# FIFE CITY COUNCIL
# REGULAR MEETING MINUTES

**Fife City Hall**
**Council Chambers**

**Date: April 14, 2009**
**Time: 7:00 p.m.**

**EXECUTIVE SESSION**

**Mayor Johnson convened an executive session at 6:00 p.m. for the purpose of Real Estate RCW 42.30.140 for approximately 20 minutes.**

**ADJOURNMENT**

**Mayor Johnson adjourned the executive session at 6:20 p.m.**

**CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL**

Mayor Johnson called the regular meeting of the Fife City Council to order at 7:00 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 Attorney Gregory Amann, Finance Director Steve Marcotte, Municipal Court Judge Kevin Ringus, Assistant Police Chief Mark Mears, Public Works Director Russ Blount, Administrative Assistant Andrea Richards, Financial Analyst Dave DeGroot, Marketing Coordinator Laurel Potter, Communications Supervisor Erica Brown, Court Administrator Sally Dowty, and Recording Secretary Cheri Lindgren.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Councilmember Godwin led the pledge of allegiance.

**CHANGES, ADDITIONS, OR DELETIONS TO AGENDA**

Resolution No. 1298, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with David Cross for acquisition of an easement for right-of-way, was added to the agenda.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve the agenda as amended. Motion carried unanimously.**

**CITIZENS COMMENTS**

**Robert MacDonald, 1308 15th Avenue, Milton**, reported he's forming a committee of local citizens to bring an American Veterans' Traveling Tribute (AVTT) and Traveling Wall to the Fife community for Memorial Day 2010. The committee will work to raise funds to cover the $9,750 cost. The exhibit includes reduced replica of the Vietnam Memorial Wall and a 9-1-1 stand-up memorial with lighted twin towers to make sure "*We Never Forget.*" Other tributes include an art display, a personal tribute panel, and picture displays and information honoring World War II veterans. Potential locations for the tribute include Triangle Park in Milton, Dacca Park, or soccer field in Fife. He asked the Council for assistance.

Mayor Johnson asked staff to work with Mr. MacDonald on the project.

**CONSENT AGENDA**

a. Approval of Minutes: Date: March 17, 2009 Study Session
March 24, 2009 Council Meeting

b. Approval of Vouchers:
Payroll: #45513-45562 $583,751.26
Claims: #75671-75852 $874,236.40

c. Set a Special Meeting for April 21, 2009 Study Session

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve consent the consent agenda as presented. Motion carried unanimously.**

**SPECIAL PRESENTATIONS**

**Fife High School Winter Sports Recognition**

Mark Schelbert, Fife High School, reported the Fife Trojans won 14 consecutive games to capture its first league championship since 1987 ending the season with a 14-6 overall record and 10-2 in the league. The team finished sixth at the state tournament in March.

Mayor Johnson presented Coach Schelbert with an outstanding achievement award.

Fife High School Athletic Director Amanda Fox reported the girl's basketball team completed an outstanding season. The last time the basketball team went to the state tournament was 11 years ago. She thanked the Council, parents, and community for the support.

Mayor Johnson presented Ms. Fox with an outstanding achievement award for Coach Mark Jones.

Ms. Fox reported the boys wrestling won the Nisqually title for the third time this year. The team went on to finish second at the West Central District tournament and 21st in the Washington State tournament.

The girls wrestling team capped off a great season by winning their second league title in a row. The girls went on to the state tournament and placed sixth of 84 teams.

Mayor Johnson presented Ms. Fox with a recognition award and an outstanding achievement award for Coach Shawn Gaspaire.

**Proclamation Telecommunicator's Week**

Mayor Johnson read a proclamation declaring the week of April 12-18, 2009, *National Telecommunicator's Week.* He presented the proclamation to Communications Supervisor Erica Brown.

**Easter Egg Hunt Recap**

A photo slide show highlighted the annual Easter egg hunt sponsored by the City and the Fife Lions Club. A Fife Lions Club representative thanked Mill Ridge Village residents who helped stuff plastic eggs with candy.

**Tacoma Sports Commission Update**

A representative of the Tacoma-Pierce County Sports Commission (TPCSC) provided supplemental information to the Council on 2008 and 2009 activities and events. Each event is broken down to reflect direct spending, which consists of hotel revenues, but not incidental spending. Fife is one of six funding partners. The City's investment represents 37.5% of the TPCSC's annual budget. During the first quarter of the year, major events generated 2,800 room nights in Fife. The

"Rainier Challenge" in May on River Road was added to 2nd quarter activities. Approximately 240 room nights are already booked for the event.

**TRCVB Update**

Tammy Blount, President and CEO, Tacoma Regional Convention and Visitor Bureau (TRCVB), provided information on tourism impacts for 2008 and 2009 year-to-date:

- Visitor spending in Fife in 2008 was $82.4 million.
- Local and state tax revenues totaled $2 million and $3.8 million, respectively.
- Approximately 990 jobs in Fife are supported by the tourism industry.
- Tourism generates $400 in tax revenue for each household in Washington State.
- Tourism is Washington's fourth largest export industry.

The TRCVB sales team distributed 21 leads to Fife in the first quarter. The leads are a direct result of sales initiatives and afford an opportunity of up to 6,141 hotel nights. A second sales staff person was added in February 2009.

Ms. Blount reviewed 2009 revenues and expenses. A majority of expenses are related to sales and marketing activities.

**Emergency Medical Services EMS Levy**

Jim Duggins, Assistant Chief, Tacoma Fire Department, introduced Mike Fitzgerald, Assistant to the Fire Chief for Finance and Data Management, and recognized Local 31 leaders in attendance. Chief Duggins provided information on the Fire District 10 Emergency Medical Services (EMS) Medic One levy. With the April 28, 2009 mail-in special election, voters in Fire District 10 are asked to renew another six-year EMS Medic One property tax levy. The previous six-year levy expired in December 2008. If approved, Fire District 10 can levy up to 50 cents for each $1,000 of assessed valuation in 2010. A property owner of a $200,000 home would pay $8.34 a month.

Assistant Chief Duggins reviewed EMS services Fire District 10 provides Fife residents.

Councilmember Godwin asked whether Rural Metro Ambulance provides transport services. Mr. Duggins affirmed basic life support (BLS) transport is provided. If a call doesn't meet advanced life support (ALS) transport criteria, the patient can be transported by Rural Metro, which charges for the service.

Councilmember Godwin asked whether Fife could contract with another ambulance provider. Mr. Duggins advised that staff could research that option; however, the contract was competitively bid. Of the three vendors submitting bids, Rural Metro provides the best services for citizens within the entire service area. Councilmember Godwin commented that the vendor's service is poor and expensive, and he's not supportive of the proposed levy.

Councilmember Hull noted that the request is not an increase in property taxes.

The voters will be asked to renew a tax already in place.

Mr. Duggins described unintended consequences if the levy fails that could include moving the Medic One ambulance outside the fire district.

The Council discussed costs to residents in addition to property taxes for EMS services. Mr. Duggins clarified that the EMS levy pays for first response for any emergency medical service call. If a patient meets ALS criteria, Medic One ambulance transports the patient to the hospital. The patient's insurance is billed for the cost. There is no out-of-pocket cost to the patient for service if the levy is in effect. Patients are given transportation options to the hospital by Rural Metro for 911 calls not meeting ALS criteria. The patient is financially responsible for those costs.

Mr. Duggins responded to questions about service calls within the City. There have been approximately 2,100 ALS, BLS, and emergency fire response calls within the City. Mayor Johnson said the service is vital. The Council is legally unable to take an official position on the special levy. He encouraged Fife citizens to support the levy.

## PUBLIC HEARING

**Pierce County Library District Annexation**

City Manager Worthington reported the Council will take an action at the April 28, 2009 meeting on whether to initiate annexation to the Pierce County Library District (PCLD) on the November ballot. He provided an overview of discussions to date exploring options for library services. Three approaches evaluated include:

- Status quo (Fife provides library services by reimbursing City residents for the cost of a library card for Puyallup or Tacoma libraries).
- The City directly providing library services.
- Annex into the PCLD.

The Council and PCLD reached a mutual understanding on the level of library service if annexation is approved. Fife citizens would be eligible to receive PCLD library cards immediately following certification of the November 3, 2009 election results. PCLD will provide a branch library of at least 5,500 square feet of leased space within the City commencing June 1, 2011. The library district and the City will work cooperatively to plan for the development of a permanent branch in Fife no smaller than 6,500 square feet if the Board of Trustees seeks bonding. It's estimated property owners will pay approximately 43 cents for each $1,000 of assessed valuation beginning in 2011. A homeowner with a $300,000 home would pay approximately $129 a year in additional property tax.

City Manager Worthington reported on several e-mail communications to staff concerning the issue.

Mayor Johnson opened the public hearing at 8:05 p.m.

**Public Testimony**

**Neel Parikh, Library Director**, reported PCLD representatives met with stakeholders in February to discuss the vision for library service within the local communities. Stakeholders believe libraries help build community, provide spaces for gatherings and learning, and improve the quality of life. She reviewed an illustration of a 6,000 square-foot leased facility.

**Mike Porter, Tacoma Diesel and Equipment, 444 54th Avenue East**, described how his business has been severely impacted by the economic downtown. The idea of the library is a good one. However, other services are needed more, such as a grocery store and post office. Now is not the right time for a tax levy. He suggested tabling the annexation to PCLD for several years. Most business owners don't have an opportunity to vote.

**Fred Thomas 4704 12th Street East**, said he's not opposed to a library, but is opposed to the annexation at this time. It's the wrong time to ask the voters for more money. He proposed tabling the issue for several years.

**Diane Kerlin, Edgewood**, described her work experience as a public librarian for 40 years. A concern is that Fife residents don't have library service. All Pierce County residents pay taxes for library service except for citizens living Fircrest, Carbonado, Ruston, and Fife. If voters pass the annexation, they are eligible for a library card entitling them to the same service as all citizens within the district. PCLD has reciprocal use agreements with other library systems. Edgewood does not have a branch library. The 6,000 square foot facility promised to Fife is twice the size of the Milton branch, which is a generous bonus to Fife residents. She urged the Council to put the issue on the November ballot and to vote yes for library service in Fife.

**Cheryl Creed, 6766 Radiance Boulevard East**, asked the Council to reject placing the annexation on the ballot at this time. She agreed with Councilmember de Booy's idea of creating a combined Fife/Milton library. She could support the annexation if the proposal is revised.

**Nancy Pearson, League of Women Voters of Tacoma/Pierce County**, reported the organization conducted a study of library services in Pierce County. There are four cities in the county that do not provide direct library service to its citizens and subsidizes the cost of a card to individuals or families for another library system. The League believes the practice short changes people who call Fife home. A library creates community for all ages, contributes to the quality of life for all residents, and is a vital resource for lifelong learning. As a result of the study, the League supports free access to public library services funded by all taxpayers. During these tough economic times, people are using library resources to look for work, create resumes, and develop new skills. The League hopes the City will support annexation to the county's library system. Ms. Pearson urged Fife residents to learn how they can benefit from access to their own library.

**Carol Mozier, 6409 40th Street Court East**, asked the Council to postpone the matter until the economy improves. An additional property tax of approximately $150 a year is a hardship. Ms. Mozier referred to the 34 homes in the Saddle Creek development that are currently in foreclosure. Fife residents are unable to pay their current property taxes let alone additional property taxes.

**Leonard Sanderson, Milton**, provided an historical overview of Milton's library experience and annexation to the PCLD.

**Jim Call, 2804 Holm Road East**, spoke on the importance convenient access to library service was to him and his family when he grew up. The City attempted to annex to PCLD 10 years ago. There is never a right time. However, citizens can take advantage of the variety of programs offered by the library system when economic times are bad. It's time the City has what other cities consider to be a major anchor in a community - a library. He hopes the Council will vote to place the issue on the November ballot to let voters decide.

**David Riley, Saddle Creek resident**, said he's a card-carrying member of the Puyallup Library. He recently received a notice in the mail that the Puyallup Library will no longer provide service to him beginning in 2010. He proposed exploring basic library services including access to computers and suggested limiting the library to only books and computers.

**Jennifer Wells, 1410 62nd Avenue East**, referred to a new apartment building in Fife occupied by many Korean residents. Annexation to PCLD would give them access to Korean language materials. Property values have decreased, which means property taxes will decrease. Fife residents would pay $8 monthly as part of the district. It makes sense to have access to materials, such as free movies, CDs, books, and magazines, when people are struggling financially. It's important for youth to have convenient access to a local library. She asked the Council to initiate the annexation and put the issue on the November ballot.

**Mike Seeger, Fife Flowers, 1504 54th Avenue East**, said he lives in the Fife Heights area and has a Pierce County library card. Fife needs a library. He said he's working to contact local business owners to inform them about the annexation. Mr. Seeger asked the Council to keep the written record open until the next regular Council meeting. He spoke in favor of a tax increase to support a library in Fife. Placing the matter on the ballot allows voters to make the decision.

**Carol Sue Brighton, 2410 Berry Lane East**, said she pays for a Tacoma Library card. She asked the Council not to place the annexation issue on the November ballot. Property owners cannot afford a tax increase at this time. Fife's reimbursement to City residents for the cost of a library card to access the Tacoma Library is the best solution.

**Dale Reese, 7519 48th Street East**, reported he's not in favor of annexation to

PCLD during tough economic times. One parcel in Fife is assessed at $169 million. A tax increase for that property would be significant. Property owners will pass tax increases to tenants.

**Monte Dagger, CB Richard Ellis Commercial Real Estate and leasing agent for Transpacific Industrial Park**, said the assessed value for Transpacific Industrial Park is approximately $98 million. Transpacific would pay an additional $42,700 annually in property taxes if annexation to PCLD is successful. That cost will be passed on to park tenants. Several businesses have closed recently. Other business owners are asking to renegotiate monthly lease rates by extending the length of the lease giving them flexibility to meet monthly expenses. Mr. Dagger said he's not opposed to library service in Fife. However, now is not the right time for a property tax increase.

**Robert MacDonald, 1308 15th Avenue, Milton**, testified that libraries are a great place to spend extra time. Book tapes help him with his long-haul trucking job. A library provides services for citizens of all ages. Computers are a valuable resource for citizens seeking jobs. He suggested the City should research whether it can extend a break and/or tax exemption for larger business owners.

Mayor Johnson closed at the public hearing 8:58 p.m. The written record will remain open until April 21, 2009.

In response to comments on different property tax rates, staff indicated additional information concerning individual levy rates will be provided to the Council at the April 28, 2009 meeting.

**COUNCIL DELEGATE REPORT**

Councilmember Godwin reported on his involvement in preparing the float for the Daffodil Parade and his participation in the parade. He thanked volunteers who helped build and decorate the float. Involvement by the community was impressive. A dozen Boy Scouts rode on the float from neighboring cities. The float placed first for cities with populations of 10,000 or less.

Councilmember Hull reported on his attendance to the grand opening of World Vision's Northwest Headquarters facility in Fife. He also attended a breakfast at the Tacoma City Club. Congressman Adam Smith spoke on budget challenges at the federal level and national security issues. Councilmember Hull participated in his first Easter egg hunt with his son. Councilmember Hull reported on a roundtable discussion concerning school impact fees with the Puyallup and Fife School Districts and Master Builders Association on April 15, 2009 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. at City Hall.

Councilmember Brooks reported on his attendance to the Tacoma City Club meeting featuring Congressman Smith as well as to the monthly RAMP meeting with Director Blount. He advocated for the City's funding request for the next budget cycle.

Councilmember de Booy reported she attended the World Vision grand opening on behalf of Mayor Johnson and a Chamber of Commerce lunch with City Manager Worthington featuring Attorney General Rob McKenna as the guest speaker. On April 11, 2009, she attended the Police Reserve graduation at Pacific Lutheran University (PLU). She helped decorate the daffodil float the night before the parade. Councilmember Godwin did a marvelous job on the float.

Councilmember Roscoe reported the City's Information Services (IS) Department is launching a new program called "Q&A" on the City's website on April 15, 2009. Residents can post questions, concerns, and kudos, which can be routed to appropriate department(s). Questions and concerns are time stamped. The new tool provides access to citizens who use the internet for this type of communication.

**ORDINANCES AND RESOLUTIONS**

**ORDINANCES**

**#1695; Unlawful Transit Conduct**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Ordinance #1695; Unlawful Transit Conduct.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Ordinance #1695:

*An ordinance of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, regarding unlawful transit conduct, and amending Fife Municipal Code section 9.77.010 and adding a new section 9.77.020.*

Assistant Chief Mears reported public transportation continues to grow. Adopting the same unlawful transit conduct ordinance as neighboring jurisdictions will improve enforcement and prosecution efforts. The ordinance enhances the City's partnership with Pierce Transit. The Police Department supports adoption of the ordinance.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**RESOLUTIONS**

**#1280; Accept 70th Avenue Culvert Contract as Complete**

*Councilmember Godwin left the meeting.*

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1280; Accept 70th Avenue Culvert Contract as Complete.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1280:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, accepting the contract construction work on Wapato Creek culvert replacement project at 70th Avenue East with E.J. Rody & Sons, Inc., as complete.*

Director Blount reported the culvert replacement work is completed. The project was finished under the original contract amount. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1280 as submitted.

Discussion followed on some minor settlement issues that will be addressed during the final lift of asphalt within the next phase of construction. Director Blount confirmed the estimated cost for the asphalt lift removed from the contract is $36,500.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1296; Approving a City Identity Theft Policy**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1296; Approving a City Identity Theft Policy.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1296:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Washington, adopting an identity theft policy.*

Director Marcotte reported municipalities handling sensitive credit information are required to adopt rules regarding identify theft as mandated by the Fair and Accurate Credit Transaction Act. He referred the Council to Exhibit A and the policy concerning identification of red flags. A "red flag" means a pattern, practice, or specific activity indicating the possible existence of identity theft. The Association of Washington Cities (AWC) provided cities with training, model resolutions, and policies meeting the requirements of the Federal Trade Commission. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1296 as proposed.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1297; Approve Purchase of In-car Video Systems**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1297; Approve Purchase of In-car Video Systems.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1297:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to purchase in-car digital video systems for the Police Department.*

Director Blount reported the Public Works Department is installing the video systems and is responsible for maintenance of the cameras. Funds for the purchase are included in the 2009 budget. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1297.

City Manager Worthington addressed questions from Councilmember Brooks on the specific fund for the equipment and the number of vehicles owned by the Police Department. The source of funding is the Fleet Fund. The account is funded with payments accumulated over time from general fund sources. The Police Department owns 33 vehicles. The program has been reduced and field Lieutenants will not have cameras installed in their vehicles at this time. He described benefits the cameras provide.

Councilmember Brooks acknowledged that the cameras are a great tool. He questioned whether it would be more beneficial to allocate $28,000 to assist in hiring police officers. Assistant Chief Mears provided an overview of the history of the department's camera systems program.

Mayor Johnson asked whether cameras film from the interior of vehicles. Assistant Chief Mears advised that cameras film externally and directly in front of the car.

Councilmember de Booy expressed similar concerns about expending funds for cameras when the City needs more police officers.

Mayor Johnson asked whether drug fund monies could be used to cover camera costs. City Manager Worthington advised that staff can follow up and research the use of other restricted funds, such as criminal justice funds.

Councilmember Brooks said he'll reluctantly support the motion and suggested the City needs to exercise caution in spending, particularly from the general fund.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1299; Approve Pierce County Water Service Boundary Agreement**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1299; Approve Pierce County Water Service Boundary Agreement.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1299:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with Pierce County establishing the City's water service area boundary.*

Director Blount reported during Pierce County's review of Fife's draft water comprehensive plan, county staff noted minor discrepancies between the boundaries shown in Fife's plan and boundaries depicted in Milton's plans. The proposed agreement accepts the county's interpretation of the appropriate boundaries. The only areas within Fife located within another provider's jurisdiction involve the far north end of the Gather Place site and the Firwood and Eggmann private systems. The northernmost end of the Gathering Place site is not likely to be developed in a manner requiring domestic water. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1299 as proposed.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1300; Authorize Supplement #10 to DEA Contract for Valley Avenue Design**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1300; Authorize Supplement #10 to DEA Contract for Valley Avenue Design.**

Director Blount reported the resolution implements changes associated with Resolution #1298. He recommended considering Resolution #1300 after Resolution #1298.

***The makers agreed to table the motion following Resolution #1298.***

**#1301; Authorize Interlocal Agreement with Port of Tacoma Regarding EIS**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1301; Authorize Interlocal Agreement with Port of Tacoma Regarding EIS.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1301:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing an interlocal agreement with the Port of Tacoma regarding truck related transportation impacts, and impacts to Wapato Creek from the Blair-Hylebos Terminal redevelopment project.*

City Manager Worthington reported Resolution #1301 approves an interlocal agreement with the Port of Tacoma and impacts associated with proposed construction and redevelopment activities for property on the Blair-Hylebos peninsula. The Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) did not adequately address or provide mitigation for impacts to the City or Wapato Creek. The agreement provides a mechanism for the Port and City to address those two areas of mutual concern as it relates to impacts caused by projects under the Port's control. The Port Commission approved the agreement on April 7, 2009.

Councilmember Hull commended staff, legal counsel, and the Port for reaching agreement.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**#1298; Execute an Agreement with David Cross for Acquisition of an Easement for Right-of-Way**

**Motion**

**Councilmember Roscoe moved, seconded by Councilmember Hull, to approve Resolution #1298; Execute an Agreement with David Cross for Acquisition of an Easement for Right-of-Way.**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1298:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing the City Manager to execute an agreement with David Cross for the acquisition by the City of Fife of a right-of-way easement on a portion of tax parcel nos. 0420172705 and 0420172022.*

Director Blount reported the request constitutes the last purchase and sale agreement for the Valley Avenue construction project. The property will be used for City easement purposes. The property is owned by the United States in Trust for David Cross, an enrolled member of the Puyallup Tribe of Indians. City Manager Worthington negotiated an agreement with Mr. Cross for approximately $400,000, which Mr. Cross accepted. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1298.

**Motion**

**Councilmember Hull moved, seconded by Councilmember Roscoe, to amend the motion and authorize the City Manager to make such changes to the agreement as may be necessary to obtain right-of-way certification for the 70th and Valley project. Motion carried unanimously.**

**Motion**

**The motion as amended carried unanimously.**

**Reconsideration of Motion for #1300; Authorize Supplement #10 to DEA Contract for Valley Avenue Design**

City Clerk/Finance Director Marcotte read the title of Resolution #1300:

*A resolution of the City Council of the City of Fife, Pierce County, Washington, authorizing additional services by David Evans and Associates for documentation regarding right-of-way negotiations, geotechnical, and other engineering tasks associated with the 70th and Valley corridor.*

Director Blount reported Mr. Cross would like to place fill on his property necessitating the removal of a retaining wall, adjacent drainage, and other engineering features associated with removal of the retaining wall. Review of the design specifications and recent bid results indicate cost savings can be attained if project specific requirements for gravel borrow could be established. The preparation of a custom specification for gravel borrow may save hundreds of thousands of dollars relative to the price for WSDOT standard fill material. The fiscal impact for the supplement is $70,319. Staff recommends approval of Resolution #1300.

**Motion**

**Motion carried unanimously.**

**NEW BUSINESS**

**Lakewood Jail Contract**

Assistant Chief Mears reported he and Police Chief Blackburn reviewed the jail division and the business model in August 2008. Subsequently, the City of Lakewood is the latest to sign with Fife for contract services, which is currently effective.

City Manager Worthington reported the contract with the City of Lakewood will provide some additional revenues to the City.

Staff received a contract signed by the Department of Corrections earlier in the day. It is estimated the two contracts will save the City approximately $120,000 in the general fund.

Councilmember de Booy asked about housing inmates if Fife's facility is full. Assistant Chief Mears said most police departments have primary and secondary housing contracts. For example, Fife does not accept females. The City has contracts with the cities of Puyallup and Buckley to house female offenders. Fife can also turn away offenders when it's determined the City is unable to handle an offender's specific needs.

Mayor Johnson pointed out that the contract states Lakewood's portion of the booking fee is $20. The press release attached to the staff report states Fife bills the inmate for the booking fee. City Manager Worthington advised that the City attempt to collect the $20 booking fee from offenders.

**CITY MANAGER REPORT**

City Manager Worthington reported on the following:

- A public hearing on the loading dock door tax was rescheduled from May 12, 2009 to May 26, 2009 because of a scheduling conflict.
- Mayor Johnson, Councilmember Hull, and City Manager Worthington are traveling to Washington D.C., the second week in May to meet with Congressman Smith and thank him for his efforts in working to secure $1.8 million in funding for Phase 2 of the 70th Street project.
- City Manager Worthington reported he joined Mike Porter who provided a tour of Fife to Attorney General Rob McKenna. Attorney General McKenna was impressed with the quality of Fife's business community.
- The City's Web Q&I feature launches on April 15, 2009. The Council will receive periodic updates.
- The Washington City Managers/Administrators Conference in Vancouver was informative. A regional economist with U.S. Bank provided a presentation on current economic data. Councilmembers were provided with copies of the economic information.

**COUNCILMEMBER COMMENTS**

Councilmember Hull indicated he would like to learn more about the AVTT and Traveling Wall. He suggested scheduling the request during the Council's May study session.

Councilmembers Cerqui, de Booy, and Roscoe thanked citizens for attending the public hearing and providing testimony on the potential annexation to PCLD.

Councilmember de Booy said she likes the idea of Fife creating a library or collaborating with other cities to create a regional library.

Mayor Johnson advised that the Mayor's forum is scheduled for April 16, 2009 at Fife Flowers. A joint meeting with the Growth Management Coordinating Committee (GMCC) and the TCC is scheduled for April 23, 2009 at 10:00 a.m. in Sumner. He extended a special thank you to everyone who helped Councilmember Godwin with the daffodil float.

Mayor Johnson provided Councilmembers with copies of an article printed in a local newspaper in Mesa, Arizona. The article discusses how the City of Scottsdale is dealing with budget shortfalls and the economic crisis. Furloughs seem to be a common approach to address budget deficits while enabling the retention of staff.

**RECESS**

**Mayor Johnson recessed the regular meeting to a study session at 10:03 p.m.**

**2010 BUDGET PLANNING WORKSHOP**

**Overview of Court**

Judge Ringus briefed the Council on the Court's 2008 budget, actual 2008 expenditures, and the 2009 budget for the Administration, Probation, and Security Divisions. Judge Ringus reviewed current and organizational staffing chart.

Court Clerk Andrea Brown was hired in December 2008 and Office Assistant/File Clerk Michelle Brown was hired on April 16, 2009 to assist with activities generated by the red light enforcement program. A full time position new to the Court this year is the Bailiff, which is filled with three part-time employees.

Judge Ringus reviewed year-to-date caseloads. Approximately 2,733 cases were filed representing a 26% increase compared to first quarter 2008. Red light photo filings have increased 44% over the same time as last year.

The Court collected 27% more in fines, costs, and assessments compared to the first quarter of 2008. The amounts do not include funds paid directly to RedFlex, which manages the City's red light photo enforcement program.

Challenges facing the Court include the addition of 39 commissioned tribal officers, collection amnesty in May and June, and space constraints. Judge Ringus reported the Court hosts a monthly roundtable the first Thursday of the month during lunch.

Councilmember Brooks asked whether any of the red light photo enforcement revenues fund staff supporting the program. Judge Ringus advised that some of the positions are revenue dependent. City Manager Worthington added that revenues generated from red light photo enforcement pay direct costs associated with managing the program.

Discussion ensued on the addition of commissioned tribal officers. Judge Ringus reported that many of the tribal officers have commission authority with Pierce County and have the right to stop motorists in Fife. The agreement allows tribal officers to stop people on tribal property. However, the Chief doesn't believe it's possible to limit the ability of tribal officers stopping motorists off tribal property.

In response to a request from Mayor Johnson on a revenue projection for 2009, Administrator Dowty presented a current Court revenue analysis. Judge Ringus said many of the accounts are tracking above projected levels.

City Manager Worthington reported on the established collections process for the red light photo enforcement program.

Councilmember Brooks thanked Judge Ringus for providing the Council with a transparent and easy to understand financial information.

**ADJOURNMENT**

**With there being no further business, Mayor Johnson adjourned the meeting at 10:26 p.m.**

Barry Johnson, Mayor

Steve Marcotte, City Clerk/Finance Director

Prepared by Cheri Lindgren, Recording Secretary
Puget Sound Meeting Services