

**Town of Coupeville  
Regular Council Meeting  
June 28, 2016  
6:34 p.m.**

**PRESENT:** Mayor Molly Hughes, Councilmembers Pat Powell, Catherine Ballay, Jackie Henderson, Dianne Binder and Lisa Bernhardt.

**STAFF PRESENT:** Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech, Planning Director Owen Dennison

**CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA**

Mayor Hughes requested adding a DISCUSSION item: COER (Citizens of Ebey's Reserve), to discuss material the organization shared with the Council.

**Council Action:** A motion was made by Councilmember Jackie Henderson, second by Councilmember Dianne Binder, to approve the agenda with the addition of a discussion item: COER, to discuss material the organization shared with the Council. The motion passed unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

The minutes of the Regular Meeting of June 14, 2016 were approved with minor spelling and grammar corrections.

**MAYOR'S REPORT**

- Mayor Hughes met with two representatives of the Historic Waterfront Association to discuss improvements and changes they suggested, as well as improvements and changes recommended by Public Works Superintendent Kelly Riepma.
- Mayor Hughes and Planning Director Owen Dennison attended a meeting with representatives of the Island County Planning Department and Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve to discuss policies, procedures, training, and shared responsibilities related to the Historic Preservation Commission. The group plans to meet again in August.
- Mayor Hughes and Councilmember Dianne Binder both attended the AWC (Association of Washington Cities) annual conference in Everett. Mayor Hughes spoke briefly about the various workshops she attended while at the conference.
- Mayor Hughes was invited to a meeting with representatives of Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve, Island County, and Washington State Parks, where they discussed trails and a National Parks Department/Job Corps program that facilitates park facilities repair through the hard work of select Job Corps participants all over the United States.
- Mayor Hughes informed the Council of a water main break on Engle Road yesterday and walked the Council through the process the Town followed to notify affected residents and repair the leak as quickly as possible.
- Finally, Mayor Hughes gave the Council a brief run-down of highly visible projects the Public Works department has been working on, including tree trimming and removal, and a planned trail extension on 9<sup>th</sup> Street.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Set October 20<sup>th</sup> at 5:30pm for LED Community Education Meeting in the Rec Hall**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Catherine Ballay, second by Councilmember Lisa Bernhardt to set October 20th at 5:30pm for LED Community Education Meeting in the Rec Hall. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Set Council Workshop Date Rate Study Follow-up and to Discuss Hearing Examiner**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Jackie Henderson, second by Councilmember Catherine Ballay to set the Council Workshop for July 26<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm, with the location to be announced. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Approval of Letter Addressed to The Washington State Department of Transportation Regarding Traffic Safety at the Intersection of Broadway and Highway 20**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Jackie Henderson, second by Councilmember Dianne Binder to authorize the Mayor to send a letter to WSDOT and our local state reps and senator expressing our concern over safety at the intersection of NW Broadway and SR20. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **Approval of May 2016 Payroll and June 2016 Claims Vouchers/Warrants**

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Jackie Henderson, second by Councilmember Pat Powell to approve the May 2016 payroll transactions and warrants #31582 to #31650 for a total of \$75,034.83; and the June 2016 A/P transactions and warrants #31651 to #31712 for a total of \$194,895.20. Questions were asked and answered. The motion passed unanimously.

### **DISCUSSION**

Council had a brief discussion about the material provided by COER. The decision was made to invite representatives from COER for a presentation at a future meeting. No action was taken.

### **COUNCIL REPORTS**

Councilmember Catherine Ballay attended the VIP Open House at Naval Air Station Whidbey Island on June 24<sup>th</sup>. She spoke highly of the event and mentioned that she appreciated and enjoyed the experience. Councilmember Ballay also attended the Law & Justice Council meeting in June where the jail sub-committee reported on a review of progress made on suggested changes in the jail. She reported to the Council many suggested changes have been implemented, and that they are still working on increasing their staff level. Current staff are participating in training and a full-time mental-health professional has been hired.

Councilmember Dianne Binder reported she attended the AWC annual conference in Everett and briefly discussed some of things she picked up at the workshops she was able to attend. Councilmember Binder also reported that Sherrye Wyatt is back from her International Tourism Conference and then shared examples of some of the items Ms. Wyatt provided to attendees looking for more information about our area of Washington. Councilmember Binder informed

the Council about a visitor survey that the Tourism Board of Island County will be distributing to lodging establishments and Chamber of Commerce locations. Finally, Councilmember Binder reported that Whidbey and Camano Islands Tourism Facebook and website hits continue to grow each month.

Councilmember Pat Powell shared with the Council that she is just about done with the 2% project she picked up following a council workshop earlier this year, and that she would like to bring her report back to the Council as a discussion item at a future meeting.

Councilmember Lisa Bernhardt reported that the Ebey's Trust Board meeting included discussion about trails, including whether or not some of the trails should be open to leashed dogs. There will be a workshop in July to discuss in greater depth the pros and cons of leashed dogs on the trails. Island County Long-range Planner Meredith Penny gave a presentation on the County's Comp Plan, specifically regarding rural character and affordable housing at the meeting. Finally, Councilmember Bernhardt spoke briefly about a training experience Historic Preservation Specialist Sarah Steen had at Kalaupapa on Molokai, Hawaii, where she learned how to clean and restore headstones. The Ebey's Landing National Historic Reserve Field School will be focusing on Sunnyside Cemetery this year, where participants will learn some of the techniques picked-up by Sarah Steen.

Councilmember Jackie Henderson reported that Island Transit operations are going smoothly and everyone seems very pleased with Director Nortier. The commuter route between Camano Island and Everett has been reinstated with a one-way fare of \$2.00. Saturday service is still high on the priority list and they are slowly building up their reserves. The Board will receive the results of a salary survey next month which compares Island Transit's salary with those of comparable organizations. The results of the survey will help determine if adjustments need to be made to staff salaries.

### **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

The Mayor stopped the Regular Meeting at 8:05pm for a five minute break before entering into Executive Session expected to last 10 minutes to discuss the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase and an Executive Session expected to last 20 minutes to review the performance of a public employee. The council returned from Executive Session at 8:59pm and the Regular Meeting resumed. No action was taken.

**ADJOURNMENT:** 9:00pm

Respectfully Submitted:



Kelly Beech, Clerk Treasurer

MAYOR:



Molly Hughes

*A complete audio recording of this meeting is available upon request from the Clerk-Treasurer.*