

**Town of Coupeville  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, March 27, 2007  
6:30 p.m.**

**COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT:** Mayor Nancy Conard, Councilmembers Dianne Binder, Marshall Bronson, Bob Clay, Molly Hughes, and Jim Phay.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Treasurer Judy Thomas

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the regular meeting of February 27, 2006 were approved as submitted.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Conard explained that the Town will be flushing water mains April 3-5, 2007; and Central Whidbey Fire & Rescue will be testing fire hydrants and doing routine maintenance April 9-13, 2007, Monday through Friday, 8:00 am - 4:00 pm. She noted that during the flushing and hydrant testing, the water in the mains may become turbid (dirty looking) which is not hazardous to your health but may cause problems with staining laundry, so it is recommended that laundry should not be done during the flushing and testing.
- She noted that the Spring Cleanup is scheduled for Saturday, April 7, 2007.
- Next week, the Town will be doing smoke testing of the sewer main in the area of South Main and Terry, and those residents and businesses will be contacted prior to the testing.
- March 26<sup>th</sup> she attended an informal meeting in Port Townsend with the Department of Transportation Washington State Ferries and the City of Port Townsend regarding the size of the ferries to be used for the Keystone - Port Townsend ferry run; and it looks like the Department of Transportation (DOT) will consider smaller ferries.
- Also on March 26<sup>th</sup>, she attended an emergency planning meeting about what everyone is doing with the NW Incident Command Unit and who will be responding to what.
- She explained that when Anna Tamura retired there were donations made to the Town's Commemorative Fund, and Anna requested that some of that be spent on a picnic table at Town Hall, and that it be dedicated to her mother, which was done last week.
- She spoke about the problem with Channel 10 and that a new character generator has been ordered. When it arrives, Comcast will install the new equipment and work with our volunteer to get it up and running in a couple weeks.
- She noted that Public Works Director Malcolm Bishop attended the Low Impact Development meeting last week and was pleased to see that many of the concepts are being utilized in Coupeville. She added that we will be looking at pervious surfacing for some of our future projects.

**AUDIENCE INPUT**

Gary Piazzon, Coupeville, thanked Council for passing the two resolutions at the last meeting (Resolution No. 07-01 urging leaders to support a strong climate policy; Resolution No. 07-02 urging leaders to support the Wild Sky Wilderness Act of 2007 to protect 106,000 acres in the central Cascades); noting that we all need to do our part. He attended the Low Impact Development conference and was pleased that the city of Langley adopted the entire plan. He

spoke about global warming and that we need to do our part. He asked about the status on the Historic Plan and Mayor Conard responded that Larry Cort is working on it and expects to have something to the Town in the next few weeks; also, she noted that Councilmember Clay would be contacting him to work on the tree ordinance.

Roxallanne Medley, 701 Madrona Way, Coupeville, spoke about the Low Impact Development Expo, sponsored by the Whidbey Island Conservation District and Puget Sound Action Team, titled 'Developing for a sustainable future: "Low-Impact Development in your Neighborhood"' that she attended last week. She was disappointed that only one staff person was present and felt there should have been more representation from the Town Council and Mayor. The session stressed why we need low impact development and offered tools to improve how we develop land and manage runoff into Puget Sound. She recommended the Town look at needed changes to the Comprehensive Plan to incorporate low impact development into all activities of the Town, from maintenance to subdivision review; and suggested the Town contact the Conservation District about help in adopting the Low Impact Development standards and adopt practices that will protect the waters of Puget Sound.

Councilmember Clay responded that the Town has been reviewing low impact development standards for the past 3-1/2 years and requires developers to use those standards; and assured her that we are doing something about this.

David Medley, 701 Madrona Way, Coupeville, discussed the relocation of Christopher's restaurant and said that would have been a great place for the Town to insist that the developer use a different material from asphalt. He asked about a rumor that the parking lot behind the library was going to be expanded. Mayor Conard responded that there is funding available in the 2007 Budget to hire a consultant to design a plan for the parking lot but no decisions have been made, but she assured him that it would not be asphalt.

Will Jones, Coupeville, explained his understanding of the Town Council's purpose is that they set policy but he had a hard time seeing that happening; such as setting policy for low impact development. He felt that Council was more project oriented than policy oriented. He noted that he has not heard any plans of how the Town will develop the service areas for Central Whidbey.

Peggy Burton, 901 NE Center, Coupeville, asked about the status of the Shoreline Management Plan. Mayor Conard explained that the Town is working with the Department of Ecology (DOE) and there will be another public hearing. Ms. Burton spoke about the pine tree that was removed from the park at Cook's Corner; and asked that the Garden Club be notified prior to any changes or plant removal in the parks. Mayor Conard apologized for the removal of the tree and assured her that it would not happen again.

Roxallanne Medley referred to the Black Road Water Extension and asked when something was going to be done to the water line on Madrona Way.

Will Jones asked what was happening with the old fire house and felt that as long as this was pending, the Town is losing revenue from sales tax and property tax. Mayor Conard explained that progress is being made; the Town is working with an individual who is developing a potential plan for the site, but there is no sale of property at this time.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Approval of the contract with Lee Johnson & Sons Construction, Inc. for the Black Road Water Extension Project** - *Staff recommends approval of awarding, and authorizing the Mayor to sign, the contract to Lee Johnson & Sons Construction Inc. in the amount of \$186,005.25; and authorizing a 10% contingency fund to be administered by the Public Works Director.*

Mayor Conard explained that we received four bids for this project, with the low bid from Lee Johnson & Sons Construction, which was lower than the engineer's estimate. She explained that is not actually an extension of the water service area but a loop of the water line from Madrona Way, south on Broadway to Black Road and west to Sherman Road, and then north, back to Madrona Way. The purpose of this loop is to provide more ways to serve Madrona Way that will allow the necessary improvements to the Madrona Way water line.

David Medley asked when the Town was going to take care of the substandard water and sewer service and felt that the Town was not taking care of in-town water and sewer service customers.

Will Jones asked how many fire hydrants would be placed along the Black Road waterline extension. Mayor Conard explained that she was not sure but she would call him with that information. Mr. Jones also stated that if, there was any long-range or short-range policies generated by Council, that he'd never seen it. Mayor Conard referenced the state approved water and sewer plans.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Bronson, to approve the contract with Lee Johnson & Sons Construction, Inc. for the Black Road Water Extension Project, authorize the Mayor to sign the contract, and authorize a 10% contingency fund to be administered by the Public Works Director. The motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of Special Events Permit Application for the Penn Cove Water Festival** - *Staff recommends approval of the application for the Penn Cove Water Festival scheduled for May 12, 2007.*

Mayor Conard explained that the application for the event was the same as in the past, with no changes. Councilmember Bronson noted that this has been a successful event for the past several years and we look forward to this year's festival.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bronson, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the special events permit application for the Penn Cove Water Festival scheduled for May 12, 2007. The motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of Special Events Permit for the Tour de Whidbey bicycle ride on September 22, 2007** - *Staff recommends approval of the Special Events Permit for the Tour de Whidbey on September 22, 2007 with restrictions as noted in the staff report.*

Mayor Conard noted Marshal Marlborough's recommendations that all signage must be removed immediately after the event; and that all roadway markings must be water soluble, no permanent paint can be used.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hughes, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the Special Events Permit for the Tour de Whidbey bicycle ride on September 22, 2007 with restrictions as recommended in the staff report. The motion passed 5-0.

**Approval of March Claims Vouchers and February Payroll - Staff recommends approval of the March 27, 2007 claims vouchers/warrants #19564 through #19639 for \$147,615.97; and February payroll warrants #11446 through #11481 for \$83,839.97.**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hughes, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the March 27, 2007 claims vouchers/warrants #19564 through #19639 for \$147,615.97; and February payroll warrants #11446 through #11481 for \$83,839.97. The motion passed 5-0.

### **STAFF REPORTS**

Ms. Thomas submitted a written staff report and added that she appreciated the opportunity to attend the Washington Municipal Clerks Conference in Blaine, Washington, earlier this month; it was a good conference with several informative classes.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilmember Hughes explained that everything is on schedule for the 2007 Water Festival on May 12<sup>th</sup> and the T-shirts have arrived and will be for sale prior to the festival. The new van for the Coupeville Food Bank is being picked up.

Councilmember Binder spoke about tourism and noted that the new advertisement will be shown on YouTube. The state legislature was considering a tourism bill today but she had not heard the results of the vote.

Councilmember Bronson attended the Ebey's Reserve Trust Board meeting and it was decided that the Jacob Ebey house would be the new information and ranger station but then they found a tooth; so before they can proceed, they must determine where the tooth came from and whether it was an archeological find.

Councilmember Clay explained that he attended the National League of Cities conference in Washington DC, during the week of March 10-17. He won the trip which included hotel and conference registration. There were about 90 elected officials from Washington State, with a total attendance between four and five thousand. The conference offered an opportunity to learn about the issues, meet with our state representatives in Washington DC and to advocate local positions on key priorities. Some of the classes and workshops he attended included a transportation meeting that was presented by the US Secretary of Transportation discussing emissions and the greenhouse effect. He noted that it was a great opportunity to meet with the people who do the work in the offices of Representative Rick Larsen's, Senators Patti Murray and Maria Cantwell. He explained that because so much is being spent on the war in Iraq, there is very limited funding for other projects. He added that it was a great opportunity that was very interesting and worthwhile.

### **AUDIENCE INPUT**

David Medley explained that he had a low threshold when it comes to this issue (water and sewer service at his house); and went on to explain that he'd been told that improvements to the Madrona Way waterline have been in the budget for many years; and he wants to know when something is going to be done.

Gay Santos, Coupeville, explained that she owns two historic homes in Coupeville and would like to see a panel of people formed who are interested in preserving the historic homes. One of

her homes is on a high bank on Penn Cove and she is very concerned about vandalism that is undermining the bank, above the water. She has reported to the Police Department, that people have been swinging on ropes along the bank and it is destroying the bank; and that this is a very serious problem.

Roxallanne Medley asked who would be paying for the extension of utility services to the new development at Laurens Woods. Mayor Conard responded that the developer will be paying for all water and sewer extensions for that project.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION - Personnel**

Mayor Conard called for executive session for approximately 20 minutes to discuss a personnel matter. Mayor Conard, Councilmembers Bronson, Binder, Clay, Hughes and Phay recessed to executive session at 8:35 p.m. and reconvened to regular session at 9:25 p.m. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT** - 9:25 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

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Judy A. Thomas, Clerk Treasurer

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Nancy Conard, Mayor