



# COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, March 06, 2024

## APPROVED MINUTES

### MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl  
Council President Jessica Chilton  
Councilor Mark Gundersen  
Councilor Russell Hubbard  
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

### STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator  
Kathy Payne, City Recorder  
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder  
Rachael Barry, Government Affairs Specialist  
Tina Curry, Contracted Event Coordinator

### OTHER

David Weatherby	Brady Preheim	Shauna
Arthur Leskowich	Jennifer Massey	Steve LeSollen
Steve Topaz	Haley Starkey	Nick Hellmich
Willow Bill	Howard Blumenthal	Iven Hellmich
Rob Hawkins	Mark Powe	Pharah Loosli Hawkinson

### CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

### PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

### VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Art Leskowich. His comments are in reference to the Special Session held prior to this meeting. He was always told it wasn't a landfill but they're now potentially funding the permit application. He hasn't heard discussions about any other kind of uses, such as a marina or moorage. He is glad they are getting more information but is also concerned that they have already spent \$1 million. A lot of improper environmental decisions have been made. There was excitement a few years ago about a potential company that would moor barges. However, that didn't go through once DSL found out that the barges would be moored in the most contaminated area of the water. Art pointed out the location of the drinking water intake. It is a mile downstream from the discharge point.
- ◆ Willow Bill. The Flying Eagle canoe was carved in St. Helens about 18 years ago. The City even contributed \$5,000 to it. It's spectacular and has been shared for many years. It paddled all the way to St. Louis with William Clark's fifth generation nephew. He will be here all summer to share the canoe.

- ◆ Pharah Loosli Hawkinson. She talked about her experience carving the canoe in 2006. She grew up in Warren digging artifacts in the back yard. It was one of the largest Native American groups out here. She suggests building an enclosure for the canoe, so they can roll it in and out for trips.
- ◆ Howard Blumenthal. He recommended Council take the canoe out to get an idea of what Lewis & Clark did years ago. It needs to be stored in a better place. It's a valuable resource and pride for the community.
- ◆ Mark Powe. He has ridden in the canoe and supports Willow Bill and his passion. He knows Willow Bill will take good care of it.
- ◆ Brady Preheim. He is happy to hear they're considering extending the tourism contract through the end of the year. However, tourism is complex and they need more time for planning events. He also agreed that the canoe should be on the water.
- ◆ Nick & Iven Hellmich. Molly's Market is having an estate sale the next two days.
- ◆ Mason J. He was disappointed to hear holes may be put into the Flying Eagle and stored in the park. He talked about the history of the Flying Eagle and how Willow Bill shared it. He will visit St. Helens if they free the canoe.

#### **ORDINANCES** – *Final Reading*

1. **Ordinance No. 3299:** An Ordinance Amending the St. Helens Municipal Code Chapter 13.30 Regarding the St. Helens Public Safety Fee, to Expand the Use of the Fee to Public Safety Operations

Mayor Scholl read Ordinance No. 3299 by title. **Motion:** Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to adopt Ordinance No. 3299.

Mayor Scholl pointed out that that is a mechanism for current and future funding flexibility.

**Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

#### **AWARD BID/CONTRACT**

2. Award Contract to Landis & Landis for the S. 1st Street and St. Helens Street Intersection Joint Utility Trenching & Electrical Services Undergrounding Project (R-685A) in the Amount of \$454,912.50

**Motion:** Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to approve '2' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

3. Award Purchase of New Mini Excavator for Public Works Operations to Pape Machinery, Inc. for \$86,812.50

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Gundersen and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '3' above. Council President Chilton asked if this was included in the budget. Walsh confirmed that it is.

**Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

**APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE**

4. Extension of Contract with Hasa, Inc. for Sodium Hypochlorite for the Wastewater Treatment Plant
5. Agreement with Xpress Bill Pay for Payment Processing Services
6. Agreement with Bend Mailing Service for Utility Bill Mailing Services

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Sundeen and seconded by Council President Chilton to approve '4' through '6' above.

Discussion. Mayor Scholl thanked Finance Director Gloria Butsch and her team. Numbers '5' and '6' are creating significant cost savings.

**Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

**CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL**

7. Council Minutes dated January 10, 2024
8. OLCC Licenses
9. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Gundersen and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '7' through '9' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

**WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS****Timber Cut**

Discussion of getting bids for a timber sale.

**Motion:** Motion made by Councilor Gundersen and seconded by Council President Chilton to direct Walsh to move the timber sale forward. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Hubbard, Councilor Sundeen

**COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS**

Council President Chilton reported...

- Shout out to the Finance team. She appreciates the time they took to find ways to save money.
- Attended the monthly meeting for the Community Advisory Council. She is in the Columbia County government seat. They discuss Medicare funds and how those are allocated to residents.
- She will be touring with Public Works in the next couple of weeks to better understand how they function.
- Busy planning for Citizens day in the Park. The events will help keep the community together during these tough times.

Councilor Sundeen reported...

- Welcome to the high school students in attendance.
- Welcomed Nick Hellmich's new baby.
- Great presentations during the work session today.
- Next week is the Parks & Trails Commission meeting
  - There are two openings
  - Thank you to Brian Long for his service
- Thanked the Finance Division for their work. He hopes every department can do the same.

Councilor Gundersen reported...

- Planning Commission meets next week.
- There is a joint Planning Commission/City Council meeting next week as well.

- Thanked Finance staff for all their work.
- Did a ride-along with Officer Jamin Coy. He had a great time and was impressed.

Councilor Hubbard reported...

- Will also be doing a ride-along.
- He has been working with businesses and talking about the future of St. Helens.

**MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS**

- Thanked Main Street for a good presentation and their work prepping for the Joint Planning Commission/City Council meeting.
- Working with staff to increase the power source at McCormick Park.
- Citizens Day in the Park is addressing liabilities. It's a big project to work on that event.
- Working with Michael Sykes on power needs. He wants to begin discussions about power for the Waterfront property.

**OTHER BUSINESS**

**ADJOURN – 7:36 p.m.**

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

/s/ Kathy Payne  
Kathy Payne, City Recorder

/s/ Rick Scholl  
Rick Scholl, Mayor