

FIFE CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

Fife City Hall
Council Chambers

Date: September 9, 2008
7:00 p.m.

EXECUTIVE SESSION Mayor Johnson convened an executive session at 6:30 p.m. for the purpose of Real Estate RCW 42.30.140 for approximately 20 minutes.

ADJOURNMENT Mayor Johnson adjourned the executive session at 6:50 p.m.

**CALL TO ORDER
AND ROLL CALL** Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting of the Fife City Council to order at 7:03 p.m. with the following Councilmembers present: Richard Godwin, Glenn Hull, Butch Brooks, Barry Johnson, Rob Cerqui, Nancy de Booy, and Kim Roscoe.

Staff present: City Manager Steve Worthington, Assistant City Manager Jim Reinbold, City Attorney Loren Combs, Finance Director Steve Marcotte, Acting Community Development Director Carl Durham, Police Chief Brad Blackburn, Public Works Director Russ Blount, Parks, Recreation & Community Services Director Kurt Reuter, Administrative Assistant Andrea Richards, Financial Analyst Dave DeGroot, Marketing Coordinator Laurel Potter, Code Enforcement Officer Chris Larson, Planner I Chris Pasinetti, and Recording Secretary Valerie Gow.

**PLEDGE OF
ALLEGIANCE** Councilmember Brooks led the pledge of allegiance.

**CHANGES,
ADDITIONS OR
DELETIONS TO
AGENDA** The title of Resolution #1237 was changed to reflect, "Authorize City Manager to Sign LID Petitions for Sewer, Water, and Storm Drainage Improvements Benefitting the City's Levee Road Properties." Item 8d; Resolution #1239, Set Hearing, Declare Intent to Form 70th Avenue/48th St. E. LID was added to the agenda. The agenda was approved as amended.

CONSENT AGENDA

- a. Approval of Minutes: Date: August 26, 2008 Council Meeting
- b. Approval of Vouchers:
 Payroll #44873-44918 \$360,930.21
 Claim: #73612-73714 \$492,904.22
- c. Set a Special Meeting for September 16, 2008 Study Session

Motion Councilmember Cerqui moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.

SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS

Fife Harvest Festival Marketing Coordinator Potter provided an update on activities scheduled for the Fife Harvest Festival on Saturday, October 4, 2008, at Dacca Park. Major sponsors include Fife Flowers & Gifts, Click! Cable Network, Pierce County Community Newspaper Group, and Emerald Queen Casino. Vendors are welcome to submit applications at the City's website or by calling or visiting City Hall. The festival includes vendors, food, Council Corn on the Cob, mini-train rides, face painting, arts & crafts, U-Fish Pond, bouncy toys, Kids Korner, strolling magicians and

clowns, and kids tractor pulls.

A video of a Fife Harvest Festival promotional ad currently airing on Click! was shared with the Council and audience.

Administrative Assistant Richards reviewed scheduled entertainment events at the Performing Arts Center at Columbia Junior High beginning at 6:30 p.m.

A Chili Feed & Cook-Off is scheduled at 4:30 p.m.

Library Survey

City Manager Worthington reported on the results of the recent library survey. Approximately 3,880 surveys were mailed to residents with a zip code of 98424, which included some residents outside the City limits. He referred to two sets of survey responses consisting of one complete set and one set pertaining only to citizens living within the City. The City received 281 responses, less than a 10% response rate. That number provides a statistically valid number and reflects a likely response from the sample of residents within a margin of error of 7%. The survey scale was 1 to 10 with 10 being the highest.

City Manager Worthington reviewed survey results of the following survey questions:

1. How important is some type of public library service to you?
2. How well is the City of fife currently meeting the growing community's needs for library services?
3. Why is library service important to you and/or your family?
4. What type of services would you want in a public library?
5. What type of resources would you want to check out from a public library?
6. What type of resources would you want to access online @ your home from a public library?
7. Options for library service:
 - Continue existing service of providing library cards to residents
 - Provide a Pierce County System branch in Fife.
8. Based on assessed property value, would you be in support of paying a 43-cent per \$1,000 increase in property tax to support a library?
9. Are you a Fife resident?
10. Are you a registered voter?

