

City of Forks  
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session  
City Council Chambers  
July 22, 2019 7:30 p.m.

**INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER**

Jerry Bowers, Forks Community Hospital Chaplain led the invocation. Council Member Weissenfels led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Fletcher then called the meeting to order.

**ROLL CALL**

Council members present: Preston, Brager, Soha, Hillcar, Weissenfels, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer, Hampton, Public Works Director, Rowley, Police Chief, and via telephone Fleck, Attorney/Planner.

**MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

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

**PUBLIC COMMENTS**

Joey Roberts, representing Alder Grove Mobile Home Park distributed a prepared statement from which he read, and a written list of questions to the Council and staff regarding the City's upcoming changes in the way mobile home parks are billed for City water. His statement focused on increased cost to residents of mobile home communities, which he said represent one third of the City population.

Laura Huling, co-owner of Wasankari Mobile Home Park noted that the City's stated October 1, 2019 implementation of the billing change does not give owners time to provide their tenants with the 90-day notice of any changes in their rent they are required to give. She also said that in two years, she had only been notified of water loss once.

Larry Huling, co-owner of Wasankari Mobile Home Park said that the park was a mess when they purchased it. At the City's recommendation, they went to great expense to install new water lines and radio-read meters so that tenants could be charged individually for water. The upcoming change in billing feels like a step backwards.

George Powers, owner of LGD Properties (The Grove) also read a prepared statement regarding changes to water billing for mobile home parks. He noted the fact that the letter of June 24, 2019 received from the City was the first he had heard of a water loss issue. He also said that three months is not enough time to notify tenants of changes to their current contracts, and then implement new contracts. In addition, as landlords, mobile home park owners are prevented by law from terminating or interrupting tenants' water service for non-payment, which represents another dilemma for them.

Harold Parker, owner of Broadview trailer court, noted his agreement with everything said by the other owners, and questioned why park owners have not been informed of

water loss all along. Until he received the letter of June 24, 2019, he had never been informed of any water loss in his park.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

**1. Motion** to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held July 8, 2019 by Soha, second Preston, motion carried.

**2. Motion** to approve payroll checks 37128 through 37143 for \$71,128.93, claim checks 37144 through 37183 and EFT 071119 for \$88,153.60 by Weissenfels, second Brager, motion carried.

**3. Motion** to approve the June 2019 Treasurer's Report by Hillcar second Weissenfels, motion carried.

### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

**1. 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019 Reports:** Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom reviewed the second quarter Building Permit Report.

#### **2. Council Member Reports**

**Council Member Brager** reminded everyone to turn in their primary ballots for City Council position 5.

**Council Member Soha** reported that the light on the radio station tower is working.

**Council Member Weissenfels** reported that she attended the annual meeting for users of a community well on San Juan Island that included a tour of their 20KG tank. As users, or even potential users, of that particular well, all are responsible for its upkeep and associated overhead. Properties serviced by the well pay a flat annual fee of \$1,000/year and properties without water service pay 75% or \$750/year. In addition, if a property backs out of this agreement, water service cannot be requested or reinstated in the future.

#### **3. Staff Reports**

**Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom** said that comments from mobile home park owners would be considered, questions answered, and concerns addressed as much as possible by Public Works Director Hampton, Attorney/Planner Fleck, Mayor Fletcher, and herself.

**Public Works Director Hampton** reported the 1MG tank should be filled next week. A second request for bids on the well house #4 project has been issued. A fence was erected around the damaged well house to discourage trespassing, but it must be secured (repaired) as soon as possible. Discussion with Jocelyne Gray, Regional Engineer for the Washington State Department of Health SW Office of Drinking Water indicated that the previous bid for the project was normal, especially given our location. Council Member Hillcar asked if there wasn't an alternative to CMU construction given its exclusive nature. The final building must be secure so poured concrete is an option, but such construction would likely incur engineering costs in addition to the project cost.

**Police Chief Rowley** said the radar sign is working well. He wants the public to be aware that new gun laws associated with I-1639 require owners to take a class prior to purchasing a semi-automatic rifle. He warns that caution should be observed in choosing a class, especially one found and conducted online, as they don't all meet the State-mandated requirements.

Council Member Hillcar asked whether any data had been pulled off the radar signs yet. Due to a busy schedule and technical difficulties, no data has yet been downloaded.

**Attorney/Planner Fleck** attended a planning meeting for a coastal economic resiliency summit to be held in May 2020, participated in a webinar on FAA grant assurances the City is bound to through FAA grants, and a West End Community Forest discussion.

#### **4. Mayor's Report**

Mayor Fletcher attended Quileute Days, and watched the Quileute Days fireworks from the U.S. Coast Guard Station Quillayute River's 47-foot motor lifeboat. He informed mobile home park owners attending the meeting that City staff would answer the submitted questions, and that individual appointments could be made with himself and Council members.

#### **5. ADJOURNMENT**

**Motion** to adjourn by Soha, second Preston, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

  
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Tim Fletcher, Mayor

  
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Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer