

CITY OF LYNDEN

CITY COUNCIL MINUTES OF REGULAR MEETING



August 3, 2020

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Korthuis called to order the August 3, 2020 regular session of the Lynden City Council at 7:00 p.m. held through an online web-based meeting platform (Microsoft Teams).

ROLL CALL

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

Members absent: None

Staff present: Fire Chief Mark Billmire, HR Manager Denise Bosman, Parks Director Vern Meenderinck, Public Works Director Steve Banham, City Clerk Pam Brown, City Administrator Mike Martin, and City Attorney Bob Carmichael.

OATH OF OFFICE- None

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Councilor Laninga moved and Councilor Strengholt seconded to approve July 6, 2020 and July 20, 2020 minutes as presented. Motion approved on a 7-0 vote.

ITEMS FROM THE AUDIENCE

Scheduled: None

Unscheduled- None

2. CONSENT AGENDA

Approval of Payroll Disbursed – July 16 through July 31, 2020

Paychex EFT	\$295,519.00
City of Lynden EFT	\$66,299.10
Warrant Liability	\$64,763.53
Subtotal	\$416,581.63
Paychex EFT Liability	\$7,979.58
Total EFT & Other Liabilities	\$434,561.21

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Approval of Claims – August 3, 2020

Manual Warrants No.	-	through	-		\$0.00
EFT Payment Pre-Pays					\$398,770.13
				Sub Total Pre-Pays	\$398,770.13
Voucher Warrants No.	<u>19893</u>	through	<u>19930</u>		\$85,853.01
EFT Payments					\$0.00
				Sub Total	\$85,853.01
				Total Accts. Payable	\$484,623.14

Set Public Hearing Date (August 17) for Lynden Technical Security Audit

Councilor Laninga moved and Councilor Wohlrab seconded to approve the Consent Agenda. Motion approved on 7-0 vote.

3. PUBLIC HEARING - None

4. UNFINISHED BUSINESS - None

5. NEW

CARES Act Interlocal Agreement

Congress passed what is known as the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security (CARES) Act in March. Among many other things, it gives direct grants to cities for costs associated with the COVID-19 pandemic. Whatcom County and all its cities have pooled some of their CARES funds to provide a unified response to the COVID crisis. That money will be redistributed to qualifying entities, including Lynden and all small businesses and nonprofits in the 98264 zip- code.

Total funding in the pool is \$16.3 million and Lynden proposes contributing \$150,000 to that amount. Participating in this program gives Lynden the ability to potentially triple its contribution by gaining access to the larger pool.

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The money will be distributed in “microgrants” of \$15,000 or less. Agencies apply for a grant, and a Business Assistance Team will vet the applications. The Team is comprised of representatives from the Chamber of Commerce, the Downtown Business Association and a local businessman. The deadline for applying was July 31, 2020. There are currently thirty-five small businesses and non-profits in the 98264 zip-code that have applied for grants.

All local governments in the County have or will soon, approve the Agreement. However, timing issues precluded inclusion of certain edits. We recommend signing the Agreement tonight, but we would like Council to be aware of our recommended edits.

Councilor Strengholt moved and Councilor Kuiken seconded to ask the City Attorney to describe the edits that were included in the Interlocal Agreement then authorize the Mayor to sign it. Motion approved on 7-0 vote.

6. OTHER BUSINESS

Council Committee Updates

Councilor Lenssen reporting for the Community Development Committee which involved discussion of:

- CDC meeting had 5 council members in attendance
- City attorney Bob Carmichael was in attendance and lead a discussion on the possible role of a Hearing Examiner for the city of Lynden
- The new sign on Front Street
- Update on the Cedarbrook application
- RFI for former YMCA

Councilor Bode reporting for the Public Works Committee which involved discussion of:

- ADA parking stall on 3rd and Front Street
- Proposal for “Iceworks” business from David Jansen
- Benson Road pedestrian improvements
- Building Official position has transferred from Public Works department to the Planning department
- 17th Street extension project
- Foxtail Street gap elimination
- NW Fairgrounds recoating project for reservoir tank
- Traffic signal improvements
- An airport height improvement funded by the insurance company of the plane that crashed

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Chris Pickering Director of the NW WA Fair has spoken to Mayor Korthuis about having a 10-day Fair next August. The Mayor placed the item on the Public Works Committee agenda, and he will also place the item on the Public Safety Committee agenda. He invited council members to attend one of those meetings.

7. EXECUTIVE SESSION

Council recessed into executive session at 7:29 p.m. to discuss a potential litigation matter. It was anticipated that the executive session would last approximately 15 minutes and that a decision would not be made.

8. ADJOURNMENT

The August 3, 2020 regular session of the Lynden City Council adjourned at 7:44 p.m.

Pamela D. Brown

Pamela D. Brown, MMC
City Clerk

Scott Korthuis

Scott Korthuis
Mayor