

**LEAVENWORTH CITY COUNCIL STUDY SESSION MINUTES
September 11, 2007**

Mayor Mel Wyles called the September 11, 2007 Study Session to order at 9:00 A.M.

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

Staff Present: Mayor Wyles, Richard Brinkman, Connie Krueger, Chantell Steiner, and Andrea Thompson.

1. Inter-Local Agreement with Cascade Medical Center

Administrator Brinkman explained to the Council that in April of this year the City Council had approved an Inter-Local Agreement with Cascade Medical Center (CMC) to use the same contractor for the City's Ninth Street project and CMC's utility improvements that are required for their remodel/expansion project. He stated the low bid the City received for the utility work was \$279,167.44, with CMC prepared to move forward with their utility improvements this year. The low bid for project was too high for the City to move forward with the project delaying both projects until spring of next year. CMC would like to pay the City the \$279,167.44 now and allow the city to collect interest on these funds and use those funds to pay for the utility improvements as part of the entire Ninth Street project next spring. Mr. Brinkman informed Council the hospital is working on a fixed, voter approved budget and since it was not their decision to delay the project the City should consider the proposal. Councilmember Lak asked what would happen to the funds if the project were not started in the spring as intended. Administrator Brinkman stated he didn't think the City would wait any longer to start the project. Councilmember Eaton suggested setting a cap for additional expenses for the utility portion of the project such as \$25,000, but the Council as a whole did not wish to pursue the cap. Councilmember DeVries asked what would happen if the utility portion of the project ended up costing less than the \$279,167.44. Brinkman responded that the negotiations did not detail that possibility, but because the City was assuming the risk of the project costing more, any surplus would be maintained by the City, and could be perhaps used for an aesthetic element of the Downtown Improvement Project on Commercial Street. The Council was in favor of the proposed amendment and requested that it be added to the evening agenda.

2. Second Amendment to Interlocal Agreement with CMC

Director Krueger reported the current permits sought by CMC require a bond for landscaping and other improvements. CMC is asking the City to allow them to provide a binding financial commitment letter in lieu of bonding. The Council was in favor of this request and asked to have this item placed on the evening agenda.

3. Whitman Street Special Use Permit

Director Krueger explained the need for a special use permit allowing a set stairs for emergency access at a property on Whitman Street. She stated the stairs would be set in the public right-of-way. The Council was in favor of moving forward with a special use permit allowing the emergency stairs to be set in the public right-of-way.

4. Update on City/County Planning

Director Krueger updated the Council on the following issues:

1. Fish habitat projects on the Wenatchee River
2. Memorandum of understanding for planning
3. Joint transportation planning
4. Joint Shoreline Management Act Planning
5. Amendments to current road development standards
6. Pedestrian/bicycle path funding and letter of support
7. Study of future UGA increased density analysis
8. Sub-area planning
9. Permit tracking
10. Joint Meeting

She stated with regards to Item #5 the County is proposing narrower roads which is an issue for the City of Leavenworth with regards to snow removal and storage issues.

For item #6 she stated the City is partnering with the County to apply for a State grant to help fund planning efforts for the Pedestrian/Bicycle path project.

Items #7 & 8 she reported the County had done a density analysis on East Leavenworth Road and determined a possible increase in density by five times over current density. She stated this creates a concern for the City with regards to providing utilities and maintaining water flow from the river. Another concern for the City would be the traffic flow onto Highway 2 from East Leavenworth Road.

With item #9 the County is planning a customized permitting system and would be a benefit to the County for tax purposes.

Director Krueger reported that with item #10 she has met many times recently with the County and the County had stated a desire to meet with the Council to discuss issues affecting Leavenworth in November sometime. The Council agreed to have Director Krueger set up a meeting with the County.

5. Road Naming

Director Krueger reported that a new public access road has been developed off of Titus Road and will be dedicated as a public street. The project applicant has offered several names to choose from but preferred Skibahn (Ski View). The Council discussed this name and desired to pursue the name 'Skiblick' for the road.

6. Street Closure Request

Director Krueger reported Rebecca Darley had requested the City close Cedar Street for a neighborhood block party on Saturday September 29th. She stated the group would be taking donations to benefit the Community Cupboard. The Council voiced a concern with regards to the Autumn Leaf Festival and the new detour route this year. Council decided to leave Price Street open and move forward with the request.

7. Golf Course Request for Entry of Water Right into the Trust Water Right Program

Director Krueger reported that Dan Davies of Trout Unlimited had requested the City enter a water right which was not used in March and April by the Golf Course into a Trust Water Program to use in the Waterfront Park fishing pond. Ray Laramie from the Golf Course stated his organization did not want to give up the water rights to Trout Unlimited but wanted an agreement between the City and Trout Unlimited dedicating water to Trout Unlimited in order to utilize the water and not lose the water rights. Director Krueger stated she would like to investigate the water rights issue further and the City had time as long as a decision is made by next April.

8. Waste Management Update

Administrator Brinkman reported to the Council that he had been working with Waste Management and the issue would most likely be on every study session agenda until the end of the year. He stated the process was much more complicated than originally anticipated. He reported that he might have a proposal by mid October for the Council to review.

9. 2008 Budget Calendar

Administrator Brinkman informed Council he would be bringing the 2008 budget calendar to the Finance Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m. today.

Councilmember DeVries stated the Chamber of Commerce, Autumn Leaf and Village Art in the Park would like to build an 8' X 10' structure to use as a Santa House at the festivals. He stated the structure would be temporary and moveable by forklift.

Study Session adjourned at 10:30 A.M.

APPROVED

ATTEST

Mel Wyles, Mayor

**Chantell Steiner
Finance Director/City Clerk**