

City of Forks
Council Meeting Minutes Regular Session
City Council Chambers
May 10, 2021 7:30 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE, AND CALL TO ORDER

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

ROLL CALL

Present in-person: Council Members Hillcar and Weissenfels, Mayor Fletcher, Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom, and Attorney/Planner Fleck. Present via Zoom: Council Members Soha and Gilstrap, Police Chief Rowley, and Public Works Director Hampton. Absent: Council Member Gingell.

MODIFICATIONS/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

PUBLIC COMMENT

Lissy Andros, Executive Director Forks Chamber of Commerce updated Council and staff of Chamber's recent activities. The lobby of the Visitor Center opened on May 3 to 50–100 visitors per day. They received a grant for new light pole banners, and they have a grant request in to Clallam County Lodging Tax Advisory Committee for a new roof and a new website. Planning for the Forever Twilight in Forks Festival is going well with tickets having sold out in March. As president of the Association of Visitor Information Centers of Washington (AVICW), she will be hosting the 2022 annual conference here in Forks next April.

ACTION ITEMS

1. Motion to approve minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 26, 2021 by Weissenfels, second Hillcar, motion carried.

2. Motion to approve manual check numbered 39416 for \$978.36, payroll checks numbered 39417 through 39432 for \$126,931.05, and claim checks numbered 39433 through 39469 and EFTs as included in the total amount of \$86,644.65 by Weissenfels, second Soha, motion carried 3-0 with Hillcar abstaining.

3. Resolution #497 Reaffirming the City's Intent to Adopt the Clallam County Shoreline Master Program

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that the County is on track to adopt its Shoreline Master Program, which will then be adopted by the City. This resolution authorizes the Mayor and staff to begin work on the documents that must be submitted to the Department of Ecology.

Motion to adopt Resolution #497 Reaffirming the City's Intent to Adopt the Clallam County Shoreline Master Program Update by Hillcar, second Gilstrap, motion carried.

4. Pearson Annexation

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that the City has received an annexation request for property along Sportsman Club Road adjoining the city limits.

Motion to set May 24, 2021 as the meeting date to review the Pearson annexation request and issue the 60% annexation petition by Hillcar, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

5. Soha Annexation

Attorney/Planner Fleck said the City has received an annexation request for 1150 Bogachiel Way. Council Member Soha noted that only one parcel was indicated in documentation provided, but that there are actually two parcels to be annexed.

Motion to postpone setting a meeting date to review the Soha annexation request until the May 24, 2021 Regular Meeting by Hillcar, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

6. FAA Airport Master Plan Grant

Motion to authorize the Mayor and staff to execute all necessary paperwork to complete the grant application with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) for a no-sponsor-match-requirement Airport Master Plan grant by Hillcar, second Weissenfels, motion carried.

7. Quillayute Airport Master Plan Update Contract Award

Attorney/Planner Fleck explained that the City had received three responses to its request for qualifications for the Quillayute Airport Master Plan Update, which will be fully funded by the FAA. The responses were scored by Council Members Hillcar and Gingell, local pilot Jesse Helvey, Clerk/Treasurer Grafstrom, and himself, and then he and the Mayor interviewed all three firms. The final decision was to recommend to Council that the project be awarded to Century West Engineering Corporation.

Motion to authorize the Mayor and staff to enter into a contract with Century West Engineering Corporation for Quillayute Airport Master Plan Update services by Weissenfels, second Soha, motion carried.

DISCUSSION ITEMS

1. 1st Quarter 2021 Jail Statistics

Police Chief Rowley noted that 1st quarter 2021 numbers are not much lower than 1st quarter 2020 numbers. Income remains low, but he is working on a couple of projects that he hopes will bring in some money to subsidize lost revenue, and he is eager for the jail to start accepting more contract holds from the County.

2. DNR Litigation: Conservation Northwest vs. Franz

Attorney/Planner Fleck introduced the response brief filed with the Supreme Court in the suit by Conservation Northwest against Commissioner of Public Lands Hilary Franz and to which the City is a party. He said the brief is well-written and provides good background information that he thought would be of interest Council. A conference call outlining the timing of oral arguments will be held on Thursday. He noted that the City is involved in another lawsuit between the same parties, and he hopes to hold off litigation in that suit

until this one has been decided. Discussion of the enabling act and possible outcomes of Conservation Northwest's suit ensued.

3. Council Member Reports

Council Member Hillcar reported that tourist traffic has picked up significantly, and that this year's tourists do not seem to be leisurely day-trippers, but rather intent on a specific destination and not slowing down or stopping until they get there. Since we now have three radar signs, he'd like to see one positioned at each end of town.

Council Member Weissenfels said that Clallam Transit System's maintenance and operations meeting had been cancelled and would be rescheduled.

4. Staff Reports

Attorney/Planner Fleck reported having attended the Board of Natural Resources meeting where he testified twice about concerns regarding "big and tall" trees and policies for those. He attempted to attend the Municipal Attorneys' conference and the Labor Relations Institute's meeting via Zoom, but had many interruptions.

5. Mayor's Report

Mayor Fletcher listened in on the Board of Natural Resources meeting where someone suggested that timber workers could become day traders supplemented by the State because they already worked in commodities (timber products). He said that this fight has gone on for 45 years, and will continue until we get some serious backing from the Governor or Supreme Court.

6. ADJOURNMENT

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



Audrey Grafstrom, Clerk/Treasurer



Tim Fletcher, Mayor