The survey asked respondents to provide any additional information or comments regarding library service in Fife.

City Manager Worthington reported approximately 63% of the respondents expressed support for paying an additional property tax assessment to support library service in Fife. Currently, approximately 80 households take advantage of the City's reimbursement program for library cards.

The Council discussed the option of scheduling a public hearing on library service within Fife. Councilmember de Booy encouraged citizens to read the survey results

as well as comments submitted by respondents. She encouraged citizens to attend the public hearing. Councilmember Godwin indicated he is opposed to having a library in Fife but supports scheduling a public hearing to receive input from citizens. The issue is with the value Fife receives in return for property taxes paid by citizens. Councilmember Brooks supported a public hearing but questioned the timing for library service in Fife as well as how some of the survey questions were phrased, which might have caused some confusion. There is also the cost of an election to consider. Councilmember Cerqui also agreed with many of the comments and supported scheduling a public hearing. He said his concern is the value Fife receives for its assessment and he wants to ensure appropriate negotiations occur. A public hearing will enable the Council to receive input from citizens on the issue. Councilmember Roscoe said the written comments appear to provide some representation from Fife citizens. However, the comments appear to indicate that the City is missing the mark. She expressed concerns about that issue and supported scheduling a public hearing but is also concerned about making a decision based on a low response rate from citizens. Councilmember Hull commented that from a population of 7,500 people, approximately 268 responded, which is a very low percentage. The survey results reflect the potential for a low voter turnout in a special election or general election. A large percentage of the respondents do not want pay for library service. He said he personally would like to have a library in Fife, but wants to ensure that more than 268 people in a City of 7,500 people want a library.

Mayor Johnson invited public comments.

Public Comments

Fred Thomas, 4704 12th Street East, said that it appears based on the survey response that there are not that many people interested in a library in the City of Fife and that the issue is not worth scheduling a public hearing.

P.K. MacLean, Fife Chamber of Commerce, inquired about whether the property tax is for residential only or applicable to businesses as well. She said she's unsure of the percentage of business owners who also reside in Fife and although agrees a library is an amenity within the community; the issue is demographics and how many business owners would actually benefit from a library. She asked how residents of multi-family housing are assessed fees. Several business owners inquired about the library and were not supportive of a library branch in the City.

Mayor Johnson replied businesses pay for assessed valuation as well as residential property owners. Owners of multi-family housing also pay property taxes and would pay the assessment as well.

Diane Curlin, 1181 37th Street Court East, Edgewood, said she lives in a city that does not have a branch library. She said she viewed the survey and thought the survey was a good survey and that the cover information was very good. Often people who do not utilize a library fail to realize how a library can enrich their lives. She suggested that if the survey had included postage, the City might have received a better response. In lieu of public hearing, the City should have at least one town meeting with information explaining the service along with staff from the

library system to answer questions. She said she is a representative of a library committee of the Tacoma Pierce County Library and conducted a study of library service in Pierce County several years ago. The study results revealed that each jurisdiction should provide library service as a basic service. If the City pursues an election and it passes, the number of library cardholders within five years would increase substantially.

Mayor Johnson agreed with the suggestion of a town hall meeting with library district representative followed by a public hearing. He referred to a recent article in the *Tacoma News Tribune* about the significance difference in WSAL scores of two school districts – one district with access to library service and one district with limited access to a library. He suggested it's a factor that should also be considered. As to the viability of the survey response, a 6% to 7% response is actually a good response. The highest response the City had experienced previously in survey results was 3% to 4%. The survey included many positive comments as well as negative comments. Many of the comments spoke to the issue of why the Council has not acted in previous years. The issue has been addressed previously, such as the district providing a book mobile. With Fife's increased assessed valuation, the district is now working with the City proactively and is discussing the option of a facility. The district has come a long way in ensuring the City has a facility to meet the City's needs and consistent with the funds collected.

Mayor Johnson said the Council supports conducting a public hearing with a town meeting held first. City Manager Worthington advised that he will contact library officials about their willingness to participate in a town meeting.

Councilmember de Booy urged and encouraged citizens to participate and provide comments at both the town meeting and the public hearing.

COUNCIL DELEGATE REPORT

Councilmember Brooks reported on his participation along with Councilmembers Hull and Cerqui in the City of University's Mayor's Invite Golf Tournament at Chambers Bay. The City raised approximately \$5,000. He attended the monthly grant meeting on behalf of Director Blount. Tolling options on SR 167, a presentation by Pierce Transit on its budget impacts, a discussion on Proposition 1, and a presentation by WSDOT on progress of HOV lanes through Pierce County were items of discussion during the meeting. He invited WSDOT representatives to provide the same presentation to the Council.

Councilmember Cerqui reported he attended the Puyallup Fair parade and opening day.

Councilmember de Booy reported on her attendance to the apple squeeze celebration at University Place, similar to Fife's Harvest Festival. She advised she will be out of the country for several weeks and will miss several Council meetings.

Councilmember Roscoe reported on her attendance to the Zootrek Advisory Board meeting to work on the 2009/2010 budget and review the Northwest Trek Forest Practices Plan. She commented positively on the availability of renting the

community pool and shared information on the recent Cub Scout event held at the pool.

Mayor Johnson acknowledged Mayor Pro Tem Cerqui for chairing the last Council meeting. Earlier in the week he and City Manager Worthington attended the Puyallup River Task Force on flooding issues. The meeting was well attended with most of the cities in the lower and mid-reaches in attendance. The facilitator did a good job of ensuring a well run and respectful meeting. Several citizens attended the last Mayor's Forum resulting in some good discussions.

ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS

ORDINANCES

#1673 Amending the Noise Code

Motion

Councilmember Cerqui moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to adopt Ordinance No. 1673; Amending the Noise Code.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Ordinance #1673:

An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fife, Washington, relating to public disturbance noises and noise control penalties and enforcement, and amending Sections 9.56.010.050(B), 9.56.060, 9.56.080, 9.56.120, and 9.56.140 of the Fife Municipal Code, and repealing sections 9.56.100, 9.56.110, 9.56.130 and Subsection 19.68.030(A) of the Fife Municipal Code.

Acting Director Durham referred to additional information concerning vehicle beepers as well as an amendment to the ordinance for consideration. The proposed amendment includes two types of beepers – self-adjusting sound types that are limited to 10 decibels over the ambient sound level and a broadband type. He described the characteristics for each type of beeper.

Councilmember Brooks questioned the status of the amendment moved by Councilmember Godwin, which added the original Exhibit E to the ordinance, which was tabled. He inquired about the need to address the tabled amendment.

City Attorney Combs advised the Council of the requirement to address the tabled motion.

Councilmember Brooks noted the current exhibit is different than the amendment previously moved.

Motion

Councilmember Brooks moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to amend the motion and replace the former Exhibit E with new Exhibit E provided to the Council.

Councilmember Brooks expressed appreciation for delaying action on the original motion to remove language identifying specific brands of beepers.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously to amend the motion.

Removal of Tabled Amendment

The Council moved to remove the tabled amendment from the table. Motion carried unanimously on the tabled amendment to amend Ordinance #1673 by requiring the use of broadband white noise for automotive reverse alarms and approving second reading of the ordinance.

Motion

The main motion to adopt Ordinance #1673; Amending the Noise Code as amended carried unanimously.

Councilmember Godwin inquired as to whether the City's vehicles are considered yard equipment. City Manager Worthington advised that they are not considered yard equipment and that most of the equipment will not need to be updated with new beepers.

