



**CITY OF LA CENTER CITY COUNCIL  
REGULAR MEETING  
November 22, 2016**

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**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:**

None (Absent/Excused)

**Guests:**

Doug & Barbara Burtwell	Jim & Candi Irish
Jack & Rosemary Davis	Larry Lewton
Al Filla	Kelly Moyer
Theresa Filla	Nelda Perryman
Jack La Bounty	Andy "Sheriff" Taylor
Judy Hickman	

4. **CONSENT AGENDA**

**A. APPROVAL OF CLAIMS/ADJUSTMENTS – 11.22.16**

**B. REGULAR MEETING MINUTES – 11.09.16**

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE THE NOVEMBER 22, 2016 CONSENT AGENDA.**

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

**A. MAYOR'S REPORT.**

- City offices will be closed Thursday and Friday, November 24 and 25, in observance of the Thanksgiving holiday.



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- The next City Council meeting is scheduled Wednesday, December 14.
- The next Mayor Town Hall meeting is Wednesday, December 7, 6:30 p.m., Public Works office.
- Councilmember Joe Valenzuela has volunteered to continue as La Center's joint representative on the C-TRAN Board of Directors for 2017 with Ridgefield and Yacolt. Council conceded.
- Options for the management of the City's waste water treatment plant are being reviewed and will be presented in more detail at an upcoming City Council meeting. (The resignation of the plant supervisor is effective November 30.) Representatives from CH2M have submitted a draft Professional Services Agreement, and Public Works Director Sarvis will present other options.
- Mayor Thornton recognized the La Center Wildcats football team for their success in reaching the state semifinals.

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

**C. COUNCIL COMMENTS.**

- **COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY** – The Wildcats' playoff game is this Saturday at Vancouver McKenzie Stadium, 4 p.m.
- **COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ** – None.
- **COUNCILMEMBER WILLIAMS** – The girls volleyball team placed ninth in the state. The Chelatchie Railroad's Christmas train rides start this weekend.
- **COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA** reported on the recent meeting between the joint representatives on the C-TRAN Board of Directors (La Center, Ridgefield, and Yacolt). John Main, Ridgefield, presented a proposal to C-TRAN for allocation of funds to improve bus service. There currently is no connecting service. They are also looking at a trial medical transportation service for seniors living in the outlying areas.

John Main of Ridgefield has attended the C-TRAN Board of Directors meetings as the representative for La Center, Ridgefield, and Yacolt, and has volunteered to continue in this capacity for 2017. Councilmember Valenzuela recommended Council approval, and Council conceded.



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- **COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY** thanked everyone for their input throughout the year and wished all a safe and happy Thanksgiving holiday.

**D. STAFF REPORTS – None.**

**6. CITIZEN’S PUBLIC COMMENT.**

**JIM IRISH, 1653 E. HERITAGE LOOP.** C-TRAN has been approached about having a fixed route park-and-ride at La Center’s I-5 junction. This fixed route would also provide transportation for visitors to the ilani Casino and would not be in competition with a charter system. The fixed route would also open the City to having a lower rate fixed-schedule service and C-VAN rides versus a connector service with less frequent stops. C-VAN service provides transportation for seniors to medical appointments. The City can request funding for these services to the C-TRAN Board.

**CANDI IRISH, 1653 E. HERITAGE LOOP.** The historical museum has been contacted to be included in a local points of interest tour; support from local organizations and citizens is growing.

**ANDY “SHERIFF” TAYLOR, 1414 E 4<sup>TH</sup> CIRCLE,** provided information about the Wildcats’ upcoming football games.

**7. PRESENTATIONS – None.**

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

**A. ORDINANCE NO. 2016-11 – 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, 2017 BY INCREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR BY 1%.**

Financial Consultant Paul Lewis presented Ordinance No. 2016-11 establishing the City’s property tax at 1% for 2017. The following corrections were made to the published ordinance:

The 2016 levied amount was changed from \$422,485.41 to **\$411,143.66**; and in Section 1, the amount of increase was changed from \$11,341.41 to **\$4,111.44**.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-11 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, 2017**



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**BY INCREASING PROPERTY TAX REVENUE FROM THE PREVIOUS YEAR BY 1%, AS AMENDED TO REFLECT FISCAL YEAR 2016 AS \$411,143.66 AND IN SECTION 1, THE INCREASED AMOUNT AS \$4,111.44.**

Mayor Thornton called for a Roll Call vote:

- Councilmember Birdwell-Currey      Yes
- Councilmember Luiz                      Yes
- Councilmember Williams                Yes
- Councilmember Valenzuela             Yes
- Councilmember Cerveny                 Yes

**B. ORDINANCE NO. 2016-12 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES, TAXES AND REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 5.10 (BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX), SECTION 5.10.020 (LEVY – RATE) BY ESTABLISHING A 6% UTILITY EXCISE TAX ON THE GROSS REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF ELECTRICITY, WATER SERVICES, TELEPHONE SERVICES, CABLE TELEVISION AND NATURAL GAS WITHIN THE CITY.**

Financial Consultant Paul Lewis presented. In anticipation of revenue reductions, Ordinance No. 2016-12 establishes a 6% gross receipts tax on the sale of electricity, water, telephone service, cable television, and natural gas within the city limits effective October 1, 2017.

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-12 AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES, TAXES AND REGULATIONS), CHAPTER 5.10 (BUSINESS AND OCCUPATION TAX), SECTION 5.10.020 (LEVY – RATE) BY ESTABLISHING A 6% UTILITY EXCISE TAX ON THE GROSS REVENUES DERIVED FROM THE SALE OF ELECTRICITY, WATER SERVICES, TELEPHONE SERVICES, CABLE TELEVISION AND NATURAL GAS WITHIN THE CITY.**

Mayor Thornton called for a Roll Call vote:

- Councilmember Birdwell-Currey      Yes
- Councilmember Luiz                      Yes
- Councilmember Williams                Yes
- Councilmember Valenzuela             Yes
- Councilmember Cerveny                 Yes



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**C. ORDINANCE NO. 2016-13 – AN ORDINANCE AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES, TAXES AND REGULATIONS) OF THE LA CENTER MUNICIPAL CODE, BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 5.45 (LODGING TAX) AND ESTABLISHING A 2% TAX ON THE RENTAL OF TRANSIENT ROOMS WITHIN THE CITY.**

Financial Consultant Paul Lewis presented. Ordinance No. 2016-13 establishes a 2% city lodging tax. Revenue received with this tax is required to be used for the promotion of tourism.

Mayor Thornton called for a Roll Call vote:

Councilmember Birdwell-Currey	Yes
Councilmember Luiz	Yes
Councilmember Williams	Yes
Councilmember Valenzuela	Yes
Councilmember Cerveney	Yes

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER LUIZ, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER BIRDWELL-CURREY AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-13 AMENDING TITLE 5 (BUSINESS LICENSES, TAXES AND REGULATIONS) OF THE LA CENTER MUNICIPAL CODE, BY ADDING A NEW CHAPTER 5.45 (LODGING TAX) AND ESTABLISHING A 2% TAX ON THE RENTAL OF TRANSIENT ROOMS WITHIN THE CITY.**

**D. ORDINANCE NO. 2016-14 – AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LA CENTER, WASHINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND A POLICY OF FUND BALANCING WITH REGARD TO TRANSFERS.**

Financial Consultant Paul Lewis presented highlights of the final 2017 budget.

After brief comments from Council, the following motion was made:

**MOTION MADE BY COUNCILMEMBER CERVENY, SECONDED BY COUNCILMEMBER VALENZUELA AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 2016-14 ADOPTING THE BUDGET FOR THE CITY OF LA CENTER, WASHINGTON FOR THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING DECEMBER 31, 2017 AND A POLICY OF FUND BALANCING WITH REGARD TO TRANSFERS.**

Mayor Thornton called for a Roll Call vote:

Councilmember Birdwell-Currey	Yes
Councilmember Luiz	Yes
Councilmember Williams	Yes
Councilmember Valenzuela	Yes
Councilmember Cerveney	Yes



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9. **ITEMS REMOVED FROM THE CONSENT AGENDA** – None.
  10. **UNFINISHED BUSINESS** – None.
  11. **NEW BUSINESS** – None.
  12. **ADJOURNMENT.**

Meeting was adjourned at 7:43 p.m.

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Mayor Greg Thornton

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Suzanne Levis, Finance Director/Clerk