removal/Stormwater Fees and/or Utility

Director Kulp discussed with Council the issue of snow storage and removal for the proposed smaller lots in town and the current snow removal process and dumping area. He suggested the creation of a snow removal utility that would charge residents for the City to plow and/or remove snow for a fee. The Council suggested the possibility of contracting with local businesses to remove snow. Director Kulp stated the City needs to start looking into a way to create a stormwater/snow utility to deal with the smaller lot sizes and the increasing costs of snow removal.

4. Transient Businesses and Street Vendors

Director Krueger informed Council there had been an increasing interest from the public in street vendors and street performers within the commercial district. The Council discussed both of these issues individually and concluded not to allow transient street vendors as they would be competing with the local businesses. They did recommend allowing street performers with permission from the City, a special license and a set location. The Council agreed the Chamber of Commerce would recommend these street performers and the City would draft an ordinance setting the license fee, insurance regulations, and guidelines.

5. Utility Charges: Middle of the Month Turn Off/On:

Administrator Brinkman explained to the Council the need to add to the Rate Resolution a cut off date for those utility customers who have utilities turned on or off during the middle of the month in order to help with billing issues. The Council agreed to add to the Resolution the 15th of the month as a cut off date for utility billing to help recover the costs of mid month utility turn on/off.

6. Special Use Permits

Director Krueger informed the Council she had received a request from the new ice cream truck in town to be allowed to sell ice cream in Enchantment Park. Since the Park is in the commercial district the City would have to draft a special use agreement allowing the owner to sell in the park. The Council agreed to allow the City to enter into a special use agreement with the ice cream truck owner provided the agreement included a minimum fee of \$10.00 for waste disposal. The Council asked that the item be added to the agenda for the Council meeting so they could vote on it immediately.

7. City Equipment Needs

Director Kulp reported the City's Bobcat was no longer in service and had a blown engine. He stated it would cost about \$8,000 to rebuild it. He informed Council a new Bobcat would cost about \$30,000. He also recommended the City purchase another multi purpose piece of machinery; a John Deere 1560 which would be used for snow removal as well as a mower in the summer time. He stated this piece would cost between \$37,000-\$42,000. Director Kulp also stated the State Dept of Transportation has a 90's model diesel snow plow with sander for sale and it would be available for use in the fall. He wasn't sure what the State would charge but thought it would be around \$30,000. He asked the Council for permission to purchase all three pieces of equipment and to proceed with the bidding process. He informed the Council the funds would come from the Equipment replacement fund. The Council agreed to allow Director Kulp to proceed with the bidding process and bring the information back to Council for further approval.

8. UIP Ordinance

Mayor Wyles stated law enforcement had come to him and asked if the City could pass an ordinance prohibiting urinating in public to make it easier to enforce within the City Limits. The Council agreed and authorized the City to draft an ordinance prohibiting urinating in public.

9. Increasing Councilmember Pay

Councilmember Eaton reported that 6 of the 7 Council positions will be able receive an increase in pay if the Council chooses to do so. The Council asked Administrator Brinkman to review a recent comparison with other cities and recommend an increase amount to the Council.

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Seeing no other businesses, Mayor Pro-Tem Eaton adjourned the Study Session at 10:50 A.M.

APPROVED

ATTEST

Mel Wyles, Mayor

Ronald G. Hupp, Finance Dir/City Clerk