



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2016**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

REGULAR MEETING:

1. Mayor Thornton called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.
2. **PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**
3. **ROLL CALL:**

Council:

Councilmember Birdwell-Currey	Present
Councilmember Luiz	Present
Councilmember Williams	Present
Councilmember Valenzuela	Present
Councilmember Cerveny	Present
Mayor Thornton	Present

Staff:

Marc Denney, Chief of Police
Dan Kearns, City Attorney
Suzanne Levis, Finance Director
Jeff Sarvis, Public Works Director

Guests:

Doug & Beverly Boff	Louis Korf	Jeremy Smith
Jacob Currey	Jack La Bounty	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor
Jack & Rosemary Davis	Larry Lewton	Rick & Suzi Terrell
Al Filla	Dennis & Jennifer Miller	Linda Tracy
Melissa Flatt	Colby Newton	Fred & Mary Wilen
Judy Hickman	Nelda Perryman	Don Ziesmer

4. **CONSENT AGENDA.**

- A. **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS – 01.13.16**
- B. **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 12.16.15**
- C. **QUIT CLAIM DEED (TRANSFER OF PROPERTY TO CLARK PUBLIC UTILITIES)**

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE JANUARY 13, 2016 CONSENT AGENDA.



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2016**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

5. COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A. MAYOR'S REPORT.

- Mayor Thornton asked Police Chief Denney to introduce Officer Andrew Marvitz, who completed his 19 weeks of Basic Law Enforcement Academy (BLEA) training and has now entered into his 12 weeks of field training with a La Center Police Officer.
- The La Center Planning Commission is holding an open house on January 26 at 6 p.m. to receive public input on the City's 20-year Comprehensive Plan. The meeting will be held at the Public Works office.
- Mayor Thornton requested dates from Council for a facilitated retreat with a follow-up meeting in six months. The full-day meeting will be held on Saturday, February 27. Finance Director Levis will arrange for a facilitator.
- Mayor Thornton scheduled a Work Session to discuss updates to the Intergovernmental Agreement with the Cowlitz Tribal Gaming Authority for Friday, January 22, at 5:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Public Works office.
- Mayor Thornton recognized and welcomed Council's newest member, Councilmember Heather Birdwell-Currey.

B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – DAN KEARNS. A final order is expected soon from the Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB) finding the City in full compliance with all the requirements of the Growth Management Act (GMA).

C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

- **COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** thanked the guests for attending today's meeting.



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2016**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

D. STAFF REPORTS – None.

6. CITIZEN'S PUBLIC COMMENT.

SUZI TERRELL, 1534 W. E PLACE, relayed a message from Jim and Candi Irish extending best wishes to the new Council and Mayor Thornton. As a Board member of the La Center Historical Museum, Ms. Terrell invited all to the dedication of the Timmen Memorial Bench at Timmen's Landing, which will be held tentatively on June 17, 2016.

JACK LA BOUNTY, 1406 W. ALDER PLACE, shared information obtained after researching joint sewer agencies and joint sewer authorities that act as independent organizations selling services to multiple communities, and possibly making the Cowlitz Tribe part owners of La Center's existing sewer service system.

AL FILLA, 152 W. 15TH ST., advised Council that the state flag on display in front of the Police Department is frayed and should be replaced.

JEREMY SMITH, 31211 NW PARADISE PARK RD., thanked the City for reducing the speed limit at La Center Road at I-5 and Paradise Park Road.

7. PRESENTATIONS – None.

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS.

A. RESOLUTION NO. 16-402 AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 13-381 AND ADOPTING A NEW SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR ALL USERS OF THE CITY SEWER UTILITY. Finance Director Suzanne Levis presented. It is the intent of Council to not go forward with sewer rate increases for 2016; so, the purpose of Resolution No. 16-402 is to rescind the \$5/month sewer utility increase schedule established in 2013 with Resolution No. 13-381.

The issue of reducing the City's debt service was discussed. Mayor Thornton recommended a Work Session to discuss the matter, and it was scheduled for Wednesday, January 27, at 5:30 p.m. (before the regular City Council meeting at City Hall) to discuss the sewer debt service. Director Levis advised that Consultant Ray Bartlett might be available to facilitate.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE RESOLUTION NO. 16-402 AMENDING RESOLUTION NO. 13-381 AND ADOPTING A NEW SCHEDULE OF RATES AND CHARGES FOR ALL USERS OF THE CITY SEWER UTILITY.

9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA – None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2016**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

-
- A. DISCUSSION – HARRIER HOUSE LLC, ROAD VACATION.** Public Works Director Jeff Sarvis presented and provided background information on the road vacation. Harrier House is asking for Council’s concurrence that the road vacation will be favorably considered at a public hearing, if they go forward with the expense of a survey and appraisal. Director Sarvis recommended approval of the road vacation.

DAINA MCLEAN (Harrier House, LLC) was in attendance and supplemented her October 2015 request by only having the corner of NW Timmen Road and NW Pollock Road vacated. Specifically, the portion that is outside of a 60-foot right-of-way and approximately 3000 square feet (as indicated in map of the area marked as Exhibit A and made a part of these minutes).

A diagram was provided to Council showing the proposed activity for the property and what would be done to promote business, *i.e.*, extend parking, a stormwater abatement, rain garden, landscaping, and signage.

The City is being asked to not seek reimbursement for any value associated with the property. The vacation of the road would decrease any future need for the City to help provide its upkeep and would not interfere with future development or access to other existing or future developments.

After discussion amongst Councilmembers and City Attorney Kearns, Council unanimously agreed that Harrier House LLC should go forward with the survey and appraisal of the property.

11. NEW BUSINESS.

- A. APPOINTMENT OF MAYOR PRO-TEM.** Mayor Thornton asked for nominations for the position of Mayor Pro Tempore. Councilmember Luiz nominated Randy Williams, who declined. Councilmember Luiz then nominated Councilmember Cerveny, who accepted.

Council unanimously approved the appointment of Councilmember Elizabeth Cerveny to the position of Mayor Pro Tempore.

- B. APPOINTMENT OF C-TRAN REPRESENTATIVE.** City Attorney Kearns provided Council a summary of the final agreement between the Cities of La Center and Ridgefield and the Town of Yacolt regarding the shared seat on the C-TRAN Board of Directors, which was approved December 23, 2016. Mayor Thornton asked Council for nominations for the City’s representative on the shared seat.



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
January 13, 2016**

*These minutes are
considered a
DRAFT copy until
approved by the
City Council*

Councilmember Valenzuela nominated Councilmember Birdwell-Currey. Councilmember Luiz nominated Councilmember Valenzuela, who accepted.

Council unanimously approved the appointment of Councilmember Joe Valenzuela to act as the City of La Center's representative on the shared seat with the City of Ridgefield and the Town of Yacolt on the Board of Directors of the Clark County Public Transportation Benefit Area ("C-TRAN").

A letter of appointment will be mailed to C-TRAN confirming the appointment.

12. ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

Mayor Greg Thornton

Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk