

# CITY OF VADER

317 8<sup>th</sup> Street

VADER, WA 98593

(360) 295-3222

## PUBLIC HEARING & CITY COUNCIL MEETING

**LOCATION:** Vader City Hall

**DATE:** October 25th, 2018

**TIME:** 6:00 p.m.

### CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Call to order: 6:03 p.m.

Roll Call: by Jill Nielson, City Clerk/Treasurer

In Attendance	Absent Excused	Absent Unexcused	Name/Title
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Ken Smith, Mayor
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Judy Costello, Position #1
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Jason Dailey, Position #2
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Joe Schey, Position #3 & Mayor Pro-Tem
<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Parsons Position #4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leona Sander-Hunter Position #5

Pledge of Allegiance: in prior meeting.

Mayor's report:

1. The city tractor was in the shop for repairs that will cost \$1,800-\$2,500.
2. The city will be needing to pay out \$2,400 for permits to BNSF Railroad to authorize use of their property as a driveway to the wastewater treatment facility and to run water and sewer lines.

Council Reports:

Judy Costello-reported that she would not be able to attend the November 8th council meeting. She also invited the public come to the Community Center Holiday Bazaar on November 2nd & 3rd from 9 am to 4 pm. There will be a tire recycling event on November 8th, 9th & 10th. She asked about getting speed limit signs around the school property.

Jason Dailey-announced that they are accepting donations of food items or money at the Little Crane Cafe for the Thanksgiving baskets. Donations can also be taken to the Community Center. All donations need to be received by November 18th.

Agenda:

**Action-----I move to approve the agenda for 10/11/2018 City Council Meeting as written except removing item #2.**

**Motion Submitted by:** Judy Costello  
**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Jason Dailey  
**Vote:** unanimous, 4-0/ Motion carried

Minutes:

**Action-----I move to approve the Minutes for the City Council Meeting on 10/11/2017 as written.**

**Motion Submitted by:** Leona Sander-Hunter  
**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Judy Costello  
**Vote:** unanimous, 4-0/ Motion carried

Vouchers:

**Action-----I move to approve the vouchers for:**

First Half of October 2018:	\$ <u>118,638.79</u>
<b>End of October 2018:</b>	<b>\$ <u>11,205.34</u></b>
<b>October 2018 Total:</b>	<b>\$ <u>129,844.13</u></b>

**Motion Submitted by:** Joe Schey  
**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Jason Dailey  
**Vote:** unanimous, 4-0/ Motion carried

Special Reports:

Scott Gross - Vader Planning Committee Chairman, reported that the Planning Committee had met with Matt Matayoshi from the Lewis Economic Development Council (LEDC) and with Fred Evander from Lewis County Planning and Development at recent meetings and received information and guidance about various planning aspects. He also reported that the city had requested and received a \$20,000 planning grant through the LEDC to complete the required Comprehensive Plan update. He also reported that the Planning Committee had begun working to come up with "vision statements" for the city and had held a public meeting to get input from the residents. City Planner, Gary Cooper is helping to incorporate the input into the Comprehensive Plan.

City Business:

1. PUBLIC HEARING on Property Tax Revenue.

**Action-----I move to open the public hearing on 2019 Revenues and Property Taxes and state that the hearing will not exceed 10 minutes.**

**Motion Submitted by:** Joe Schey  
**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Jason Dailey  
**Vote:** unanimous, 4-0/ Motion carried

Call to order: 6:20 p.m.

Mayor Smith invited members of the public to comment on property tax rates and revenues.

Cindy Radcliffe-My comment is, there are a lot of people in this city that are living, literally have dollars left after they pay their bills. To raise, or to continue to raise taxes to me is, is putting people in the hole. And that, to me that's criminal. So I would suggest that they not only not be raised, but that the one that we did raise two years ago to end. How do you guys feel about that?

Donna Rogers-I don't want to see them raised. How's that?

Steve Sweat-I'm from Longview, I'm thinking about buying a house here. So we're just, we're kinda concerned about it. Taxes are important, they're necessary to keep things moving and I know it puts a hardship on some people, so maybe they can make it like, an exception, for those who are financially challenged because, I know, I move into the community, I understand that taxes make the community or break it. I've lived in places that have just choked the life out of the city because, so.

Patty McVey-And, I've been away. I'm again considering, I was caring for my sick mother in Indianapolis and we lost her, but I was there. And that's very important. And, I want to make a comment that I'm still moving from Castle Rock. It's heaven up here compared to the taxes in Castle Rock. So I'd just like to make that comment. I find it, and I am on a limited, I'm 72 now, as Jason well knows, he has a senior menu for me. So I just want to comment that this is to me the best value in the state of Washington, California, Oregon, because I've studied it all.

Scott Gross-I feel that the city is going to be in a detriment because they don't increase the revenue (unintelligible word) flowing that isn't a good idea overall for the city. And I wasn't here for the workshop so I don't know where you guys are at number wise. But umm, if the city can't keep itself afloat based on current numbers and there isn't enough money coming in, then of course, we need to make changes. This being the most logical one because any other options aren't going to pull in the dollars that property taxes are going to, such as sales tax or (unintelligible words) someone new coming in.

Cindy Radcliffe-My comment is, just like with our own budget at home, you live within your budget, and you don't just keep trying to go out and get a 3rd and 4th or 5th job in order to bring more money in. So raising taxes shouldn't be the first thing you guys think about, it should be the

very last think you think about. Stop doing that. So don't just raise taxes, cut expenses someplace else. There are several options that maybe could be left instead of just putting it on the back of the people in town that can hardly afford it.

Hallie Sword-I am too on a limited income, not, too, ya know, I'm okay, but I'm on a limited income and I know some people that have a more limited income than I do. But my question is how much is our tax burden compared to other communities and other cities? And, would the people we're trying to help by not raising the taxes, suffer greatly, if there weren't roads, maintenance, fire protection, etcetera, etcetera. I think that we have to consider, um, how we would get along with less money if, when we're back against the wall, maybe raise taxes a little. Maybe people are going to have to give up cable t.v. or you know, other things or stop buying lottery tickets or other,...there are people who are dirt poor, and I know it, and I understand. Trust me, I understand. But I think that, uh, the ideas that have been voiced here about finding out about how much other people are paying for the same thing (loud noise, could not hear speaking).

Patty McVey-I'm still a resident of Castle Rock. But you are unincorporated, right?

Jason Dailey-No, we are incorporated.

Patty McVey-Okay, so if we look at 2,500 people in Castle Rock, and then we look at your numbers and we compare, we would find out, which I've done, that we here, and I say we because, Jason knows how serious I am, and um, Judy does too, we are more than competitive in Vader. And really, I fear for cities like Castle Rock, who look beautiful, taxed out the ears, um, and even those that aren't as unlucky as some, can barely afford it. So I'm just making the comment that if you're looking at comparisons of cities, we could look at Kalama, we could look at Castle Rock, and I've done that. And this is still the very best buy, and yes we should raise and yes we should be aware of the poor, and we should give more to the poor. But I think that's up to, my comment is that that's up to each one of us through our churches and everything else to help the poor and the homeless. Which there are some always.

**Action-----I move to close the public hearing on 2019 Revenues and Property Taxes at 6:28 p.m.**

**Motion Submitted by:** Jason Dailey  
**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Leona Sander-Hunter  
**Vote:** unanimous, 4-0/ Motion carried

Hearing Adjourned: 

6:28 p.m.
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2. Topic removed from the agenda.

3. Council held a short discussion about the limb and yard waste disposal plans. Additional information is needed about insurance for the location/activity and possible BNSF permit requirements.
4. Councilor Costello reported on attending the Landfill Closure group and that they discussed the annual budget. She found it interesting but of no real significance to the city at this time.
5. Council discussed and considered Barcott's pay request.

**Action-----I move to approve the Barcott Construction remaining amount from Pay Request #3 in the amount of \$9,963.00 and all of Pay Request #4 in the amount of \$66,681.69.**

**Motion Submitted by:** Joe Schey

**2<sup>nd</sup> the motion:** Jason Dailey

**Vote:** Aye: 2 (Jason Dailey and Joe Schey)  
Nay: 2 (Judy Costello and Leona Sander-Hunter)  
Mayor Smith broke the tie with an Aye vote.  
Motion carried

Public Comment:

Cindy Radliffe - commented on the 2019 budget and stated that there was nothing in it for the citizens.

Meeting Adjourned: 6:50 p.m.

Approved by:

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Mayor

Attest:

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City Clerk/Treasurer