

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
September 22, 2014

CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Monohon called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m. Council Member Weissenfels led the Pledge of Allegiance.

ROLL CALL

Council members present: Breidenbach, Brager, Hinchin, Hillcar, Weissenfels and Mayor Monohon. Staff present: Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, Bart, Police Administrator and Zellar, Public Works Director.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Hinchin, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Lissy Andros, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director thanked everyone who attended the Stephenie Meyer Day (SMD) open house at the Visitor Center. She listed several events coming up including the Last Chance Salmon Derby October 4th and 5th, Hickory Shirt/Heritage Days October 8th – 11th and the Wine & Cheese Chamber fundraiser on November 8th.

Dave Youngberg stated that he has had issues with neighbor's dogs barking all night.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held September 8, 2014 by Brager, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

2. Motion to approve the manual claim checks numbered 30866 and 090814 for \$180,694.45 and 30926 for \$132.50, claim checks numbered 30867 to 30907 for \$33,199.02 and payroll checks numbered 30908 to 30925 for \$113,417.06 by Brager, second Hillcar, motion carried.

3. Motion to approve the August 2014 Treasurer's Report by Weissenfels, second Brager, motion carried.

4. Motion to set a public hearing on October 13, 2014 for the Sarff-Murner-Haight Annexation by Brager, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

5. Set Public Hearing Date for Amendments to Forks Municipal Code Chapter 6.05

Attorney/Planner Fleck reviewed recent revisions to the draft made as a result of the last public hearing. Discussion ensued regarding further revisions.

The definition of “under control” while in a vehicle was revised to state, “In a vehicle where the dog’s snout is not extending past the perimeter of the vehicle, and the dog is not acting in an aggressive manner;”. (Emphasis added.) Many aspects of the leash requirement were discussed. It was determined that the leash law would remain in the draft amendment. It was also determined that the defenses regarding a “potentially dangerous” and a “dangerous” dog should be consistent.

Motion to set a public hearing on October 13, 2014 to review Amendments to Forks Municipal Code Chapter 6.05 Regarding Animals by Brager, second Hillcar, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Review of New Code Regarding Collection of Animals

Attorney/Planner Fleck reviewed some points of the code. The code would require persons maintaining 11 or more animals to obtain an animal collector’s license. Council Member Weissenfels stated that Council should consider simply prohibiting residents from owning more than 10 companion animals, rather than regulating and issuing licenses. Much discussion ensued regarding the definition of a companion animal.

Council Member Hinchen requested that the code be revised to include notification of neighbors upon issuance of a collector’s license. Attorney/Planner Fleck will incorporate suggested revisions into the draft code for further discussion.

2. Council Member Reports

Council Member Brager reported that the Stephenie Meyer Day event has a huge positive impact for lodging establishments. He stated that as the owner of a lodging establishment, he would abstain from voting on any SMD business brought before the Council in order to avoid a conflict of interest. He also stated that he has enjoyed the debate regarding amendments to the City code.

Council Member Hinchen noted that the freshly painted fire hydrants look great. (The hydrants were painted by the City’s Public Works Crew.) He also reported that one disc golf goal has been installed at Tillicum Park. Hinchen inquired about the status of the Community Emergency Response Team (CERT) training. Police Administrator Bart stated that the trainer retired and he will need to find another trainer.

Council Member Hillcar inquired about the report of dogs at large within the County. He felt this would be an opportune time for a discussion with the County regarding a cooperative agreement for animal control.

Council Member Weissenfels reported that she recently traveled around the Pacific Northwest and noted improvements to some towns. Also, the Friends of Forks Animals garage sale raised over \$1,500.

3. Staff Reports

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom informed Council that Caryn Depew and Ginger Simons will be attending the Vision Software conference in October. Also, the jail trailer is currently being auctioned on PublicSurplus.com and today was the deadline to make application for Lodging Tax Funds.

Public Works Director Zellar met with Department of Transportation (DOT) staff today. DOT is considering a mill and fill project on Highway 101 through Forks, which would include changing out 12-14 handicapped ramps. (Milling and filling is the process of grinding asphalt with a milling machine, removing the debris, and installing new asphalt.) Funding for the project is not yet secure.

Police Administrator Bart reported that the new jail trailer is installed and operational. There are still no arrests in the Native to Twilight case. Also, a suspect has been identified in the City Compound theft.

Special Presentation: At this time Mayor Monohon presented Attorney/Planner Fleck with a plaque commemorating 20 years of exemplary service to the City of Forks.

Attorney/Planner Fleck has been involved in efforts to restructure the Clallam County Economic Development Council. He took part in a discussion with the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council regarding wave and wind energy. He attended the community prayer meeting at the Lutheran Church. He gave a tour of the City to Tom Beckwith of Beckwith Consulting Group, who has been hired to update our Growth Management Plan. Also, he has a meeting planned for October 14th regarding the Rainforest Arts Center use and fee schedule.

4. Mayor's Report

Mayor Monohon stated that the Stephenie Meyer Day event at the Visitor Center was fun and well organized. He also attended the Clallam Transit meeting last Monday and the community prayer meeting at the Lutheran Church. The Board of Health meeting was cancelled.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Hillcar, second Hinchon, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:21 p.m.



Bryon Monohon, Mayor



Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer