

**Town of Coupeville
Regular Council Meeting
Tuesday, June 29, 2010
6:30 p.m.**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Town Marshal Dave Penrod and Clerk-Treasurer Judy Thomas

CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Tack, to approve the Agenda of June 29, 2010 with one change to move the Discussion, Item #4, to follow the public hearing. The motion passed 5-0.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Regular Meeting of June 8, 2010

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 8, 2010 were approved with one change to page 4, Discussion, first paragraph, at the end of the last sentence, add the following to read, “He and Council discussed open space and how it can be used. Councilmember Dannhauer expressed support for open space zoning.”

MAYOR’S REPORT

- Mayor Conard explained that WSDOT Washington State Ferries will have the christening of the new ferry, the Chetzamoka, at the Keystone terminal on one of the following dates: August 28, 29, September 9 or 10. This is an exciting opportunity for Coupeville, and the State will manage all the marketing. The activities for the day will begin about 9 am and will include the christening, then the ferry will cross to Port Townsend for the tribal blessing and more activities. On July 13th or 14th, members of the Washington State Department of Transportation will hear requests on the renaming of the Keystone Terminal to Coupeville Terminal.
- The Utility Advisory Committee met a couple weeks ago and looked at staffing and redundancy with the water system, and making sure we have enough operators. This will be discussed further at the August 4th Council Workshop.
- She gave the State of the Town address at the June 17th meeting of the Central Whidbey Chamber of Commerce, and there was good response to the information; and she will share the same information at the next council meeting.
- She met with Donna Keeler to discuss RTPO Planning and re-addressing the speed limit on Highway 20, through Coupeville.
- She had her first meeting with the Deputy Marshals Association to begin negotiations for salaries and benefits.
- Eve Parrish has completed a good outline on the Town’s Emergency Management Plan. Mayor Conard explained that the National League of Cities, in conjunction with FEMA and Homeland Security is offering a two-day emergency management training in Anchorage and it would be an excellent opportunity for Eve Parrish to attend.

- The Parks & Recreation Commission will meet with Larry Kwarsick on July 8th to discuss proposed amendments to the Parks and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan.
- There will be a Council Workshop on Thursday, July 8th from 3:30 to 6:30 to review proposed amendments to the Comprehensive Plan and Town Code.
- The 2010 Tribal Journey will be on Saturday, July 10th and they expect about 8 to 10 canoes and up to 300 participants. The Town will host a BBQ for the participants at the Town Park.

PUBLIC HEARING

Resolution 10-04 adopting the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program – *Staff recommends conducting the public hearing and approval of Resolution No. 10-04, adopting the Six-year Transportation Improvement Program for the years 2011-2016.*

Mayor Conard explained that the Six-Year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) must be adopted annually and can serve as a possible vehicle for funding of projects; but the projects must be identified in the TIP. She discussed the projects identified in the TIP and answered questions of Council. She explained the procedures of the public hearing.

Mayor Conard declared the public hearing open at 7:12 pm.

Donna Keeler, 613 NE 4th Street, Coupeville, explained that whenever streets are widened it is a good idea to include bimodal paths for bikes and pedestrians.

Mayor Conard declared the public hearing closed at 7:14.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Clay, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve Resolution No. 10-04 adopting the six-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the years 2011 through 2016. *Discussion:* Councilmember Tack mentioned that there was a lot of flexibility in the prioritization of projects in the TIP, and supported adding a right turn lane from North Main to Highway 20. Councilmember Dannhauer asked about traffic impact fees; expressed concerns about current levels of service; and suggested that park impact fees not be used for sidewalks until it is determined whether that is a legal use of park impact fees. Mayor Conard asked Council if they would prefer to vote tonight or postpone this item until the next meeting and have Mr. Kwarsick here. Councilmembers Hughes, Clay, Binder and Tack spoke in favor of voting tonight; all of the projects listed have been discussed; and the TIP is a plan and it is not set in cement.

The motion passed 4-1 (Dannhauer).

RESOLUTION NO. 10-04

A RESOLUTION of the Town of Coupeville, Island County, Washington, adopting the six-year Transportation Improvement Program (TIP) for the years 2011 through 2016.

DISCUSSION

Work plan for Sustainability Coordinator

Cathy d'Almeida discussed Coupeville Smart Trips, a community wide effort to reduce carbon emissions by reducing our daily car trips. The Town of Coupeville is proposing a voluntary community trip reduction program for both community residents as well as commuters.

Transportation represents 30% of Coupeville's overall carbon emissions and approximately 50% of an individual's carbon emissions, therefore this program is critical to achieve our carbon emissions reduction goals. Staggered work schedules and car/van pooling can help. Coupeville has a relatively large amount of commuters that come in and out of town daily, causing congestion and parking issues; and we have a resident population that is very interested in reducing their carbon footprint.

The Goal - Reduce the Drive Rate Alone by 5% in the first year and 10% in the second year: and Reduce Personal Vehicle Miles Traveled (VMT) by the same percentages in two years.

Benefits - Saves People Money; Carbon Emissions Reduction; Reduces Congestion; Improves Local Air Quality; Minimizes Parking spaces required for employees; Reduces Commute Stress

Partners - Washington DOT (and King County); Rideshareonline tools, program guidance, training and possibly financial help with marketing and outreach; Island Transit; Island County; Regional Transportation Planner, Donna Keeler; Careage of Whidbey; Whidbey General Hospital; Coupeville School District (in the fall); Others (Whidbey Examiner, Coupeville Library (to have educational info available), WSU Climate Stewards, Chamber of Commerce, Walmart, or City of Oak Harbor).

Donna Keeler, Island County Transportation Coordinator, discussed the Island County Trip Reduction Program for County employees and some of the incentives they provide such as: Preferred parking for carpool vehicles; Guaranteed ride home; Flexible work Schedules; Financial Incentives - i.e. paid time off, raffle off gift certificates for all people who use alternative modes of transportation 2 days/week; Making it fun and she noted that last month was 'ride your bike to work' month.

Councilmember Tack asked what can be done for the largest employer on the island, NAS Whidbey. Councilmember Clay responded that Island Transit has had discussions with NAS Whidbey but NAS has to provide labor to operate and maintain the buses; currently it is not feasible because of security.

Ms. D'Almeida explained the Sustainable Community Coordinator's Role is: Program Development; Program Roll-out – training, presentations to employee and community groups, writing articles for local newspapers and newsletters. Goal is to get as many people signed up as possible; Program tracking – track our results against measures based on baseline established through rideshareonline.com, track participants who are eligible for incentives, ongoing communication to community on results and successes. Tracking of the program is done online to start a baseline, then all employees can participate; the incentives are on the website; form groups and you can have different incentives. This tool attempts to measure the carbon emissions; which can be pretty accurate with the rideshareonline tool and is really quite simple to use. Lots of people think this is a good idea, but until you have someone promoting and pushing this program, it is hard to get participants. She added that both Island County and Whidbey General Hospital have included this in their wellness programs.

Mayor Conard asked for, and received, Council consensus that it was favorable to continue funding the Sustainability Coordinator position.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment of Mayor Pro-Tem -- *Council appoints Mayor Pro-Tem every six months.*

Mayor Conard explained that every six months the Council elects a Mayor Pro Tem.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Hughes, to appoint Councilmember Bob Clay to serve as mayor pro tem for the period of July through December 2010. The motion passed 4-0-1 (Clay abstained).

Approval of June Claims and May Payroll Warrants - *Staff recommends approval of the June 29, 2010 claims vouchers/warrants #23062 through #23148 for a total of \$146,467.69; and May payroll warrants #12912 through #12948 for a total of \$96,246.49.*

Several questions were asked and answered and no changes were recommended.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Hughes, second by Councilmember Binder, to approve the June 29, 2010 claims vouchers/warrants #23062 through #23148 for a total of \$146,467.69; and May payroll warrants #12912 through #12948 for a total of \$96,246.49. The motion passed 5-0.

Mayor Conard called for a short recess at 8:17 pm and reconvened at 8:27 pm.

STAFF REPORTS

Ms. Thomas provided a written report and offered to answer questions.

Marshal Penrod provided a written report. He noted that the 4th of July is this weekend and to call him if you have any questions about 'safe & sane' legal fireworks. Fireworks are only be ignited on the 4th of July. There will be a DUI Emphasis on the south end of Whidbey Island on Saturday night, July 3rd.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Dannhauer attended the Parks and Recreation Commission meeting and they have approved a Rec Hall sign proposal that will now be submitted to the Design Review Board; they discussed the Rec Hall kitchen counter heights, sinks, and construction is expected to begin in the 3rd or 4th week of August. They discussed landscaping around the Rec Hall. The next Parks and Recreation Commission meeting will be on July 8th to discuss proposed changes to the Parks and Recreation Element of the Comprehensive Plan. She attended the Tree Committee meeting, met with the arborist and discussed the Heritage Tree Program. She offered her afterthoughts on the Open Space discussion, there was a poll in 2001 that more open space is needed and she gave some results of the poll. She asked about the status on the bike racks and Mayor Conard said they are here and getting assembled, and asked about placement of the racks.

Councilmember Clay attended the Washington State Ferries (WSF) meeting about the planning and christening of the Chetzamoka, and was pleased that Coupeville will have a big part in this event. He attended the WSF meeting about the ferry reservation system and efforts to fine tune it to fit this run. He was impressed with the arborist that is working with the Tree Committee to get a good plan together; in a first step toward the Heritage Tree Program. He attended a Slow Food Exhibition where meals were prepared by six chefs, utilizing local vendors; the food was wonderful and the demonstrations were very impressive. Island Transit Board met this month and they have asked the director to find alternatives to the building project and the director is working with consultants to split the project to a 60/40 plan. Ridership is holding steady. The Island Transit Board authorized an expenditure for five hybrid buses. He attended the AWC Conference in Vancouver, Washington, June 23rd to 25th and discussed the following: The Washington Joint Legislative Committee, Transportation Council, and AWC reported on legislative issues. The keynote speaker is a professor of economics and agriculture from New

Mexico and he explained that this country has had 13 recessions since 1929 and has always recovered; the GNP is still positive. He took a tour of the Vancouver historic reserve that started in the 1840's and noted that the city of Vancouver owns a number of the historic buildings that have all been rehabilitated. He attended a Department of Ecology (DOE) workshop discussing individual's experiences with DOE, and DOE's efforts to be more 'user friendly.' He attended a tour of the Camas Industrial Park which has been transformed over the past 20 years into a 1,400 acre business park; it is home to several light industry businesses; and the idea was to provide local jobs. He felt the conference was well worth it. Councilmember Dannhauer asked if there was anything that was directly related to Coupeville and he responded that the networking was invaluable, and meeting with AWC people, who can help us; lots of good contacts.

Councilmember Tack commended everyone on the Memorial Day Parade. At the last Council meeting he had to leave for about an hour, to present an award to a Coupeville High School Senior. He attended the Coupeville High School graduation on Friday on June 11th, which was a very nice graduation ceremony. He attended the CWCC (Central Whidbey Chamber of Commerce) meeting on June 17th and complimented Mayor Conard, on the State of the Town address. The chamber is working on the name change of the future Coupeville Terminal (currently known as Keystone Terminal). He attended the WSF meeting and noted that there will be flexibility with the reservation system; to massage it; to make it work;. He noted that the CWCC calendar for 2011 is available and for sale.

Councilmember Binder reported that she has been out of town and had not attended any meetings.

Councilmember Hughes attended the NET meeting and noted that there are some great opportunities available for training. Mayor Conard did a great job with the State of the Town presentation at the CWCC meeting. She attended the Ebey's Trust Board meetings and is working on the Ebey's Forever Conference, noting that this year it will be at Fort Casey with field trips specific to Fort Casey (SPU campus). The Conference is being changed to a one-day event and will be on November 6, 2010; with a speaker in the morning, field trips in the afternoon, and the theme of the conference is "the next generation of farmers", focusing on preservation and community. She is on a sub-committee working on the Ebeys Reserve Visitor Center, and defining what they want, location services, etc. It's been a busy month at the food bank with lots of wonderful produce donated. Their new website is up and can be viewed at www.giftsfromtheheart.com.

EXECUTIVE SESSION – Review proposals for sale of Old Fire Hall

Mayor Conard called for executive session to discuss proposals submitted for the sale of the old Fire Hall. Mayor Conard, Councilmembers Binder, Clay, Dannhauer, Hughes and Tack recessed to executive session at 9:30 pm for approx 30 minutes and reconvened to regular session at 10:05 pm. No action was taken.

ADJOURNMENT: 10:05 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

Judy A. Thomas, Clerk Treasurer

Nancy Conard