



CITY OF LA CENTER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
March 8, 2017

These minutes are  
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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	Absent/Excused
Councilmember Williams	Present
Councilmember Valenzuela	Present
Councilmember Cerveny	Present
Mayor Thornton	Present

**Staff:**

Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk  
 Sergeant Chris Olsen, Police Department  
 Jeff Sarvis, Public Works Director

**Guests:**

Doug & Beverly Boff	Erik Kaarto	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor
Doug & Barbara Burtwell	Jack LaBounty	Rick & Suzi Terrell
Al Filla	Larry Lewton	

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
  - A. **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS – 03.08.17**
  - B. **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 02.22.17**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MARCH 8, 2017 CONSENT AGENDA.**

5. **COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.**
  - A. **MAYOR’S REPORT.**
    - Mayor Thornton recognized Chief Dan Yager, Clark County Fire & Rescue, who was in attendance.



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- Mayor Thornton recommended Larry Lewton serve another two-year term as the City's representative on the Clark County Mosquito Control District Board, and Council approved.
- Effective April 3, City business working hours will be 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday-Friday, for all City offices.
- The March City Hall newsletter was included with this month's sewer bill, and copies are available at City Hall.
- Mayor Thornton attended a recent meeting at the Port of Ridgefield. This year's "Ridgefield Big Paddle" event is scheduled for June 3, and all are invited.
- Citizens were reminded to be alert of posted speed limits.
- The vacancy notice for the City's new Community Director position will be posted soon.
- Mayor Thornton attended the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Mayor's Exchange in January and a conference in February. Topics included the McCleary school funding issue, Columbia River Crossing, and transportation issues. Issues effecting small cities can be reviewed at AWCNet.org.
- The Mayor's Town Hall meetings held on the first Wednesday of each month continue to be well attended. The I-5 junction construction and traffic matters are ongoing topics.
- An update to the City's Subarea Master Plan will be presented soon by consultants Group Mackenzie and Eric Eisemann.

**B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None.**

**C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

- **COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY – None.**
- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ – Absent/Excused.**
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS – None.**
- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA – None.**



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- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** – None.

**D. STAFF REPORTS.**

- **SERGEANT CHRIS OLSEN, POLICE DEPARTMENT.** The PD's March *Monthly Advisor* was provided to Council previously and is made a part of these Minutes as public record. Topics covered in the report were speeding issues, suicide prevention, crime statistics, and calling 911 versus 311. Sergeant Olsen addressed the rising speeding problem.
- **DIRECTOR JEFF SARVIS, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.** Director Sarvis presented the March *In the Works* report to include the Hazard Mitigation Plan (HMP), update on the request for services for the wastewater treatment plant, the water trail park, and annual recycle day (April 29). The sewer project bid package should be ready this week and the roundabout project should start shortly after May.

**6. CITIZEN'S PUBLIC COMMENT.**

**LARRY LEWTON** acknowledged his re-appointment as La Center's representative on the Clark County Mosquito Control District Board, and gave a report on their last meeting.

**7. PRESENTATIONS** – None.

**8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS** – None.

**9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA** – None.

**10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS.**

- A. SIGNAGE AT THE JUNCTION.** Public Works Director **JEFF SARVIS** provided an update on the monument signs for the east and west roundabouts at the I-5 junction. As discussed at a previous City Council meeting, the Cowlitz Indian Tribe wants a sign marking the Cowlitz Reservation at the second roundabout where it was originally agreed to put a City of La Center welcome sign. Maps and drawings were displayed to assist in the discussion.

**MAYOR THORNTON** asked for comments and direction from Council, and the consensus of Councilmembers was to follow the Intergovernmental Agreement signed by all parties wherein the two roundabouts in question would display City of La Center welcome monument signs.

**MAYOR THORNTON** allowed public comment, with Council approval.



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**SKIP CARLSON** would like to see the Sternwheeler logo on the City's signs.

**JACK LABOUNTY** suggested a "combination" sign at the second roundabout to include the City of La Center, the Cowlitz Reservation, and directions to the ilani Casino.

**LARRY LEWTON.** The two roundabouts are on City land; therefore, the signs should welcome people to the City of La Center, as originally agreed.

11. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.

12. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

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Mayor Greg Thornton

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Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk