

City of Forks  
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session  
City Council Chambers  
November 9, 2015

**CALL TO ORDER AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

Mayor Monohon called the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m. Kevin Hinchon led the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ROLL CALL**

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

**MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Chamber of Commerce Executive Director Lissy Andros announced that the Chamber's annual Wine & Cheese fundraiser is this Saturday, where the business, citizen and volunteer of the year awards will be announced. Council Member Weissenfels has been nominated for Citizen of the Year.

Bob Kratzer, City Representative to the Steelhead/Cutthroat Policy Advisory Group expressed dismay over the letter sent by Council regarding recommendations for steelhead management. He stated that several individuals are traveling to Olympia on Saturday to voice their concerns to the Commission. He felt that reliable data is needed in order to make informed decisions.

Kevin Hinchon stated that the City Council's recommendations have an impact on outcomes for fish and expressed the need to slow down and get more data.

Aaron O'Leary with the Olympic Peninsula Guides Association (OPGA) stated that if necessary, they are willing to move fast to save the fishery, but they need evidence first.

Bill Meyer with OPGA pointed out that the groups that are organizing the proposals are well-backed and have an agenda. He expressed concern with the future of the guide industry if these recommendations are adopted.

**ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Motion** to approve the minutes of the Regular Meeting held October 26, 2015 by Breidenbach, second Brager, motion carried.

**2. Motion** to approve the manual claim checks numbered 32367 to 32369 for \$8,744.13, payroll checks numbered 32370 to 32387 for \$105,600.12; and claim checks numbered 32388 to 32421 for \$65,679.52 by Brager, second Hillcar, motion carried.

**3. 2016 Budget Hearing**

Mayor Monohon opened the 2016 Budget Hearing. Lissy Andros clarified the hearing schedule. This is the first of three hearings, with the next held November 23<sup>rd</sup> and the final held December 7<sup>th</sup>. Mayor Monohon closed the 2016 Budget Hearing.

**4. Revenue Sources/Property Tax Hearing & Property Tax Resolution**

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom read the expected 2016 revenues by category. She stated that a 1% increase is an increase on the amount of property tax levied last year, which would amount to \$3,408.65.

Mayor Monohon opened the Revenue Sources/Property Tax Hearing. There were no public comments. Mayor Monohon closed the Revenue Sources/Property Tax Hearing.

Discussion ensued regarding the apparent passage of the Fire District #1 property tax levy and its impact on taxpayers.

**Motion** to approve Resolution #448 with no increase in the 2016 regular property tax levy by Hillcar, second McGinley, motion carried.

**5. Funding for Additional Coho Smolt Production**

Attorney/Planner Fleck reviewed discussions that have occurred with Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife, the Quileute Tribe, and the North Olympic Sport Fishing Coalition regarding funding possibilities for raising an additional 100,000 coho smolt. All parties involved have agreed to split the cost of \$20,000 to WDFW.

**Motion** to authorize the City to utilize Lodging Tax funds to pay an amount not to exceed \$6,700 to the Quileute Tribe, in the effort to fund the raising of an additional 100,000 coho smolt by WDFW by Breidenbach, second Hillcar, motion carried.

**6. Public Hearing for Review of Water Use Efficiency (WUE) Program**

Mayor Monohon reviewed the requirements under the WUE Program and opened the public hearing. There were no public comments. Mayor Monohon closed the public hearing.

**7. Resolution #447 Sponsoring Clallam Transit System (CTS) for Membership in the Association of Washington Cities (AWC) Workers' Compensation Program**

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that Clallam Transit would like to join the AWC program and needs to have a sponsoring member, since they are not a city. There is no financial liability to the City of Forks in doing so.

**Motion** to approve Resolution #447 sponsoring CTS for membership in the AWC Workers' Compensation Program by Brager, second McGinley, motion carried.

## 8. City Recommendation to Fish & Wildlife Commission Regarding Management of North Coastal Steelhead

Council Member Hillcar stated that he would like to revise the City's recommendations to WDFW regarding steelhead management, specifically restrictions placed on the use of bait.

Council Member Brager expressed regret over the hurried nature of the vote. He reported that he sent a letter to WDFW stating that he had voted against approving the letter, based on the limitation concerning the use of bait. He asked Bob Kratzer to give his opinion of the City Council's letter.

Bob Kratzer stated that he took issue with the recommendation to limit bait. Council Member Brager then polled the audience. All those present indicated that they disagreed with the recommendation to limit the use of bait.

Council Member Breidenbach spoke to the fact that Council had discussion on this matter and voted. He stated that action needs to be taken to save the fishery and that the Hoh is not meeting escapement levels. He felt that the letter should not be rescinded unless they could hear testimony from experts.

Council Member McGinley reported that she also sent a letter to WDFW stating that she doesn't agree with the bait issue and that WDFW needs to increase enforcement of current regulations, before implementing additional rules.

Council Member Weissenfels felt the issue of fly fishermen disturbing the spawning beds also needs to be addressed. She affirmed that she agreed with the letter that was sent to WDFW.

**Motion** to revise the City's recommendation to WDFW regarding limit of use of bait by Hillcar, second Brager, motion carried 3-2 with Breidenbach and Weissenfels against.

## DISCUSSION ITEMS

### 1. Council Member Reports

**Council Member Breidenbach** attended last Friday's talk about crows held at the ONRC. It was very well attended. The next talk will feature Jack Zaccardo and his collection of old logging photos.

**Council Member Brager** congratulated Jon Preston on winning the election for City Council. He also thanked everyone who volunteered and made the mandolin concerts a success.

**Council Member McGinley** reported that she has learned a lot about steelhead over the last two weeks. Also, she appreciated the mandolin concert.

**Council Member Hillcar** inquired about the status of the Transit Center rent. Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom stated that Olympic National Park is still in arrears in the

amount of \$5,107. Council Member Hillcar requested that the Transit Center facility be considered for a police outpost. He also thanked Council for the thoughtful deliberation regarding steelhead management.

**Council Member Weissenfels** attended the Clallam County Homelessness Task Force meeting last week, where they heard a presentation from County Jail staff regarding addiction. She also attended the mandolin concert.

## **2. Staff Reports**

**Public Works Director Hampton** reported that he attended a basic water workshop and training on building code. He obtained a hydraulics permit to complete ditch work on Russell Road to mitigate water over the roadway. He also reported that staff will attend additional GIS training and that he will assist with meter reading next week.

Council Member Hillcar noted the work being done by Archie Larson and complimented him for a job well done.

**Police Administrator Bart** stated that four officers will attend an Emergency Vehicle Operators Course next week. He reported that there was a large drug bust and seizure last week. He wrote a letter to the Forks Forum responding to last week's article by Penny Winn.

**Attorney/Planner Fleck** reported that Ms. Winn came into the office today. They had a discussion regarding felonies versus misdemeanors. She was encouraged to call the police if she sees something suspicious. He also informed Council that Congressman Kilmer will attend a meeting with the Olympic Collaborative on December 4<sup>th</sup>.

## **3. Mayor's Report**

**Mayor Monohon** attended the Clallam Transit System budget workshop last week along with Council Member Weissenfels.

## **4. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn by Breidenbach, second Brager, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 9:36 p.m.

  
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Bryon Monohon, Mayor

  
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Audrey Grafstrom  
Clerk/Treasurer