



**CITY OF LA CENTER CITY COUNCIL
REGULAR MEETING
May 25, 2016**

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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	Present
Councilmember Williams	Present
Councilmember Valenzuela	Present
Councilmember Cerveny	Present
Mayor Thornton	Present

Staff:

Marc Denney, Police Chief
Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk
Jeff Sarvis, Public Works Director

Guests:

Doug & Beverly Boff	Larry Lewton
Barbara Burtwell	Colby Newton
Doug Burtwell	Nelda Perryman
Judy Hickman	Marta Rupprecht
Jim & Candi Irish	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**
 - A. **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS – 05.25.16**
 - B. **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 05.11.16**

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE MAY 25, 2016 CONSENT AGENDA.

5. **COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.**
 - A. **MAYOR'S REPORT.**
 - City offices will be closed in observance of the Memorial Day holiday on Monday, May 30.



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- American Legion Post 189 will host a Memorial Day event at the La Center Cemetery at 11 a.m.
- The City is forming a Budget Advisory Committee and is seeking one member-at-large volunteer to serve on the committee and participate in the City's budget process. Details and applications will be available on the City's website soon.

B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT – None (Absent/Excused).

C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.

- **COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ** – Remember our fallen veterans this Memorial Day.
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS** – Remember our friends and veterans on Memorial Day, and have a safe holiday.
- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA** – There is a Memorial Day event at the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site. The La Center High School girls' fastpitch team will be going to State competition.
- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** – None.

D. STAFF REPORTS - None.

6. CITIZEN'S PUBLIC COMMENT.

ANDY "SHERIFF" TAYLOR, 1414 E. 4TH CIR., invited everyone to the Memorial Day event at the La Center Cemetery at 11 a.m. Comments are welcomed as to when the American flags should be displayed on the bridge. They are presented only on special occasions and holidays to prevent wear and tear.

LARRY BARTEL, COMMISSIONER, CLARK COUNTY FIRE & RESCUE, 911 N. 65TH AVE., RIDGEFIELD. The ambulance response times to date are in compliance with the service agreement.

JIM IRISH, 1653 E. HERITAGE LOOP, asked everyone to pay tribute to our veterans this Memorial Day as well as those serving in our Fire and Police Departments. He asked if the repair of the reader board could be expedited, because many people depend on it as a means of receiving notices of events. He thanked the Public Works staff for keeping the City's parks beautiful and weed-free.



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LARRY LEWTON, 1109 W. C AVE., inquired about the status of the Cowlitz Tribe casino, referencing recent newspaper articles. Mayor Thornton advised that the City will provide updates as they become available.

JEFF SARVIS, PUBLIC WORKS DIRECTOR. The reader board should be repaired and working this week or next.

7. **PRESENTATIONS** – None.

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

9. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.

10. **NEW BUSINESS.**

A. 2016 SANITARY SEWER PROJECT – BID AWARD. City Engineer Tony Cooper presented.

On May 18, 2016, one bid was received from Tapani Construction in the amount of \$274,999 for the replacement of sewer on Pacific Highway between 5th Street and the Wastewater Treatment Plant. This bid is \$25,000 above the City's estimated cost. Mr. Cooper moved to increase the project budget from \$250,000 to \$275,000 and award the bid from Tapani Construction in the amount of \$274,999.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers regarding the impact on traffic and schedule for the construction. Construction is expected to start in early July.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO INCREASE THE SANITARY SEWER PROJECT BUDGET FROM \$250,000 TO \$275,000 AND AWARD THE BID FROM TAPANI CONSTRUCTION IN THE AMOUNT OF \$274,999.

11. **ORDINANCES, RESOLUTIONS AND PUBLIC HEARINGS.**

A. ORDINANCE NO. 2016-02 AMENDING THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LA CENTER, FISCAL YEAR 2016.

Finance Director Suzanne Levis presented. At the May 18 City Council Work Session, staff presented forecasts of the effects of paying down the sewer debt using sewer reserves. The goal was to stabilize sewer rates for current residents



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and improve cash flow for the Wastewater Treatment Plant. Ordinance No. 2016-02 proposes using \$5 million of the Sewer Fund reserves to pay down debt.

Discussion ensued amongst Councilmembers whether to proceed with the debt payoff, or to postpone it for a couple of years. The consensus was that it would be beneficial to the City to proceed.

MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-02 AMENDING THE ADOPTED BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LA CENTER, FISCAL YEAR 2016.

Mayor Thornton called for a Roll Call vote:

Councilmember Birdwell-Currey:	Yes
Councilmember Luiz:	No
Councilmember Williams:	Yes
Councilmember Valenzuela:	Yes
Councilmember Cerveny:	Yes

12. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.

Mayor Greg Thornton

Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk