

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
February 8, 2021 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER

Council Member Gilstrap led the Pledge of Allegiance. Mayor Fletcher then called the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Council members present (meeting conducted via Zoom): Gilstrap, Gingell, Soha, Hillcar, Weissenfels, and Mayor Fletcher. Staff present: Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer, Fleck, Attorney/Planner, Rowley, Police Chief, and Hampton, Public Works Director.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

There was no public comment.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 25, 2021 by Gingell, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

2. Motion to approve payroll checks numbered 39137 through 39152 for \$113,451.11, and claim checks numbered 39153 through 39187 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$162,792.39 by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

3. Ordinance #653 2020 Budget Amendment

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom noted that this ordinance was introduced at the meeting of January 25, 2021.

Motion to approve Ordinance #653 amending Ordinance #644 the 2020 City of Forks Budget by Weissenfels, second Gingell, motion carried.

4. Resolution #494 Declaring Surplus Property

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom presented the resolution to surplus equipment. It included a 2002 Chevrolet Tahoe, a 2006 Dodge Charger, a 1986 International dump truck with plow, and a 1985 International dump truck with plow. She requested that 14 Westinghouse street light assemblies be added to the list.

Motion to approve Resolution #494 Declaring Surplus Property with the addition of the 14 Westinghouse street light assemblies requested by Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

5. Resolution #495 Opposing Changes to the State's "Roadmap to Recovery"

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that this resolution is an effort to join with our state legislators and county commissioners in raising concerns about the clearly preferential treatment of King and Snohomish Counties in the Governor's Roadmap to Recovery plan and the impact that would have on other communities. Sequim and Port Angeles are also considering their own resolutions.

Motion to approve Resolution #495 Opposing Changes to the State's "Roadmap to Recovery" by Weissenfels, second Gingell, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. Council Member Reports

Council Member Hillcar has received calls about kids riding their motorcycles recklessly on the roads. He suggests that a meeting between the police department, the parents/guardians, and the kids might help.

Council Member Weissenfels has also received complaints about kids riding motorcycles and ATVs recklessly on the roads. Differentiation between City and County jurisdiction can be an issue as riders pass in and out of City limits. There also seems to be some evidence of retribution in the form of harassment by the kids against those who report them to the police.

2. Staff Reports

Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom stated that department heads gave their reports for the Mayor's State of the City address at the January 27 Chamber of Commerce meeting, which was held via Zoom. The meeting was recorded and is available for Council Members to watch.

On February 3, she, Attorney/Planner Fleck, and the Mayor met with Senator Murray staffer Colleen Bryan to discuss COVID-19 impacts and funding challenges. Attorney/Planner Fleck will follow-up with a list of needs. Today, she and Public Works Director Hampton met with a representative from the Community Economic Revitalization Board (CERB) to discuss their planning grant and whether it would be appropriate for a rate study and funding for capital improvements at the wastewater treatment plant.

Public Works Director Hampton reported the purchase of a new Case backhoe. It is scheduled for delivery sometime this week. The emergency well (#6) project is almost complete.

Police Chief Rowley is working on scheduling a professional riding coach to come and give one or more classes on motorcycle riding and safety. The police department, in conjunction with Clallam County Fire District #1 is working to raise money to provide protective gear that would serve as incentive to attendance. The police department would also use the classes as an opportunity to encourage the kids to ride in appropriate places.

He assisted with the COVID-19 vaccination clinic last Saturday. Next weekend's clinic will be for both those receiving their second dose and those receiving their first dose. Extreme

cold (snow and ice) is expected, and drivers should be aware that the middle lane on Forks Avenue at and near Peninsula College may be backed up. He requests caution and patience.

Attorney/Planner Fleck participated in a meeting with Colleen McAleer, Economic Development Council (EDC) Director, in which Representative Kilmer also participated. The topic of the meeting was COVID-19 relief funds and the effort to create an infrastructure bill that would be beneficial to small- and medium-sized cities as well as larger cities. He is putting together a list of infrastructure projects to be presented on February 11. Representative Kilmer's staff is also conducting an examination of how funds appropriated in December of 2020 for COVID-19 vaccination administration are being dispersed and used.

He has met with the EDC and others regarding industrial opportunities, and the last of the Washington Coastal Marine Advisory Council's economic sustainability workshops will be held on February 11. As a result of these workshops, a list of economic opportunities and challenges will be created and then developed into a region-wide list of recommendations to be presented to the legislature for work to be performed in 2022.

To date, roughly 1,400 people have been vaccinated with the first round of the vaccine at vaccination clinics held here in Forks. Response has been very good. A lot is going into planning for the next vaccination clinic this weekend as extreme weather is predicted. 510 returnees for their second shot are expected, and the goal for new, first-time vaccinations is 90 to 150.

3. Mayor's Report

A healthcare worker who works here part-time and takes care of his elderly mother told Mayor Fletcher that our vaccination clinic was very well organized and efficiently run. Mayor Fletcher thanked City staff for their State of the City presentations, calling them a "true asset" to the community.

In response to the meeting with Senator Murray's staffer, he has helped staff to develop a list of things our community needs, including improvements to our sewer and wastewater management systems, new housing construction, improvements to highway infrastructure from the Elwha Bridge to the Hoh Bridge with Lake Crescent and Highway 112 in between, and including the possible development of NF-30/West Twin Road as an alternate route to and from the West End, as well as our power infrastructure with regard to Bonneville Power Administration lines.

4. ADJOURNMENT

Motion to adjourn by Soha, second Gilstrap, motion carried. Meeting adjourned at 8:08 p.m.



Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer



Tim Fletcher, Mayor