

**FIFE CITY COUNCIL**  
**Regular Meeting Minutes**  
**March 13, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL**

Mayor Cerqui called the Regular Meeting of the Fife City Council to order at 7:00 PM

**Present:** Mayor Cerqui, Mayor Pro Tem Hull, Councilmembers Curtis, Hull, Hulcey, Dukes-Gethers, and Wolfrom.

**Absent:** Councilmember Godwin was excused.

**Staff Present:** City Manager Zabell, Finance Director DeGroot, Public Works Director Blount, Interim Community Development Director Boyle, Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director Reuter, Chief of Police Brad Blackburn, City Attorney Combs, Executive Assistant Edwards and Administrative Assistant Kurtz.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Girls Scouts Color Guard led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

Mayor Cerqui presented the following items for consideration on the Consent Agenda:

- a. Approval of Minutes: February 21st and 28th, 2012
- b. Approval of Payroll Vouchers: #48510 - #48550 in the amount of \$646,508.60
- c. Approval of Claims Vouchers: #85564 - #85683 in the amount of \$791,452.83
- d. Ordinance No. 1771 – Passage  
Ordinance amending FMC sections 20.10.130 and 20.10.140 Regarding the Time Period for Expending Impact Fees

Mayor Pro Tem Hull moved to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Councilmember Dukes-Gethers seconded and motion carried unanimously.

**PRESENTATIONS & PROCLAMATIONS**

**Girls Scouts Proclamation – 2012 Year of the Girl**

Executive Assistant Andrea Edwards reported yesterday was the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Girl Scouts of America. More than 50 million American women are Girl Scout alumni, 3.3 million girls and adult volunteers are active members. Within the Fife, Milton, and Edgewood communities there are 14 troops with 146 girls and 67 dedicated adult volunteers who are all proud to be part of the Girls Scout tradition in the community.

Mayor Cerqui read and presented the centennial proclamation to Eddie Reeves, Girl Scout Service Unit Delegate & Advocacy Coordinator, and presented each of the eight members of the Girl Scout Color Guard with a certificate of recognition.

Council congratulated the Girl Scout Color Guard members.

**Eagle Scout Project – Dacca Park**

Parks, Recreation and Community Services Director Reuter introduced Donovan Boyle who recently completed his Eagle Scout project at Dacca Park. Mr. Boyle presented a slide show and discussed his work, which consisted of reconstructing three benches in the Off-Leash Dog Park area and constructing

platforms around two of the benches that face the storm water retention ponds. The platforms greatly improved the safety of patrons using those benches by removing the steep slope and providing a stable, flat area to stand and access the benches.

Council thanked Mr. Boyle and thanked him for his work.

### **Fife High School Winter Sports Recognition**

Judge Ringus introduced the Fife High School Assistant Principal and Athletic Director, Amanda Fox, along with the Winter Sports Team coaches and students representing the Boys and Girls Wrestling teams and the Boys and Girls Basketball teams. Coaches Rachel Elder, Brandon Howard, Mark Schelbert and Mark Jones spoke and introduced their teams.

Council congratulated the students and their coaches.

### **Fife Police Chief's Awards**

Police Chief Blackburn introduced the officers who received the Police Chief's Awards this year, which included Lieutenant Tom Thompson and Officers Jeff Nolta and Jeff Rackley. Officer Aaron Gardner was selected as the Commissioned Officer of the Year. Officer Mark Jeffs was selected as the 2011 Non-Commissioned Officer for 2011. Mike Compston was selected as the 2011 Reserve Police Officer of the Year.

Officers received certificates and awards pins. Council congratulated and thanked the officers for their hard work, service and dedication.

### **Proclaiming February 19th As Commitment To Community Day**

City Manager Zabell stated after reading the Pierce County Library System's "Pierce County Reads" book "Hotel on the Corner between Bitter and Sweet," which addresses the internment of Japanese Americans during World War II, he realized February 19, 2012 represented a 70th anniversary for the event. The date reflects the 36th anniversary of the *rescinding* of Executive Order #9066 which authorized the Secretary of War and the US military commanders to declare areas of the United States as military areas from which any or all persons may be excluded. The Order resulted in the forced relocation of over 125,000 United States citizens of Japanese descent into internment camps.

Mayor Cerqui read the proclamation, noting:

- The proclamation recognizes the wrong committed at that time against citizens of the United States, which included many Fife residents whose families were interned under the Order;
- The citizens of Fife responded in an honorable in reacting to this injustice during a time the nation was preparing to fight a World War;
- The proclamation reminds us all that even the greatest of nations can err, and the importance of keeping in our consciousness those events we would rather forget, as doing so serves to assure they or similar acts are not repeated; and
- Robert Mitzukami, one of Fife's first councilmembers and the City's second mayor, was interned at that time and was one of most highly decorated in the armed forces.

Councilmember Hulcey stated he went to school and worked with many individuals who were interned and noted this is a lesson in forgiveness; the interned citizens of Fife forgave their fellow citizens. Councilmember Wolfrom expressed his appreciation for the inspiring loyalty Japanese Americans from that period displayed, some of whom who served and were killed during World War II. Mayor Pro Tem Hull stated Representative Adam Smith is introducing a bill to protect citizens from indefinite detention; he encouraged everyone to support the effort.

**COMMITTEE/COUNCIL DELEGATE REPORTS**

Mayor Pro Tem Hull noted the PSRC General Assembly will be May 31<sup>st</sup>, 2012 and encouraged everyone to attend.

Councilmember Hulsey reported he watched part of Fife Police Officer Schwan's Traffic School, and expressed appreciation for the care Officer Pomeroy provides to the mobile command vehicle. He reported he went on a ride-along with three officers who all stated they enjoyed working for the Police Department.

Mayor Cerqui attended the Pierce County Cities and Towns meeting; they hope to improve participation and provide educational value to their members.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Legislative Update – Justin LeBlanc, Skype Presentation**

Justin LeBlanc reviewed his history with the City as the City's Lobbyist. He stated the elimination of earmarks has simply moved the funding out of Congressional control and into federal agency control. Earmarks represent less than one-half of one percent (.045%) of the federal budget. Maintaining a presence and building relationships will provide the best results for future funding of City projects. Mr. LeBlanc feels the City has done a good job educating the congressional delegation of Fife's importance to the freight mobility and transportation system and the City's commitment to the improvement of life for its citizens and businesses.

Mr. LeBlanc reviewed the pitfalls of endorsing specific candidates for congressional offices and emphasized the importance of letters of support from congressional delegates for grant funding. He also discussed the five programs built into the transportation bill which include a national highway performance program, transportation mobility program, highway safety improvement program, congestion mitigation and air quality program, and national freight program.

City Manager Zabell stated the Washington D.C. visit is in the planning stage and will include visits to several agencies and congressional delegation offices to discuss issues including the connectivity project for the City along the I-5 corridor and to explore funding opportunities with other federal agencies.

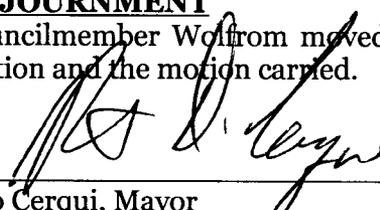
**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Zabell reported the ribbon cutting for the 59<sup>th</sup> Avenue project will be on March 27<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 a.m.; this has been a joint project with the Puyallup Tribal Council. Two major milestones for the 70<sup>th</sup> Avenue project include the completion of the certification of the right of way and advertisement for the project, which has been scheduled for March 20<sup>th</sup>.

Items have been removed from the buildings at the Brookville Community Gardens site in order to prepare for demolition within the next couple of weeks.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Councilmember Wolfrom moved for adjournment at 8:41 PM. Councilmember Curtis seconded the motion and the motion carried.

  
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Rob Cerqui, Mayor

  
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Carol Etgen, City Clerk