

**Town of Coupeville
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, April 14, 2009
6:30 p.m.**

PRESENT: Mayor Nancy Conard, Councilmembers Dianne Binder, Bob Clay, Ann Dannhauer, Molly Hughes and Jim Phay.

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Treasurer Judy Thomas

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Clay, to amend the agenda to add one Presentation item from Coupeville Library building group. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the regular meeting of March 24, 2009, were approved with three corrections as follows: Page 2, Audience Input, last sentence should read, ‘...encouraged everyone to turn ~~of~~ off your lights...’; Page 3, second paragraph, second sentence should read, ‘...such as Ebey’s Prairie fecals and/or nitrates.’; Page 5, Council Reports, first paragraph, third sentence should read, ‘The Trust Board will have their annual retreat on ~~April~~ May 12th.’

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Mayor Conard referred to a comment she’d made at the March 24th Council meeting about the number of requests made by Will Jones to the State Auditor’s Office; that she quoted the number she was told and if that was incorrect she apologized. She has submitted a request for copies of all requests for the past six years. Once that information is received, it will be available at Town Hall.
- The Island Transit field trip will be on Friday, May 8th and she, Cathy d’Almeida and members of Council will ride an Island Transit bus from Coupeville to Keystone Ferry, back to Coupeville, then to Greenbank Farm for lunch with the mayor and council members of the city of Langley, and they will return to Coupeville by 2:10 pm. There will be two presentations during lunch, one will be on community farming and the other will be by the Whidbey Camano Land Trust. Councilmembers that plan to attend are Molly Hughes, Jim Phay, and Bob Clay.
- She and Councilmember Clay plan to participate in the Puget Sound Energy field trip to Ellensburg, on Saturday, May 9th, to see wind farms and solar energy installations.
- She, four councilmembers and Cathy d’Almeida will be attending the Green Cities Conference in Portland, Oregon, from April 17th to 21st.
- Thursday, April 16th the League of Women Voters will have a forum and she and the other two Island mayors will be giving a ‘State of the Town’ address.
- The next Council of Governments (COG) meeting will be on April 23rd and the agenda will include information on Whidbey Sustainable Agriculture; and a presentation by volunteer emergency radio operators.
- The RTPPO meeting will also be on April 23rd and they will discuss the unified work plan for 2009 and 2010.
- Just a reminder that Friday, May 1, 2009 is the opening of Coupeville community garden at noon. As of today we’ve receive 21 applications for garden plots.

- April 4th was the Coupeville Spring Clean Up, and this year was a little different with the reduction of regular garbage; so there was less volume, but it was a good and affordable way to get rid of junk. The Wastewise people were very helpful by also encouraging ‘no idling of vehicles’ and providing recycling hints.
- April 15th is the deadline for elected officials to submit their annual PDC information to the Public Disclosure Commission (PDC).
- Councilmember Clay noted that there will be an update from the Tree Committee at the April 28th Council meeting. This will be a joint meeting with the Planning Commission.

AUDIENCE INPUT

Gary Piazzon, Coupeville, spoke about the Whidbey Environmental Action Network (WEAN) which just celebrated their 20 year anniversary at the Crocket Farm. He and gave a brief history of their efforts and achievements over the past 20 years and noted that WEAN hopes to continue to provide resources to Whidbey Island.

Mayor Conard called for a short recess at 6:44 p.m. and reconvened at 6:52 p.m.

NEW BUSINESS

Approval of the Special Event Permit Application for the Penn Cove Water Festival on May 16, 2009 - *Staff recommends approval of the special event permit.*

Mayor Conard explained that the application is same as last year. Councilmember Hughes added that there will be a Friday evening event at the Rec Hall and a boat tour on Sunday.

Councilmember Dannhauer asked about the insurance language (referring to the 1st and 14th amendments) on the application and Ms. Thomas responded that she will get that information to her. (*Ms. Thomas emailed Councilmember Dannhauer a copy of the ordinance (adopted in December 2007) which includes this language addressing citizen’s rights and right of assembly.*)

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Clay, to approve the Special Event Permit Application for the Penn Cove Water Festival on Saturday, May 16, 2009. The motion passed 5-0

PRESENTATIONS

Update on Coupeville Library

Stig Carlson, architect for the library expansion, displayed and described the site plan, floor plan, and drawing of the proposed library expansion project. They have completed the design review process and selected colors for the exterior, and expect to go out to bid in June; with ground breaking in July; completion of the project is expected to be approximately six to nine months. One of the goals is to develop better connectivity to the community open space and the public parking lot with a lighted path. For stormwater management they will be adding two rain gardens, directing the runoff into the rain gardens. Landscaping will be around the front entrance and north side of building. The floor plan includes a public meeting room; a large lounge and reading room with gas fireplace; the children’s area will be expanded; the stacks (book shelves) area in the west portion of the library; and the far west area for teens. The south area will be work areas for staff. And they will add new computer stations.

Rebecca Loney with Sno-Isle Libraries explained that they are working on plans for temporary library services during construction and expect to have an announcement out in the next four to six weeks.

