City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Special Session
City Council Chambers
500 East Division Street
November 9, 2015
5:30 P.M.

ROLL CALL

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

2016 Budget Workshop

Mayor Monohon invited those present to speak about their applications for Lodging Tax funds and to answer any questions from Council.

Lissy Andros, Chamber of Commerce Executive Director reported on the Chamber's activities and marketing efforts. At the end of September, the Visitor Center numbers had already surpassed all of 2014. Lodging Tax receipts have seen a large increase, which could be attributed to the Chamber's marketing.

Ms. Andros then spoke about the success of the 2015 Forever Twilight in Forks Festival and the plans for 2016. According to surveys, many fans plan to attend the festival again and several have already booked lodging for next year.

Dan Trickey, President of the Forks Merchants Coed Softball Club reviewed plans for two softball tournaments to be held in 2016. He cited statistics regarding the influx of visitors and the amount of money spent in the community as a result of tournaments.

Linda Offutt, Manager of Forks Timber Museum reported that this year the museum will be open every day except for two weeks at Christmas. Many improvements have been made using mostly volunteer assistance and new exhibits are planned. The Museum has received an endowment of property, but those proceeds are limited to capital expenditures.

Bill Meyer, President of the Olympic Peninsula Guides Association stated that they are requesting funds to supplement the coho smolt production by the Department of Fish and Wildlife.

Marcia Yanish with the Piecemakers Quilt Club reported on the activities their club holds in conjunction with Rainfest. They had twice as many out-of-town participants this year. In 2016, the Club will also coordinate a quilting activity during the Forever Twilight in Forks Festival.

Sue Shane with the Rainforest Council for the Arts reviewed their request, which would be used to purchase sandwich boards and to assist in hosting contra dances.

Cary Bourm, President of West End Thunder reported that they have seen a decrease in the number of cars racing. They plan to hold four racing events next year and another Hot Thunder Nite event, which was very successful.

ADJOURNMENT

A recess was called at 7:12 p.m. and the Budget Workshop was adjourned to the Regular Council Meeting at 7:30 p.m.

Bryon Monohon, Mayor

Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer