

CITY OF VADER

317 8th Street

VADER, WA 98593

(360) 295-3222

CITY COUNCIL MEETING

LOCATION: Vader City Hall

DATE: March 14, 2019

TIME: 6:00 p.m.

CITY COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES

Call to order:

6:00 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 checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Mike Parsons Position #4
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	Leona Sander-Hunter Position #5

NOTE: Mike Parsons attended via telephone.

Pledge of Allegiance was lead by Jason Dailey.

Mayor's Report:

1. The cell tower light has been fixed. Will double check it is still working properly.
2. The effort to codify the city's ordinances is continuing and nearing completion.
3. Wastewater Operator reported that a city-wide power outage had caused the motor on the aerator to freeze and then burn up when power was restarted. Efforts to repair/replace the equipment have begun.
4. Mayor Smith reported that he has put his house up for sale.
5. The trees for beautification of A Street have not been purchased, but will be soon.

Council Reports:

Judy Costello- Visited the Vader pre-school. There are two classes of 15 children. A new playground and landscaping is coming soon.
There are 2020 Census jobs available.

May Day Committee meets every Wednesday at 5 p.m. at the Little Crane Cafe. T-shirts are on sale for \$20 at the Little Crane and the Little Falls Community Center.

Agenda:

Action-----I move to approve the agenda for 3/14/2019 City Council Meeting adding discussion topics #5 - City Wide Clean-up and #6 - City business licenses.

Motion Submitted by: Judy Costello
2nd the motion: Jason Dailey
Vote: unanimous, 5-0/ Motion carried

Minutes:

Action-----I move to approve the minutes for City Council Meeting on 1/24/19 and Special Council Meeting on 2/21/19.

Motion Submitted by: Jason Dailey
2nd the motion: Mike Parsons
Vote: Aye - 4 (Jason Dailey, Joe Schey, Mike Parsons, Leona Sander-Hunter)
Abstained - 1 (Judy Costello)
Motion carried

Vouchers:

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

First half of February, 2019:	\$ <u>24,513.00</u>
End of February, 2019:	\$ <u>16,196.94</u>
2019 February Total:	\$ <u>40,709.94</u>

First half of March, 2019:	\$ <u>28,091.60</u>
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Motion Submitted by: Jason Dailey
2nd the motion: Judy Costello
Vote: unanimous, 5-0/ Motion carried

Special Reports:

Sergeant Engelbertson reported on the January and February 2019 law enforcement activities and that they are planning coverage for the May Day festivities.

City Business:

1. Council heard a report provided by Cathi Read (Department of Commerce) on the status of the Wastewater Treatment Facility Upgrade project's funding. The city has been listed on the Department of Ecology's draft funding list to receive a grant in the amount of \$2.58 million and a loan for \$2.7 million. The city can replace any amount of the loan with grant funds from other sources and it will not affect the amount grant provided by Ecology. Other grant funds can be applied for through the Department of Commerce Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program, however the city must do an income survey in order to qualify for the CDBG program. Lewis County also holds .09 Economic Development grant funds that may be applied for as well and there are possible funds through the State Legislators. The city will be looking into and applying for all of these funds.
If no additional grant funds (besides the Ecology funds) are secured, the expected increase to sewer rates is around \$35 per month.

2. Council introduced and held the first reading of Ordinance 2019-02:

**AN ORDINANCE OF THE CITY OF VADER, WASHINGTON,
AMENDING THE ANNUAL BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF
VADER, WASHINGTON, FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019
TO ADOPT JOB CLASSIFICATIONS AND PAY SCHEDULE
AND DIRECTING THE CITY CLERK TO AFFECT THE
BUDGET AMENDMENT HEREIN PROVIDED.**

The Council then opened the floor for public comments.

Cindy Radcliffe-Asked what was reduced in the budget to cover the costs for the raises. She also asked what percent of each of the funds reserve is reduced to cover the raises proposed.

Linda Newton-Asked why some of the funds were coming out of the Sewer budget.

3. Mayor Smith reported that he had checked with the City of Chehalis and received a copy of a resume for a person who could possibly be a Code Enforcement Officer. After reviewing the resume he felt that the person would not be a good fit for Vader. He was willing to go into more detail as to why with anyone who would like to know more, after the meeting.
4. Council reviewed and discussed the Senior/Low Income options for the Sewer Rates and the form used by Lewis County for determining eligibility. Council asked that the City Clerk/Treasurer prepare information showing the effect it would have on the Sewer budget and rates if they allowed permanently disabled residents to qualify.
5. Councilor Costello reported that the Little Falls Community Center is organizing a city wide clean-up from April 15th - 20th. They will have two

20 foot long containers to collect household garbage and limb and yard waste debris. While the dump costs are being paid for with a grant, the rental fees and the pick-up and delivery of the containers is not and will cost about \$400 for each. Councilor Costello asked if the city would be willing to donate \$400 for one of the container costs. Council agreed that this would be a good use of Code Enforcement funds. It was noted that the requested amount falls under the Mayor's discretionary limit and he could make the final decision.

6. Councilor Costello reported that all are aware of the unlicensed business in the center of the city. She then stated that she had heard from two individuals who received letters from the city requesting that they come in to get business licenses and they don't currently have an active business. One of them hasn't had a business for 20 years and the other doesn't even live in Vader anymore. The second person even bought the license. She said she can't figure out the logic behind this.

The City Clerk/Treasurer then clarified with her that someone who does not have a business in Vader actually paid for a business license, to which she said yes. The Clerk/Treasurer then said that that was wrong and would refund the gentleman his money, he just needs to come in and let us know.

Councilor Costello explained that the problem is that there are citizens in town who are obviously running businesses and do not have a licenses, yet others who don't have a business are getting letters.

The City Clerk/Treasurer then explained that the Department of Revenue has a list that is public record that shows all the "active" businesses on record with them. The city uses that list to determine who gets a notice in the mail reminding them to get their city business license. The city staff weeds out the addresses of those who are not in the city limits and any that they personally know do not have a current business. All the others get a letter. Anyone who calls or comes in and informs the staff that they do not have a business are then marked off the list. The staff has no way of knowing which businesses on the list are no longer current.

Councilor Costello asked if the Dept. of Revenue website shows a Vader address? The response was yes. Councilor Costello then said she was satisfied.

Public Comment:

Linda Newton- Expressed her displeasure with the business license letter she received.

Cindy Radcliffe-Expressed her opinion about the so called "black hole" topics.

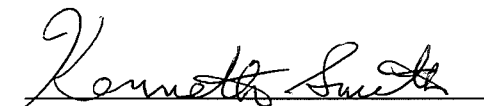
Elected Official Comments:

Judy Costello- Stated that she would have an update on 50% of the topics Mrs. Radcliffe was concerned about.

Mike Parsons-Stated that he is planning to hold another Town Hall meeting and invited the other Council members to hold one as well.


Meeting Adjourned: 7:24 p.m.

Approved by:



Mayor

Attest:



City Clerk/Treasurer