Jonalyn Woolf Ivory spoke about the process and the support they've received from the community. They are working on the financing of the project which will include selling of bonds.

Councilmember Hughes noted that it was a great floor plan and likes the meeting space that has been included. Mr. Carlson added that the meeting room may have tables and soft seating during library hours when it is not being used for meetings. Mayor Conard commented that she has heard from a number of people who are using the library more, because of the economy.

Mayor Conard called for a short recess at 7:27 p.m. and reconvened at 7:33 p.m.

DISCUSSION

Agenda for Town Hall Meeting on April 30, 2009

Mayor Conard and councilmembers discussed the format and topics for the Town Hall meeting on April 30th. Mayor Conard explained that there will be a presentation on the Green Energy Challenge by Cathy d'Almeida; a discussion of curbside recycling; and an update from the Tree Committee. They discussed having a general session, then breaking into roundtable discussions then back to a general session. Mayor Conard responded to a question about composting that she would see if Janet Hall could set up a booth on composting, at the meeting.

Items from Councilmember Dannhauer:

➤ Appointments to Boards & Commissions

Councilmember Dannhauer expressed concerns about not having enough information to make an informed decision on the applicants and that in some cities (with a council/manager form of government) the council interviews the candidates; and she would like to see the chair of the board included in the interview.

Mayor Conard explained that the process was discussed and reviewed and now includes the mayor pro-tem in the interviews; and she agreed with Councilmember Dannhauer's suggestion to have one motion for each position being filled. If council wanted to look at the applications they could; and she suggested councilmembers encourage people to apply for openings, and they could lobby for them, to the mayor.

Councilmembers Clay, Hughes, and Phay agreed that they were comfortable with the previously revised process; it is a good process that works. Councilmember Binder noted that appointments to commissions, is one of the benefits of being mayor.

Mayor Conard did not feel that non-elected officials (i.e. chair of a committee) should be in the interview. Council consensus was to appoint each person by a separate motion.

➤ Code Revision Schedules -- when does this occur?

Councilmember Dannhauer wanted to know if there was a schedule for updating the Town Code, specifically the stormwater plan. Mayor Conard gave a handout of pending revisions to the code, which have been on the back burner; and she would like to schedule a workshop with Larry Kwarsick to discuss the changes. A schedule for amending the comp plan was adopted by Resolution 05-01 but got stalled-out with the Shoreline Master Program, and now we are working on design standards and the tree ordinance; and once these are done we could go over the comp plan review schedule.

Councilmember Dannhauer was concerned that the stormwater management element of the comp plan does not refer to LID (low impact development) standards. Mayor Conard responded that Larry Kwarsick, Ryan Goodman and Malcolm Bishop are working to

incorporate the LID standards into our code. We received a grant from Puget Sound Partnership to do this work. In the meanwhile, LID standards are being required.

➤ **Certified Local Government (CLG) Program**

Councilmember Dannhauer asked about the Town of Coupeville becoming a certified local government. Mayor Conard explained that the Town began the process in the past but didn't finish it. Now the Town and Island County are interested in becoming CLG's, as part of the revised design review process. She agreed it is the right thing to do and we will ramp it up again.

➤ **Concurrency**

Councilmember Dannhauer heard about the traffic level of service, during the CTED Short Course, and questioned why the Town chose level 'C'. Mayor Conard explained that part of developing the comp plan, includes adoption of a capital facilities plan (CFP), and includes adopting a level of service standard. Concurrency standards were adopted in 2000. Mayor Conard added that we require the developer to mitigate impacts; she added that Larry Kwarsick could address this further at a workshop.

➤ **Invite Speakers for Future Meetings**

Councilmember Dannhauer asked if council was interested in inviting speakers to do presentations at council meetings. Councilmembers asked about the cost and were okay with it, if it was within the budget. Councilmember Hughes noted that there are many non-profit groups, local resources, and free lecture series that are available.

Mayor Conard explained that council may want to have a speaker when tackling a particular issue. She agreed that it is worth look into and maybe get tapes and rates on speakers; and maybe include, and share the cost, with the cities of Oak Harbor and Langley.

Councilmember Dannhauer said she will get more information.

➤ **Use of Herbicides**

Councilmember Dannhauer talked about spraying herbicides at the Lions Park. Mayor Conard responded that we are working to eliminate the use of herbicides all together; and she will check with Malcolm Bishop and get back to her; and she noted that the tractor was purchased so we don't have to spray to maintain the gravel trails.

AUDIENCE INPUT

Gordon Burton, Coupeville, noted that herbicides are good for getting rid of hemlock.

Gary Piazzon, Coupeville, spoke about not spraying herbicides when it can be avoided. He would like to hear Dan Burden speak on walkability and share his knowledge with the community. He spoke about the library expansion and that only 50% of the stormwater will be going into the rain gardens and he suggested installing a composting toilet. Mayor Conard explained that there are some challenges with the stormwater issue because there is solid clay, 14" to 18" below the surface; and she believed that if there is a sewer system in place, it must be used.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:54 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

Judy A. Thomas, Clerk Treasurer

Nancy Conard, Mayor