



**CITY OF LA CENTER COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
October 28, 2015**

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City Council*

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**REGULAR MEETING:**

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

**Council:**

Councilmember Valenzuela	Present
Councilmember Luiz	Present
Councilmember Williams	Present
Councilmember Thornton	Present
Councilmember Cerveny	Present
Mayor Irish	Present

**Staff:**

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

**Guests:**

Doug Boff	Judy Hickman	Rachel Murray
Nicole Clark	William Hillgaertner	Sean Murray
Ken Couch	Candi Irish	Nelda Perryman
Al Filla	Marti Larsh	Pamela & Chet Reynolds
Melissa Flatt	Larry Lewton	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor
Tiffany Gray	Hunter Malicoat	Rick & Suzi Terrell
Ed Greer	Jennifer Miller	Kurt Wohlers

4. **CONSENT AGENDA.**
  - A. **APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS – 10.28.15**
  - B. **REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 10.14.15**
  - C. **INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE LA CENTER SCHOOL DISTRICT AND THE CITY OF LA CENTER, OCTOBER 2015**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER THORNTON AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE OCTOBER 28, 2015 CONSENT AGENDA.**



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**5. COUNCIL STAFF REPORTS/ANNOUNCEMENTS.**

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT.**

- Mayor Irish read a proclamation into the record declaring October 23-31, 2015, as Red Ribbon Week in support of a drug-free America celebrating Marine and DEA Agent Enrique Camarena's vision of a drug-free America. Lewis & Clark Young Marines were in attendance to lead everyone in the Pledge of Allegiance and hand out ribbons to Councilmembers and guests.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO DECLARE OCTOBER 23-31, 2015 AS RED RIBBON WEEK.**

- The Fort Vancouver Veteran's Parade is Saturday, November 7, 11 a.m. The reception starts at 9 a.m.
- The expansion of C-Tran's boundaries to include all of Clark County was voted down at the October 27 public transportation improvement conference. A recommendation will be made at the November 10 meeting to move forward with a public hearing to provide facts and figures regarding the boundary changes.

**B. ATTORNEY'S REPORT, CITY ATTORNEY DAN KEARNS –** The comprehensive plan amendment process to change Capital Facilities Plan Policy 4.2.3 was approved by La Center Planning Commission, and the amendment will be placed before Council for approval at the November 18 City Council meeting. A precautionary appeal has been filed with the Court of Appeals. The federal litigation briefing schedule extends into 2016.

Attorney Kearns provided Councilmembers with a portion of the revised agreement regarding the shared representation on the C-Tran Board. A joint meeting was held on September 14 between the Town of Yacolt and the City of La Center. The City of Ridgefield did not attend. The September 14 meeting resulted in a revised draft agreement. It was agreed that it should be shorter and less complicated; specifically, section 4. However, the City of Ridgefield prefers a more detailed outline of how the person occupying the seat will perform their job including dispute resolution deliberations. Attorney Kearns suggested La Center Councilmembers attend Ridgefield's next City Council meeting where councilmembers from the Town of Yacolt and their city attorney will be in attendance. Councilmembers may contact Attorney Kearns with comments and questions.



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**C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA** –The Cowlitz Tribe has moved forward to attain sewer service. The City has the ability to supply the entire junction with our sewer system. Decisions need to be made, because the Tribe’s expected construction completion date is mid-2017. He invited the public to contact Councilmembers with opinions on this issue and other matters.

In order to get the trails project started (referring to the Department of Commerce grant for the City of La Center parks and recreation projects), he requested Council authorize additional funds, if necessary.

- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS** – He asked the public to be cautious during this weekend’s Halloween celebration.
- **COUNCILMEMBER THORNTON** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** – None.

**D. STAFF REPORTS.**

- **FINANCE DEPARTMENT – 3<sup>RD</sup> QUARTER FINANCIALS – DIRECTOR SUZANNE LEVIS.** Director Levis summarized the 2015 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter financials as outlined in the Finance Department Report made a part of these Minutes and available on file, as follows: General Fund (revenues and expenditures), Impact Fee Fund, Capital Projects Fund (roundabout design), Sewer Fund (operations and debt service). Budget amendments for the General Fund and Sewer Fund (operations) are to be determined. A Capital Projects Fund amendment is expected, with the amount to be determined.

The next budget work session, presently scheduled for November 10, will tentatively cover the sewer fund (estimated revenues and expenditures).

**6. CITIZEN’S PUBLIC COMMENT.**

**LARRY LEWTON, 1109 W C. AVE.** He is concerned that the City will not be the provider of sewer service to the Tribe at the I-5 junction. Agreements were made between the City and the Tribe, and now they are looking elsewhere. The City needs to be aggressive in their approach.



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7. **PRESENTATIONS** – None.

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

**A. PUBLIC HEARING – 2016 BUDGET REVENUE SOURCES.** Finance Director Levis presented the public hearing on the 2015 budget revenue sources recommending a 1% property tax increase. Director Levis outlined the impact of the proposed property tax increase, which is relatively small for the individual homeowner for 2016 (see attachment to Ordinance No. 2015-06 made a part of these Minutes and available on file).

Mayor Irish opened the discussion up to public comment at 7:40 p.m. There being none, Mayor Irish closed the discussion to public comment at 7:41 p.m.

**B. ORDINANCE NO. 2015-06 – AN ORDINANCE ESTABLISHING THE AD VALOREM TAXES NECESSARY TO FINANCE THE ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF LA CENTER, WASHINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016 BY INCREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR BY 1%.**

Finance Director Levis presented Ordinance No. 2015-06 which implements the property tax increase to support the 2016 budget and includes an increase of 1% in the amount of \$4,043.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2015-06 ESTABLISHING THE AD VALOREM TAXES NECESSARY TO FINANCE THE ANTICIPATED REQUIREMENTS OF THE CITY OF LA CENTER, WASHINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2016 BY INCREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR BY 1%.**

Mayor Irish called for a Roll Call vote:

Councilmember Valenzuela: Yes  
Councilmember Luiz: Yes  
Councilmember Williams: Yes  
Councilmember Thornton: Yes  
Councilmember Cerveny: Yes

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

10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.



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11. **NEW BUSINESS.**

- A. INTENT TO ANNEX PROPERTIES (10%).** Planning Consultant Eric Eisemann presented. A petition to annex was submitted on October 6, 2015, by Randy and Karen Goode and La Center Pacific LLC who own properties south of Pacific Highway. Future zoning would allow detached or attached single-family units and multi-family units between 8-16 units per acre. Ed Greer, project designer, was in attendance to answer questions. Consultant Eisemann recommended Council accept the Notice of Intent to Annex and allow their petition be heard in a public hearing.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO ACCEPT THE NOTICE OF INTENT TO ANNEX AND INVITE THE PROPERTY OWNERS TO SUBMIT A PETITION FOR ANNEXATION TO BE HEARD IN A PUBLIC MEETING BY THIS COUNCIL AT THE EARLIEST CONVENIENCE.**

12. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Meeting was adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

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Mayor James T. Irish

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Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk