INVOCATION, PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER
Council Member Gilstrap led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Fletcher then called the meeting to order.

ROLL CALL
Council members present: Gilstrap, Gingell, Soha, Hillcar, Weissenfels, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: Simons, Deputy Clerk, Rowley, Police Chief, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, and Hampton, Public Works Director.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA
Motion to approve the agenda as presented by Hillcar, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

PUBLIC COMMENTS
Mark Kalamar lives on Two Cousins Drive and would like Calawah Way to be re-striped. When the road was striped after repaving in 2015, not enough shoulder was left at the corner of Calawah Way and Merchant Road. He feels it is dangerous for pedestrians and bicyclists.

Lissy Andros, Forks Chamber of Commerce reminded Council of the Mayor’s State of the City address scheduled to take place at the January 29 Chamber of Commerce meeting, and suggested people arrive early as it is generally well attended.

Mark Soderlind, Forks Old Fashioned 4th of July Committee received the contract for this year’s 4th of July fireworks. He passed around the contract showing what will be used in the display and what it will cost. The motto for this year’s celebration is E pluribus unum, which is Latin for “Out of many, one”.

George Powers, LGD Properties handed out copies of Forks Municipal Code section 13.05.070, parts of sections 13.05.080 and 13.10.10, and section 13.10.020 regarding sewer connections and rates. He has questions about wording of the Code, what it means for him as the owner of a mobile home park, and how Council interprets the Code. Mark Soderlind, owner of Marietta I and II mobile home parks says that he interprets the Code to mean that sewer is the responsibility of the person occupying the premises, i.e., individual tenants.

ACTION ITEMS
1. Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 13, 2020 by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried.
2. Motion to approve the payroll checks numbered 37817 through 37830 for $73,543.88, manual checks numbered 37831 through 37834 for $628,342.35, 13th period claim checks numbered 37835 through 37849 (check number 37850 voided) for $41,876.88, and claim checks numbered 37851 through 37862 for $267,204.43 by Weissenfels, second Soha, motion carried.

3. Clallam Transit System (CTS) Composition Conference Appointment
Motion to appoint Council Member Weissenfels to represent the City of Forks at the CTS Composition Review Committee by Soha, second Hillcar, motion carried.

4. Ordinance #645 Correcting a Scrivener’s Error in Ordinance #642 Folkner Annexation
Motion to adopt Ordinance #645 Correcting a Scrivener’s Error in Ordinance #642 Folkner Annexation by Hillcar, second Soha, motion carried.

5. Letter to Senator Van De Wege Requesting His Support of SB 6174
SB 6174 would restore free public access to state parks and lands by repealing the requirement for a discover pass to visit state-owned land.

Motion to send to Senator Van de Wege a letter from the Council requesting his support of SB 6174 by Soha, second Gingell, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS
1. Campbell Pit Emergency Well Project Update
An element of the Washington State Department of Social and Health Services (DSHS) determined that results of the 72-hour test indicated some surface water influence. None of the engineers have been able to verify this, and we have no data from the two control wells because transducers were lost in both of them. The Department of Ecology’s hydrologists disagrees with the DSHS hydrologist. The deadline for bids has been postponed until January 31, and we may have to do another 72-hour test sending pump water away from the well head. Certain aspects of the project must be completed by April 1, but we are running out of time. If we can’t get an extension, we may have to be satisfied with doing as much as we can by the deadline and then waiting for the next drought emergency to finish the project. The second test was negative for bacteria.

2. 4th Quarter 2019 Jail Report
Chief Rowley reported low population due to understaffing and problems with the HVAC system that forced the closure of one block. The HVAC system has been repaired and the block re-opened, allowing the jail to house more inmates.

3. Council Member Reports
Council Member Hillcar has received word of an informational gathering to be held at the Rainforest Arts Center on Saturday, February 1 from 1:00 to 3:00 p.m. The community is invited.

Council Member Weissenfels asked if City ordinances regarding bed and breakfasts (B & Bs) have anything about density in a given area. Attorney/Planner Fleck said that our ordinances don’t say anything about density.
On the topic of the City’s agreement with Peninsula Communications (PenCom), she read from a Reader’s Digest article that stated that the Federal Communications Commission estimates that 10,000 lives could be saved annually if emergency responders could get to 911 calls just one minute faster. The article went on to say that local dispatch by and for those familiar with the area are far more effective than regional dispatch.

Police Chief Rowley explained that PenCom dispatchers follow state and federal policies, and that the biggest problems are with 911 callers using landmarks to describe their location rather than actual addresses, or actually giving incorrect information. He does his best to educate new officers on the area and the descriptions used by locals, but it is impossible to get everything. Even local dispatchers would use the same system and require the same information that PenCom dispatchers do.

4. Staff Reports
Public Works Director Hampton has been dealing with water leaks and flooding. He and his crew have been taking turns plowing snow as needed. We are approaching 30 inches of rain for the month. He has also been busy with the Campbell Pit well project.

Police Chief Rowley reported vandalism at the school. A field goal on the practice field was damaged by a vehicle. A vehicle was recently stolen from the high school, but it was recovered the same day. He discourages people from leaving their cars unlocked and the keys in them. Our two new police officers are still doing well at the academy, and he is still looking for corrections officers.

Attorney/Planner Fleck sat in on a discouraging Department of Natural Resources (DNR) Solutions Table meeting, where he listened to people who do not understand how junior taxing districts are funded. Another meeting is scheduled for tomorrow at the Port of Port Angeles. He and Matt Comisky, American Forest Resource Council (AFRC) will talk to the Port about joining the lawsuit against the DNR.

5. Mayor’s Report
Mayor Fletcher said that Attorney/Planner Fleck and Matt Comisky of the AFRC will talk about the forest issues we are currently involved in at the community meeting to be held at the Rainforest Arts Council on February 8. The Washington Truckers Association will also be there to discuss the fuel tax. He will be giving his State of the City Address at the Chamber of Commerce meeting at noon on Wednesday.

6. ADJOURNMENT
Motion to adjourn by Soha, second Weissenfels, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:17 p.m.

Tim Fletcher, Mayor
Ginger Simons, Deputy Clerk

January 27, 2020