RESOLUTIONS

#1237; Authorizing City Manager to Sign LID Petitions for Sewer, Water, and Storm Drainage Improvements Benefitting the City's Levee Road Properties

Motion

Councilmember de Booy moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to approve Resolution #1237; Authorizing City Manager to Sign LID Petitions for Sewer, Water, and Storm Drainage Improvements Benefitting the City's Levee Road Properties.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1237:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to sign the petition to form Local Improvement District LID 08-2 on behalf of the City for the Levee Road property.

Director Blount presented the recommendation and described the reason for two resolutions. There are three categories of properties within the Local Improvement District (LID). He described the boundaries of the LID. Improvements will include sewers in 70th and 45th, and sewers, water main, and storm drain lines along 48th. The City owns less than 30 percent of the total land area in the proposed LID. The City received petitions from property owners representing over 60 percent of the LID area, excluding the area owned by the City.

Councilmember Godwin asked whether 60% of the assessed valuation representing signed petitions excludes the City's property. Director Blount reported total petitions represent 59.88%. The Council set a goal of 60%. Councilmember Godwin said he would be concerned if there wasn't an overwhelming majority of willing property owners.

Councilmember Brooks inquired as to whether property owners could have formed a separate LID boundary excluding the City's property. Director Blount replied that it would be possible but that the assessments would be different.

Director Blount responded to questions from Councilmember Cerqui on the type of sewers. Staff analyzed shallow gravity options as well. He noted the sewer on 48th will extend east of the line of the City's property.

Public Comments

Rainer Willingham, 7213 45th Street, Cascades Plastics Company, Fife, referred to Exhibit C and said he likes the term that it's a "bargain," but to him it represents approximately \$712,000. He said his business is a family business, which is managed by his daughter. He recently signed a 20-year lease with his daughter so that she can operate the business. He cited the heritage of farmers within the City where land has increased in price while farmers continue to make little from farming. The "bargain" is not a bargain. The building on parcel #4 is fully built out. He questioned whether he will gain from connecting to sewers. He described his existing parcels and said the properties have not been sold because he wants to give his children the opportunity to grow the business. The company employs approximately 90 people. He acknowledged the need for sewers and indicated he met with Director Blount and offered easements to the City to enable the City to access the property. He noted his property is built out and doesn't need to be connected. He suggested there is a way to resolve the problem and is willing to work with the City.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

#1238; Authorize Development and Exploration of Holt Well

Motion

Councilmember Cerqui moved, seconded by Councilmember de Booy, to approve Resolution #1238; Authorize Development and Exploration of Holt Well.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1238:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing a contract with RH2 Engineering, Inc. for engineering services associated with developing and testing the Holt Well.

Director Blount presented the staff report. The Council previously authorized an

analysis on the appropriateness of further development and testing of a municipal well. The Holt well is an incomplete well drilled to 600 feet in depth. The well is approximately three-quarters finished. The proposal is to install a temporary pump to test the capacity of the well and the quality of the water, and then evaluate whether to recommend acquisition of the well. There is no pre-negotiated value of the well because of the unknown production capability. The proposal is for services to be provided on an hourly basis, with the fee limited to \$50,000. If the well proves to be productive, the City would transfer water rights rather than submitting an application to obtain water rights. Staff believes the action is appropriate and recommends approval of the resolution.

Mayor Johnson inquired about the size of the parcel. Director Blount reported acquisition would involve one to two acres of the approximate 10-acre parcel for siting a well, pump house, treatment facilities, and sufficient perimeter for protection of the well.

Councilmembers commented positively on the City moving forward with developing municipal water sources.

Director Blount addressed questions about potential frontage improvements if the City were to acquire the property, drilling depth, the size of the casing, drilling costs, and the City's current municipal water supply, which provides approximately 12% of the City's water service. Adding one well would increase water service to approximately 35%. The majority of the City's municipal water supply is purchased from the City of Tacoma.

Councilmember Godwin inquired as to whether staff has considered some of the other City properties with deep wells. Director Blount reported staff has considered the wells and tested water. However, high treatment costs override the value the City would receive in water production.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

**#1239 Set Hearing,
Declare Intent to Form
70th Avenue/48th St. E.
LID**

Motion

Councilmember de Booy moved, seconded by Councilmember Cerqui, to adopt Resolution #1239; Set Hearing, Declare Intent to Form 70th Avenue/48th St. E. LID.

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1239:

A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington setting a public hearing at which citizens can express their objections to the City forming a Local Improvement District (LID) to pay in whole or in part for all or some of the costs associated with the improvements along 70th Avenue East, south

of 43rd Street East, and along 45th and 48th Streets East, west of 70th Avenue East. Improvements will consist of sewers in 70th and 45th, and sewers, water main and storm drain lines along 48th by levying and collecting assessments upon the property within the proposed improvement district, and expressing the Council's intent to form the Local Improvement District and order the construction of improvements.

Director Blount reported that in accordance with the Council's authorization of Resolution #1237, the City Manager has signed the petitions for the City of Fife. With the City's signed petitions, approximately 72% of the assessed valuation of the land area has signed petitions agreeing to the intent of forming an LID. Staff recommends approval of the resolution.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

NEW BUSINESS

**Commute Trip
Reduction (CTR) Plan
Update**

Acting Director Durham reported the Legislature adopted the Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) Efficiency Act in 2006 to improve the capacity of the state transportation system. Staff is seeking the Council's direction to prepare an ordinance to adopt the CTR plan and update Fife Municipal Code (FMC) or consider whether the Council prefers pursuing another study.

Planner Pasinetti presented information on the CTR Program and new goals under the new legislation. The FMC is outdated and only reflects the CTR Program goals from 2005. He outlined the new goals of a 10% reduction in single occupancy vehicles and a 13% reduction in vehicle miles traveled. Instead of focusing on urban areas, the focus is within urban areas with congested highway corridors. Major employees with over 100 employees in urban growth areas are required to participate. The Planning Commission voted unanimously to adopt the new CTR plan and subsequent amendments to Title 17.

Mayor Johnson inquired about the status of the City achieving its current CTR goals. City Manager Worthington reported the City has experienced a 24% reduction in commutes based on a one-week survey period.

City Manager Worthington described what measures the City uses to attain CTR goals from shorter workweeks and incentives for ridesharing and encouraging use of transit.

Councilmember Godwin asked about the obligation of affected employers to participate in the CTR Program. City Manager Worthington reported employers are not subject to any sanctions if they do not meet goals. Planner Pasinetti said employers are required to identify themselves as an affected employer.

Planner Pasinetti said by 2011, the City's affected employers need to meet the 10% reduction in commutes and 13% reduction in vehicles miles traveled.

Consensus

The Council directed staff to present an ordinance for future consideration.

**Lodging Tax Advisory
Committee
Recommendations**

Motion

Councilmember Cerqui moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to direct staff to place approved funding items as recommended by the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee within the 2009 Budget with the recommendation that no less than \$300,000 remain in the fund balance.

Councilmember Cerqui reported the Lodging Tax Advisory Committee (LTAC) met and reviewed the applications for funding representing nine City generated applications and eight private applications. The committee recommended approval of seven of the eight private applications and all of the City generated applications.

City Manager Worthington reviewed the funding proposals:

Councilmember Hull inquired about the difference between the Tacoma Regional CVB and the Tacoma Pierce County Sports Commission. Marketing Coordinator Potter replied the Sports Commission pursues sports-related events and teams while the CVB markets for conventions, trade shows, business travelers, and tourists. Councilmember Hull asked about the revenue in terms of hotel and motel rooms booked.

Citizen Comments

Tami Blount, Executive Director, Tacoma Regional CVB, reported the CVB recently launched a new business plan and is proactive in marketing efforts for local hotels and motels. In 2007, the CVB confirmed 2,183 room nights involving 1,308 convention delegates spending approximately \$378,000. The CVB is also launching online booking capability for hotels in Fife.

Tim Waer, Executive Director, Tacoma Pierce County Sports Commission, thanked the Council for its previous support. The commission is the only organization that attracts, promotes, and creates sports events in Tacoma and Pierce County for amateur sports. For Fife, the organization continues to focus on events that serve Fife hotels more than any other organization. Return on investment is also difficult to quantify. The LTAC committee approves many applications where the return on investment is not quantifiable based on the number of hotel nights. They are all great projects and are supported by the LTAC and members understand the importance of them to the community. The two organizations responsible for creating lodging tax or regenerating its use are the Tacoma Regional CVB and the Tacoma Pierce County Sports Commission. The commission generates thousands of room nights per year based on the commission's efforts. He said he believes full funding will allow the organization to remain active for recruiting large Citywide events that will draw several thousand competitors and fans to the City. Mr. Waer read a letter from local hoteliers urging the Council to fund the Sports Commission and the CVB. The hoteliers expressed support for both organizations and acknowledged the events that are attracted by the efforts of both organizations.

Councilmember Hull commented on an upcoming softball tournament in Tacoma. He asked how many rooms were booked in the City of Fife for the tournament. Mr. Waer said the tournament has been cancelled. He noted the event did not generate many room nights and the only hotel rooms that would have been generated were for players coming to compete in the tournament. All of their reservations were at Fife hotels. He cited different types of sports events that have held events in the area.

Councilmember Hull asked how the Sports Commission attracts people to stay in Fife hotels. Mr. Waer said for some events, the website is used for reserving lodging. For other events, a preferred list of hotels is published. The Commission works with each hotel to offer a block of rooms for specific events and works with hotel sales directors to qualify as the preferred hotel for major events.

Councilmember Hull said the work of the Sports Commission is admirable but noted when comparing the two presentations, the CVB provided information on the value generated to the City while the Sports Commission appears not able to track the number of lodging rooms generated by its activities. Mr. Waer said staffing resources limits the ability of the commission providing tracking information for each sports event. The commission believes that the events it attracts and promotes to the area create more tourism and more room nights. He suggested the City should contact the hoteliers to verify information.

Councilmember Roscoe said the presentation by the CVB is the first time the organization has been able to provide data. The Sports Commission has always been forthcoming with tourism information.

Councilmember Hull asked to see tracking data in the future.

Mayor Johnson thanked Mr. Waer for the information. He agreed with Councilmember Roscoe and that each year, hoteliers have unanimously supported the City of Fife donating to the Sports Commission, which was during the years when there was very little support from the CVB. Both organizations are doing a good job today. He said he supports funding both organizations.

Ms. Blount and Mr. Waer shared budget figures for their respective organizations at the request of Councilmember Brooks. Councilmember Brooks said although he doesn't wish to diminish the work of the committee, he doesn't believe the City is creatively expending the funds. It appears that most of the funding benefits the hotels, which should occur to some extent, but some of the funds should be expended to mitigate some of the impacts that some of the events have on residents. The City is spending too much money and some recommendations are funded at too high a level. He asked whether additional funds the Council authorized for the Fife Historical Society are included in the recommendation. City Manager Worthington said a portion of the funds is included in the recommendation. The amount not reflected is approximately \$70,000. Councilmember Brooks said he would like to reduce some of the amounts and allocate some of the funds to the Fife

Historical Society to complete the barn project. He suggested pursuing a smarter course of action, reconsider the recommendation, and redistribute the funds to avoiding dipping into the City's fund.

Councilmember Cerqui responded that the committee reviewed the applications thoroughly and engaged in a thoughtful and challenging discussion on the best way to expend the funds. The law limits how the funds are expended as well as dictating the application and review process. The committee was supportive of the funding recommendation. The CVB has done a good job of providing some good numbers and the Sports Commission has always done a good job in promoting the City. He suggested moving forward with the recommendation. He questioned whether an amendment is necessary based on the Council's direction at the last meeting. City Manager Worthington said staff will follow the Council's direction and that it will be incorporated within the documentation for the Fife Historical Society.

Mayor Johnson said he believes the amendment for allocating \$130,000 from lodging tax funds pertained to 2008 funds. City Manager Worthington said he understood the direction to be from 2008/2009 funds.

Councilmember Godwin commented positively on the CVB providing honest numbers and expressed appreciation for the work. He asked about the company not recommended for funding. Marketing Coordinator Potter reported the company is a marketing research firm that surveys visitors and tourists on reasons they might visit Fife.

Councilmember Hull asked how funding for the Fife Historical Society is allocated. City Manager Worthington explained how staff works with the Fife Historical Society on reimbursement of expenses as they are incurred. He answered questions on Fife's regulatory and inspection role with respect to the work completed. Councilmember Hull asked staff to develop a contractual agreement with the Fife Historical Society to ensure the project is completed in 2009. City Manager Worthington commented that the City needs to be realistic in terms of the timeline for completion because of factors outside of the City's control in terms of delivery of the train engine and work factors related to the site.

Citizen Comments

P.K. Maclean, Fife Chamber of Commerce, advocated in support of the Sports Commission and the CVB. In past years, there has been the same rhetoric from the CVB. However, she attended the CVB's business planning meeting and was impressed by the enthusiasm and clear objectives the CVB Board outlined. The CVB also has toured all hotel properties to review each facility's capabilities. The Sports Commission does a tremendous job in bringing people to Fife hotels. Hotels in Fife cater to a different demographic and are perfect for sport tournaments. She urged the Council's support of the LTAC funding recommendation.

Motion

Motion carried unanimously.

CITY MANAGER

City Manager Worthington reported on the following activities and events:

REPORT

- Road construction is underway and the City urges residents to have patience during construction activities.
- The crossing project on 70ths is underway and on schedule.
- The Valley Avenue roadway project is on schedule.
- On September 11, 2008, the Tacoma Fire Department will host a 9/11 remembrance ceremony at 9 a.m. at the Firefighter's Memorial, 3301 Ruston Way.
- Representatives from the Fire and Police Departments attended the memorial service of the Skagit County Sheriff's Deputy killed in the line of duty.
- City Manager Worthington said he and his wife had the opportunity to attend the Puyallup Tribe Powwow. He said he was very impressed with the event as well as the family-oriented events to include dance, drums, and a salmon bake.
- The September 16, 2008 study session is focused on the 2009 budget. The Council was provided with budget packets for their review prior to the study session. City Manager Worthington reviewed some of the budget adjustments recently made in terms of reduced revenues, program reductions, street and park changes, as well as consideration of an approach involving Real Estate Excise Tax (REET). The packet also includes information on the proposed Brookville Park Design and a summary capturing the Council's comments. Staff is waiting for another design review. The cost is an estimate based on the numbers available at this time. He invited the Council to contact him if they have questions on the budget information.

COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS

Councilmember Cerqui reported he attended the funeral of Silas Cross, a member of the Puyallup Tribe and former owner of the Cross' Smoke Shop. Mr. Cross was a former Tribal Councilmember and an active member of the community. He extended condolences to his family.

Councilmember Cerqui said the 70th closure is creating much traffic on Valley. He suggested posting better signage to help direct traffic.

Councilmember de Booy asked for the public's indulgence during road construction activities. The City is working to improve roadways for its citizens.

Mayor Johnson referred to an article in the newspaper on Tacoma's red light cameras and the effectiveness in reducing major accidents by 50% in the first 12 months.

Mayor Johnson referred to the consultant's presentation on the Brookville Park design and said he looks forward to further discussion on the design.

ADJOURNMENT

Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 9:32 p.m.

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Barry Johnson, Mayor

Steve Marcotte, City Clerk/Finance Director

Prepared by Valerie Gow, Recording Secretary/President
Puget Sound Meeting Services