

CITY OF LYNDEN



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

August 7, 2023

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Korthuis called to order the August 7, 2023 regular session of the Lynden City Council at 7:00 p.m. in the city's council chambers.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIENCE

ROLL CALL

Members present: Councilors Gary Bode, Ron De Valois, Gerald Kuiken, Brent Lenssen, Nick Laninga, Kyle Strengholt and Mark Wohlrab.

Members absent: None.

Staff present: Community Development Director Heidi Gudde, Fire Chief Mark Billmire, Police Chief Steve Taylor, City Clerk Pam Brown, and City Administrator John Williams.

OATH OF OFFICE – None.

SUMMARY REPORTS AND PRESENTATIONS – None.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Kuiken moved, and Councilor Strengholt seconded to approve the July 17, 2023, regular council meeting minutes. Motion approved on 7-0 vote.

CITIZEN COMMENT

Mary Lou Childs, Benson Road, Lynden

Ms. Childs stated that she is not in favor of a total ban on fireworks but would like the City to consider reducing the number of days that fireworks can legally be set off. Another idea would be for the City to host a family-friendly fireworks event at the NW Fairgrounds.

Jean Holterman, Emerald Way, Lynden

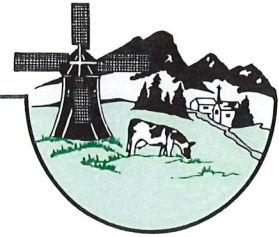
Ms. Holterman stated that she is not in favor of a total ban on fireworks and noted that on her street, the debris created from setting off fireworks is cleaned up afterwards. She doesn't want Lynden to become like Bellingham.

Cynthia Ripke-Kutsagoitz, Guide Meridian, Lynden

Ms. Ripke-Kutsagoitz spoke to a several items:

- Thanked the Lynden Police Chief for the safety in Lynden.
- She hopes that the Lynden police department would begin to focus their efforts on the sex trafficking issues.
- She stated that people need a strong constitutional sheriff.

CITY OF LYNDEN



CITY COUNCIL
MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING

Steve Jilk, Brook Way, Lynden

Mr. Jilk stated that he does not support a full ban on fireworks, but he would like to start the discussion on a reduction of how many days the City allows legal fireworks to be set off. He also recognizes that it's almost impossible for police and fire staff to fully enforce the ordinance. He stated that fireworks were being set off outside of the dates and times parameters defined in the fireworks ordinance and there is a perception that the City is not concerned about how much, when and where the fireworks are set off.

Cesar Luna, Cascade Way, Lynden

Mr. Luna stated his hope that the fireworks ordinance dates and times would not be amended. He believes the community as a whole should not have to stop using fireworks because of the complaints of the few. He wants his children to be able to experience 4th of July with fireworks and is more concerned with the amount of government involvement.

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Payroll Liability to July 16 through July 29, 2023

EFT & Other Liabilities

Non-L&I Liabilities

Monthly EFT	\$582,139.80
Check Liability	\$0.00
Total Non-L&I Liabilities	\$582,139.80
Quarterly Liabilities	\$13,924.36
Total EFT & Other Liabilities	\$596,064.16

Approval of Claims – August 8, 2023

Manual Warrants No.	<u>27985</u>	through	<u>24985</u>		\$13,750.00
EFT Payment Pre-Pays					\$0.00
				Sub Total Pre-Pays	\$13,750.00
Voucher Warrants No.	<u>27999</u>	through	<u>28112</u>		\$317,107.58
EFT Payments					\$54,482.49
				Sub Total	\$371,590.07
				Total Accts. Payable	\$385,340.07

Set the Public Hearing for Design Standards Variance 23-01

Set the Public Hearing for Agreement to Exchange Property for Pepin Creek Parkway
ROW

CITY OF LYNDEN

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING



ORD-23-1671-Setting Salaries for Elected Officials (2026-2032)

In light of the current election, the current salary schedule for elected officials will expire during the term of those newly elected. Thus, a new table was created that follows the same format and continues through 2032. This new table begins on January 1, 2026. The Finance Committee reviewed this ordinance at its June 19th meeting and July 17th meeting and recommended taking ORD-23-1671 to City Council for approval.

Motion made by Councilor De Valois, seconded by Councilor Kuiken to approve the consent agenda as presented. Motion approved 7-0.

3. PUBLIC HEARING - None

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

5. NEW BUSINESS - None

6. REPORTS

Councilor Lenssen, Community Development Committee, reported discussion of the following:

- Issues/solutions regarding downtown parking.
- Continued discussion of patio screening.
- Community Development & Planning proposals for the Year 2024 Budget.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

The council did not hold an executive session.

8. ADJOURNMENT

August 7, 2023, regular session of the Lynden city council adjourned at 7:28 p.m.

Pamela D. Brown

Pamela D. Brown, City Clerk

Scott Korthuis

Scott Korthuis, Mayor