



CITY OF LA CENTER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
April 12, 2017

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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	Absent/Excused
Mayor Thornton	Present

Staff:

Daniel Kearns, City Attorney
 Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk
 Jeff Sarvis, Public Works Director

Guests:

Doug Boff	Jack LaBounty
Doug & Barbara Burtwell	Larry Lewton
James M. Dreschel	Herb Maxey
Al Filla	Nelda Perryman
Theresa Filla	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor
Danielle Gawronski	Rick & Suzi Terrell
Jim & Candi Irish	

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

- A. **APPROVAL OF CHECKS PAYABLES – 04.12.17**
- B. **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 03.22.17**

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE APRIL 12, 2017 CONSENT AGENDA.



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5. COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.

A. MAYOR'S REPORT.

- The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Annual Conference for city councilmembers, mayors, managers, and department heads will be held in Vancouver, WA on June 20-23.
- The Annual Lions Club Easter Pancake Breakfast and Egg Hunt is Saturday, April 15.
- The Planning Commission and planning consultant are diligently working on the I-5 junction zoning codes. Work sessions are scheduled and the Code will be adopted soon as well as the sub-area report.
- There is no update regarding the monument signs at the I-5 junction. A meeting is scheduled with the Cowlitz Tribe next week.
- A retirement celebration for La Center Police Officer Jerry Lester will be held at the Community Center on May 10. The public is welcome.
- The City of La Center's Facebook page is now open, effective today.
- Topics of discussion at the April 5th Mayor's Town Hall meeting covered activity at the I-5 junction and road changes. People were reminded that the City is not a developer—it works with developers. A development moratorium is now in place for the junction, and the City is in the planning process. It was noted that development at the junction will not offset the revenue impact of the recent closing of The New Phoenix cardroom. Financial Consultant Paul Lewis will be facilitating a budget work session at the April 26 City Council meeting.

B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – DANIEL KEARNS, CITY ATTORNEY. The United States Supreme Court denied review of the federal litigation. The Court of the District of Columbia decision is the final word on the lawfulness of the Interior Department's decision to take the land into trust and to allow gaming on the reservation. The Growth Management Hearings Board (GMHB) decision came out, and the appeal deadline is April 24. Discussion will ensue, in the Executive Session.

C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

- **COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY** – None.



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- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ** – The City’s new Community Development Director position should be reconsidered, to prevent City service cuts.
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA** commented on the possible impact the cardroom closing will have on the City’s revenues and services. Save the date—June 3 is the Big Paddle event in Ridgefield, and a group from La Center is being organized to participate.
- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** – None (Absent/Excused).

D. STAFF REPORTS.

- **DIRECTOR JEFF SARVIS, PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT.** Director Sarvis presented the Public Works April *In the Works* report. The City submitted an application to The Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) for a grant to fix winter weather damaged roads. The interchange will be closed April 17-22 from 11 p.m. to 4 a.m. to remove the old interchange.

6. CITIZEN’S PUBLIC COMMENT.

NELDA PERRYMAN, 824 E. PIONEER LOOP. The hiring of a new Community Development Director should be postponed. If City services are cut, the entire community will be affected.

CANDI IRISH, 1653 E. HERITAGE LOOP, thanked Mayor Thornton for covering the Town Hall meeting in his staff report. She hopes the new casino opening will have a positive effect on the City of La Center. The new casino has been anticipated for many years, and the local cardrooms are not the only businesses that could be affected. Now is an excellent time for the City to take advantage of an opportunity to boost local business by marketing new development at the junction, especially with the sewer construction.

JIM IRISH, 1653 E. HERITAGE LOOP. The annual Easter Breakfast and Egg Hunt is this Saturday—8 a.m. for breakfast 10 a.m. sharp for the egg hunt. The TIB is an excellent source for the City to develop bike and walking trails with the reconstruction of roads. He encouraged an optimistic outlook with the opening of the new casino and the positive impact it will have on La Center.

OSCAR MACIEL, 1025 NW PACIFIC HWY, of Lakeside Paddle Board Company, plans to participate in the Big Paddle event. He works at Clark Public Utilities Department and would like to be part of this year’s clean up event by providing volunteer chipping services.



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7. PRESENTATIONS.

A. CLARK COUNTY COMMITTEE ON AGING 2016 ANNUAL REPORT UPDATE—HERB MAXEY. The topics of housing, transportation, health communities, and supportive services for the aging were presented.

B. UPDATE ON OPENING OF ILANI AND TRAFFIC MANAGERMENTS—HERMANUS STEYN, KITTELSON & ASSOCIATES ENGINEERS. Mr. Steyn provided updates on roadway improvements, an overview of the ilani Transportation Management Plan (TMP), and casino opening activities. (Presentation with TPM maps available online and Facebook).

8. ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS – None.

9. ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA – None.

10. UNFINISHED BUSINESS – None.

11. NEW BUSINESS – None.

12. EXECUTIVE SESSION

A. RCW 42.30.110(1)(I) – CONSULTATION WITH LEGAL COUNSEL REGARDING POTENTIAL LITIGATION. At 8:20 p.m., Mayor Thornton called for an Executive Session to discuss potential litigation expected to last approximately 20 minutes with action to be taken afterwards. City Attorney Dan Kearns facilitated. At 8:42 p.m., Mayor Thornton closed the Executive Session and resumed the Regular Meeting.

Attorney Kearns requested that City Council authorize an appeal of the Growth Management Hearings Board decision to be filed in Clark County Superior Court.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO AUTHORIZE AN APPEAL OF THE GMHB DECISION TO BE FILED IN CLARK COUNTY SUPERIOR COURT.

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13. ADJOURNMENT.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:44 p.m.

Mayor Greg Thornton

Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk