

**Town of Coupeville  
Regular Council Meeting  
Tuesday, September 8, 2009  
6:30 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Nancy Conard, Councilmembers Dianne Binder, Bob Clay, Ann Dannhauer and Jim Phay. A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Phay, to excuse Councilmember Hughes. The motion passed 4-0.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Public Works Director Malcolm Bishop, Town Marshal David Penrod, Clerk Treasurer Judy Thomas

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

**Council Action:** A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Clay, to adopt the agenda as submitted. The motion passed 4-0.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**Special Meeting of August 25, 2009**

The minutes of the special meeting of the August 25, 2009, were approved with a correction requested by Councilmember Dannhauer, to the second correction of the July 28, 2009 minutes, should read as follows: Page 5, last paragraph, second line should read, ‘...national chain stores in Coupeville; and she discussed the rationale and some precedents, for not allowing them. The rationale could be to preserve small town character and tourism.’

**MAYOR’S REPORT**

- Mayor Conard received approval from the Island County Board of Commissioners allowing the Town Council to use the hearings room beyond 9:00 pm.
- At the last COG (Council of Governments) meeting there was a presentation on the 2010 U.S. Census; and the mayors of the three cities were asked to submit proclamations with demographic information on their cities. The next COG meeting will be on September 23<sup>rd</sup>, which will be followed by a RTPO meeting at 10:00 am, which will include a presentation from the Washington State Ferries on new proposed concurrency standards.
- The Island County Board of Commissioners is revisiting the proposal for curbside recycling and Island Disposal asked us to ‘hold off’ on the Town’s contract for curbside recycling; which could affect the Town resident’s rates, in a positive way.
- She received a nice thank you letter from the Coupeville Festival Association commending Marshal Penrod and officers, and Larry Smith and his crew, for all their help with the Arts & Crafts Festival.
- She asked for any suggestions on the ‘use’ of the Town logo; she noted that the cities of Langley and Oak Harbor have partnered with their Chambers of Commerce, but no one else.
- There are several positions on the Design Review Board that have expired and she will bring reappointment recommendations to the Council at the next meeting. The positions will be eliminated when the new joint Design Process is adopted.
- The Town received a letter from Department of Ecology (DOE) awarding the Town a grant for the Aquifer Storage and Retrieval Feasibility Study. They received 39 applications and the Town’s application was ranked #1 in the state for aquifer storage and retrieval. The next step in the process is to develop a detailed scope of work for the final grant agreement. She discussed the other DOE grants: The first grant was for Reclaimed Water Feasibility Study, the second was for Stormwater Monitoring Activities to measure what is going out, in our

stormwater. The third study will determine the possibility of storing water in an aquifer and using it later. A fourth funded project is for phytoremediation to improve water quality before discharge. The purpose is to eventually develop a new stormwater management plan and to establish a stormwater utility.

- She submitted a grant application for the waterline connection between the Keystone Hill Well and the water treatment facility. The state has funding available for Small Communities Located in Rural-Designated Counties. The estimated cost of the project is approximately \$524,000.
- She received information from Roger Case (Island County Health Dept) on the flu vaccine H1N1 which will be available in October and November. She suggested that everyone get a regular flu shot, then the H1N1 vaccine, when it is available.
- Next Sunday, September 13<sup>th</sup> is the Town sponsored concert at 2:00 pm, along with the Lions Club Salmon BBQ at noon, at the Town Park.
- She has been meeting with business owners about the proposed changes to the sign code. Whatever is out of compliance we will work with them, provide them some time, to bring it into compliance.
- At the request of the Pea Patch gardeners, they would like to have a potluck and meeting to discuss suggestions for next year; i.e. what worked this year and what people would like for next year.

### **AUDIENCE INPUT**

Rowena Williamson, Coupeville, spoke on behalf of a number of people who would like to honor Janet Enzmann who has given so much to this community including the Coupeville Library, New Beginnings Thrift Shop, Lions, Parks & Rec Commission, and many more. They are asking for donations to fund the purchase a Georgia Gerber Bronze Cat Sculpture and plaque. They wanted to get the bronze cat because Janet loves cats and the cat will be placed at the library. She added that we owe her a great deal for all she's given and this is a good way to show our appreciation. You can make contributions to Peoples Bank, Bronze Cat, Coupeville.

Tom Tack, 710 North Main, discussed the recent increase in jet traffic over Coupeville, which he is very familiar with, as the former wing commander at NAS Whidbey. He has talked to all the commanders involved, and last month was out of the norm; and they are very aware of the issue. The positive side is that the issue has been recognized and he hopes it is being resolved.

Jerome Rosen, Coupeville, asked if there is a formula for how the water rates are calculated, his seem to go up in the summer. Mayor Conard explained that the rates are conservation based and do increase in the summer. He added that there have been concerns expressed about water availability and how much is available. Mayor Conard explained that the Town, County, Department of Ecology and the Department of Health have done calculations based on maximum 'build out' of the utility service area, and that the aquifers can support this worst case scenario.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Proclamation recognizing 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Whidbey Camano Land Trust**

Councilmembers Phay and Binder noted that this is a great organization.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Phay, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the proclamation recognizing the 25<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Whidbey Camano Land Trust. The motion passed 4-0.

**Schedule Council workshop for October 20, 2009 for 2010 budget discussion**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Phay, to schedule a Council workshop for Tuesday, October 20, 2009 for 4:00 pm, for discussion of proposed 2010 budget. The motion passed 4-0.

**Schedule Council workshop, September 29 or October 20, for review of Draft 2009-14 Water System Plan**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Binder, to schedule a Council workshop for Tuesday, September 29, 2009 at 6:00 pm to review the Draft 2009-2014 Water System Plan. The motion passed 4-0.

**Schedule Public Hearing for October 13 for 2005 Comp Plan and Development Regulations**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Phay, to set a public hearing for October 13, 2009 for the 2005 Comp Plan and Development Regulations. The motion passed 4-0.

**DISCUSSION****August Staff Reports**

Ms. Thomas had submitted a written report and offered to answer any questions of Council.

Marshal Penrod explained that he submitted a grant application for \$9,999, from the Department of Community Trade and Economic Development for equipment for the department, including some equipment for vehicles and new bullet proof vests for two officers. He is also working on a grant with the County to obtain five new P-25 chip radios. The Arts & Crafts Festival went well, the first (of the year) Coupeville High School football game was last Friday. Today was the first day of school. The Park & Ride lot has moved temporarily to the bowling alley property. He responded to the question about the P-25 chip, which is an encryption tool to scramble police radio calls.

Malcolm Bishop explained that the Town is benefiting from stimulus funds to pave Alexander (beginning at Coveland) and Front Street (to North Main); and today the contractor began grinding the surface along the gutter in preparation for paving next week. The Johnson Building demolition has started; the asbestos abatement team will be done by September 9<sup>th</sup>; then the building will come down. The Telemetry project is underway; the panels have been built and tomorrow they will begin the placement of the antennas, and it should be complete in about a month.

**August Council Reports**

Councilmember Binder attended a tourism meeting and they are working on accomplishments according to the plan. As of August, tourism was up by 2.3% from last year. They are starting the 2010 budget process. They continue to get approximately 20,000 hits on the website per month. The Utility Advisory Committee met on August 11<sup>th</sup> and we are working on the 2009-2014 Water Plan. Mayor Conard added that CWCC had a presentation about the 2010 Vancouver Olympics.

Councilmember Clay attended an Island Transit Board meeting after the election was completed, and noted that the retail sales tax increase passed; and Friday, September 4<sup>th</sup> they had a meeting, signed the resolution and sent it to Olympia to process the tax increase. The Island Transit annual audit was completed and went well with one comment about credit card use. Ridership through June was down on fixed routes and he felt that was because some people have lost their jobs.

Para-Transit ridership is up for the year. The van pools are holding their own, cost per rider has gone up and riders per service mile has gone down. The board has made a pledge to watch the revenues and expenditures very closely; they listened at the hearings and noted the purpose of the sales tax increase was to maintain the same level of service; not increase expenses. He receives emails from Washington State Ferries (WSF) about the new ferry that is being built; the hull is being built at Todd Shipyard in Seattle and Nichols Brothers is building the rest of the ferry from the hull, up; you can see the progress on the WSF website. He noted that there is an AWC regional meeting scheduled in October that he would like to attend and suggested we all (mayor and councilmembers) attend. *(There will be a Regional Meeting in Mount Vernon on October 20, 2009; and Everett on October 29, 2009.)*

Councilmember Dannhauer attended the hearings on the Ebey's Design Guidelines. She attended the potluck (local food) and showing of the documentary "Good Food" and she discussed how the Slow Food Movement began in Italy over 20 years ago.

### **Walkability Audit - Councilmember Dannhauer**

Councilmember Dannhauer submitted a written report on the August 4<sup>th</sup> program on walkability in Coupeville, by Dan Burden. She read parts of her report; with the morning part of the program was a lecture, with the walking audit in the afternoon. Mr. Burden suggested the streets should be as narrow as possible. He favored the 4<sup>th</sup> street extension that there should not be large spaces between connecting streets. He had some interesting suggestions for Front Street, including street lamps located every 50 feet; the sidewalks could be widened two more feet; he liked the open vistas. She noted that out of the 22 benefits of bike lanes, there were only two benefits for cyclists. Mr. Burden favors roundabouts, instead of traffic lights, for a variety of reasons. He also suggested a bike rental place at the Keystone ferry dock. *(The report can be viewed on the Town's website at [www.town.coupeville.wa.us](http://www.town.coupeville.wa.us). Town Council Agenda Packet of 9/8/09.)*

### **AUDIENCE INPUT**

Jerome Rosen commented that the Walkability Program was great. He asked if there was a plan for the space, once the Johnson building is demolished. He asked how the Town qualified for the stimulus funds. Mayor Conard explained how the stimulus funds were distributed. Mr. Rosen commented that one of the controversies about the Island Transit tax increase, was about why it is not cost effective to have fares. Councilmember Clay explained that Island Transit has determined that adding fares would not generate enough revenues to pay for itself; and Island Transit has the study.

At 8:20 pm, Mayor Conard called for a short recess, then Council will reconvene in Closed Session.

### **CLOSED SESSION - To discuss contract grievance with Coupeville Deputy Marshal's Association**

Mayor Conard, Councilmembers Binder, Clay, Dannhauer, and Phay recessed to closed session at 8:30 pm to discuss contract grievance with Coupeville Deputy Marshal's Association and reconvened to regular session at 8:50 pm. No action was taken.

### **ADJOURNMENT: 8:50 pm**

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

---

Judy A. Thomas, Clerk Treasurer

---

Nancy Conard, Mayor