

**Town of Coupeville
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, January 26, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

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

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

OATH OF OFFICE - Deputy Marshal Christopher Peabody

Town Marshal Penrod introduced Christopher Peabody and welcomed him to the department. Deputy Peabody introduced his wife Addie, daughter Sienna and son Mason. Mayor Conard administered the oath of office to Deputy Marshal Christopher Peabody. He gave a brief explanation of how he came to Coupeville from Ketchikan, Alaska.

CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Hughes, to approve the Agenda as submitted. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2010, and the Council Workshop of January 13, 2010, were approved as submitted.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Conard attended the Central Whidbey Chamber of Commerce (CWCC) installation of officers' dinner and it was an excellent program.
- She attended the AWC elected officials workshop on January 15th with Councilmember Tack; and it was a very informative session and a good refresher.
- She attended the League of Women Voters lunch which was similar to the previous meeting; the focus was on the 2010 budget. Senator Haugen is sponsoring a program to allow electric golf carts to be used in cities where the speed limit is 25 mph.
- She attended the low impact summit meeting with the Whidbey Island Conservation District (WICD) and the focus was to develop a program to get contractors to get lid certification training. WICD is looking into having a local class.
- The annual tribal journey is scheduled to be in Coupeville July 10th; and with this early notice she hopes we can get more community participation.
- Last week she met with Linda Bartlett about the community garden. Next will they will have an organizational meeting to get things started for this year. Information is included in the newsletter (on the reverse side of the January 31, 2010 utility bills). Applications for garden plots are due by March 12th, and the garden will open April 1, 2010.
- There will be a community meeting February 8th on the proposed final draft of the Reclaimed Water Study. This will be presented by the consultants that prepared the study and they will give a summary of the study and answer questions. Then BHC will give a presentation at a Council meeting on February 23rd or March 9th.

- She and staff will meet with an arborist, who will provide information to the Parks and Rec Commission and Town Staff.
- The Municipal Parking Lot Committee will begin meeting again on February 22nd; they will discuss some short term improvements, including wheel stops and lighting.
- The official Library opening is scheduled for mid April, with a soft opening in mid-March.
- As part of the sustainability efforts, Cathy d'Almeida will introduce a Low Carbon Diet 5-week program that will begin in March. As home owners, we can learn ways to reduce our own carbon footprint. This program has proven to be very effective and most attendees have reduced their energy by 15%. The first meeting will be at the Rec Hall on March 4, 2010, 6:30-8:00 pm.
- A reminder that the Annual Mussel Festival will be on March 6th and 7th, beginning Friday evening with wine tasting and entertainment.
- February 24th the Council of Governments will hold a training workshop on emergency management.

AUDIENCE INPUT

David Day, Coupeville, asked what is going on with the old fire hall. Mayor Conard responded that this is the subject of tonight's executive session and she expects to give an update on the old fire hall at the February 9th or 23rd Council meeting.

PRESENTATION

Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County - Coupeville Program

Peggy Dyer, representing Big Brothers Big Sisters of Island County (BBBS), explained about the program in Coupeville. January is National Mentoring Month and she thanked Mayor Conard for the proclamation, declaring the same, in the Town of Coupeville. She explained how the program works and their 12 years of success in Island County. She introduced Board President Tamara Sipes and staff person Nicole Craig. The BBBS in Coupeville is a school based program with 45 high school honor students serving as mentors to any child from 6 to 15 years old. Currently they have 15 students waiting for volunteers (mentors); they meet at the middle school on Wednesday and Thursday afternoons. They hope to get more Coupeville residents involved with the program. The volunteers (mentors) meet once a week for one hour on school property and play games, visit, or help with homework. BBBS just began in September of 2009, because previously, there was the Learning Partners program, and they never felt there was a need in Coupeville, until that program ended. Ms. Dyer responded to questions from Councilmember Hughes and explained how the program works. Councilmember Tack added that his oldest son is a Big Brother at the high school, and he really enjoys it. Ms. Dyer added that those interested in volunteering can call Stephanie at the Coupeville BBBS office. (360-678-4409, ext. 2015 and the Oak Harbor office numbers is 279-0644.

Mayor Conard read and presented a proclamation to the Big Brothers & Big Sisters proclaiming January 26, 2010 as Mentoring Appreciation Day.

NEW BUSINESS

Set Town Council Workshop for February 18, 2010

Mayor Conard explained this is the first quarterly workshop for the year and suggested the time of 3:00 pm to 8:00 pm to review projects, status of activities, and planning for 2010.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Tack, second by Councilmember Binder, to set the Town Council Workshop for Thursday, February 18, 2010. The motion passed 5-0.

Set Joint Town Council and Island County Commissioners Workshops for February 23, 2010 (1:00 - 4:00 pm); and March 10, 2010 (9:00 am - 2:00 pm) for review of the Ebey's Reserve Unified Code

Mayor Conard explained that at the last joint workshop the Town Councilmembers and County Commissioners agreed on these dates to continue the review and discussion on the Ebey's Reserve Unified Code.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Binder, to set the Joint Town Council and Island County Commissioners Workshops for February 23, 2010 (1:00 - 4:00 pm), and March 10, 2010 (9:00 am - 2:00 pm) for review of the Ebey's Reserve Unified Code. The motion passed 5-0.

Approval of January 26, 2010 Claims Vouchers/Warrants - Staff recommends approval of the January 26, 2010 claims vouchers/warrants #22640 through #22704 for a total of \$141,937.73.

Several questions were asked and answered about the vouchers and no changes were suggested.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hughes, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the January 26, 2010 claims vouchers/warrants #22640 through #22704 for a total of \$141,937.73. The motion passed 5-0.

STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Thomas provided a written report noting that the December financial reports will be included in the February Staff Report. She has been working on year end processing and closing the year. On January 15th, she attended the WCIA board meeting and training session; and explained that this is one of the annual requirements of the COMPACT agreement.

Marshal Penrod discussed the armed robbery that occurred earlier this month at Lind's Pharmacy, and they think they caught the guys in Oregon. He and all agencies involved with the call met and reviewed what they did and didn't do, and what they could do better next time.

Malcolm Bishop explained that the contractor for the Keystone Hill Well Waterline project began work on Friday, January 26th. The contractor for the Keystone Hill Well Outfitting project will be getting the notice to proceed by next week. The notice to proceed on the Well Rehab 1-90 was mailed today. The telemetry project is almost done, they are finishing work on the removal of cabinets at the in-Town water treatment plant; and the final transfer from telephone lines to the radio transmitter system will be complete by next week. Regarding the water running through the post office parking lot, it was an old storm drain that got plugged up. The maintenance crew got it unplugged and repaired the line.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Hughes attended Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association (CHWA) meeting last week; they were very excited about the Victoria Clipper coming to Coupeville in March and April. They are getting ready for the Mussel Festival and this year they will be adding an antique show in the Masons' building; and a mussel hustle scavenger hunt. On May 13th and 14th, the Island County Juvenile Detention department will host training with approximately 100 to 150 juvenile officers attending. Kasia Pierzga, Whidbey Examiner editor, announced they are

working on the visitor guide. Ebey's Trust Board is hosting a meeting with the farmers in the Reserve to discuss agritourism. The Trust Board sponsored a meeting with owners of historic homes to discuss the challenges of owning an historic home and to discuss possible support. She attended the NET luncheon. She gave some statistics on the Gifts from the Heart Food Bank for 2009: they served 2,233 households; they had a 13% increase in new people needing assistance; over 2,200 volunteer hours were given to the Food Bank. A senior from the Coupeville High School chose (as her senior project) to learn about fund raising, to help the Food Bank and raised over \$2,000 from a dance she organized. She also organized a concert series for fund raising with the profits going to Hearts & Hammers.

Councilmember Binder attended Utility Advisory Committee earlier this month and discussed some of the topics covered, such as monitoring ports (for grease traps) and mapping projects. We are updating the meter reading system to a touch read system. She attended the historic home owners meeting which was very interesting. She attended the CWCC installation of officers meeting. She attended the NET luncheon. The Joint Tourism Commission met and approved their budget of \$250,000 which includes publications, and hosting an agritourism event on February 3rd and 4th, with Cascade Loop to promote tourism at a state level; they expect 100 participants; and it will be held at the Greenbank Farm.

Tom Tack, attended the AWC elected officials training, it was a good workshop and talked a lot about quasi-judicial decisions. He attended the CWCC meeting and named all the new officers, and he was sworn in as the new Vice President of the board. At the historic homeowners meeting several discussed how they are struggling with energy costs and increased costs. He is on the board of the Whidbey General Hospital Foundation and discussed how that ties in with medical services.

Councilmember Clay attended the CWCC installation of officers meeting and noted that the new officers were sworn in by Mayor Conard, and they had a great turnout. Island Transit Board met this month and he was nominated chair of the Board and the RTPPO representative from Island Transit. Island Transit will start receiving the new (voter approved) tax increase this month. Last year (2009) the total tax received was 9% less than 2008, and in 2008 they received 8% less than in 2007. It is important to remember that the Town cannot increase sales tax and it is difficult to operate with limited funds. Just a reminder that 'Sound Waters' is Saturday, February 6th which is a great opportunity to learn about our marine environment; and there will be a session on sustainability. The Coupeville Lions Club Scholarship Auction, a fund raiser to provide scholarships to Coupeville High School honor students will be held on February 27th. The Coupeville Boys & Girls Club fund raising auction is scheduled for March 27th and all proceeds are used goes to fund their programs.

Councilmember Dannhauer explained that the there was no Parks & Rec Commission meeting in January. The Tree Committee and the Parking Lot Committee will meet in February.

DISCUSSION

Update on Town Hall siding project

Mayor Conard explained that there is money budget to replace the siding at Town Hall. Currently there is metal siding on parts of the building and the siding underneath may be usable. Jon Roberts and Hank Florence from Ebey's Reserve have evaluated the project and suggested that if it (siding underneath metal siding) is not usable, it will be replaced with hardiplank compatible with design standards. Also, the windows on the front of the building will be

replaced, and exterior of the building will be painted in a three-color scheme. It is estimated to cost about \$17,000 to bring siding up to standards and replace the windows. She shared drawings of the front of Town Hall, with the Council. Council consensus was favorable to proceed.

EXECUTIVE SESSION - Potential Disposition of Real Estate

Mayor Conard called for executive session to discuss potential disposition of real estate. Mayor Conard, Councilmembers Binder, Clay, Dannhauer, Hughes and Tack recessed to executive session at 8:30 pm. for approximately 30 minutes. At 9:00 pm the executive session was extended an additional 30 minutes; and reconvened to regular session at 9:30 pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

Judy A. Thomas, Clerk Treasurer

Nancy Conard