

**Town of Coupeville
Regular Council Meeting
September 13, 2016
6:34 p.m.**

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

STAFF PRESENT: Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech, Planning Director Owen Dennison, Marshal Chris Garden

CHANGES AND APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Mayor Hughes removed New Business item #1, Adoption of Ordinance 725 Setting Stormwater user fees and adjusting Sewer Utility user fees from the agenda. The action item will be presented at the next Regular Council Meeting on September 27, 2016.

Mayor Hughes removed the Discussion of the Continuation of Fourth Street from the Agenda. The item will be discussed at a later date.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Binder, second by Councilmember Henderson, to approve the Agenda as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Ballay, second by Councilmember Bernhardt, to approve the minutes of the Regular Council Meeting of August 23, 2016 as corrected. The motion passed unanimously.

The DISCUSSION section was included in error:

DISCUSSION

~~Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech presented information to the Council about a suggested Budget Revision for 2016. The Public Hearing for the 2016 Budget Revision is scheduled for August 9th during the next Regular Council Meeting. No action was taken.~~

PRESENTATION

Mayor Hughes introduced Island County Sergeant Chris Garden, who is the new Town Marshal. Marshal Garden spoke briefly about his experience in law enforcement and how he is looking forward to working in the Town of Coupeville. Councilmember Henderson shared some of her personal experience working with Marshal Garden and gave examples of why she believes he is such a good fit for Coupeville.

Utility Superintendent Willy LaRue addressed the Council and expressed his gratitude to the Council for the support they have shown toward his department and his position during his time working for the Town. He has accepted a position with another company in Eastern Washington. His last day will be September 15, 2016.

MAYOR'S REPORT

- Mayor Hughes informed the Council that the Town would be celebrating Willy LaRue on Thursday at 3:00pm with pie and ice cream, as an expression of our appreciation for his years of service.

- Mayor Hughes attended the Founder's Day celebrations at Ebey's Landing.
- Mayor Hughes met with representatives of NAS Whidbey about the Section 104.
- Mayor Hughes informed the Council of two recent water main breaks and mentioned that NET volunteers helped with customer notifications during the repairs.
- Mayor Hughes spoke briefly about the Town's second community meeting for the Rate Increase.
- Mayor Hughes informed the Council of a staff send-off for Sergeant Rick Norrie, who has switched duties in preparation for his retirement from the Island County Sheriff's Office.
- Mayor Hughes spoke at a recent Coupeville Garden Club meeting where she solicited ideas from members about the Coupeville Community Garden and shared information about plans for next year.
- Mayor Hughes mentioned that the Lion's Annual BBQ and Town Sponsored Summer Concert was well attended. She thanked all of the volunteers who helped make the event a success.
- Mayor Hughes reminded Council that in addition to Councilmember Bernhardt, the Town has one more position to appoint a community member to, on the Ebey's Trust Board.
- Mayor Hughes invited residents and Councilmembers to take a look at the test lights installed on Madrona Way in preparation for the next Council Meeting, where the new LED lights will be a discussion item.
- Finally, Mayor Hughes reminded the Council of upcoming important dates:
 - 09/22 – Dedication of the new marine display at the wharf
 - 09/27 – LED Lights on the Agenda as a discussion item at the Regular Council Meeting
 - 10/08 – Council will participate in the annual relay races benefiting the Gifts From the Heart Foodbank
 - 10/11 – Budget Workshop at 4:30pm in the Rec Hall
 - 10/20 – LED Community Meeting has been cancelled
 - 10/25 – Regular Council Meeting

AUDIENCE INPUT

Representatives from Puget Sound Energy spoke briefly about the recent planned power outage, upgrades to the substation at Highway 20 and Ebey Road, and an energy savings program they are working on that benefits Coupeville residents. Questions were asked and answered.

PUBLIC HEARING

Mayor Hughes opened the Public Hearing at 7:20pm. The Mayor asked if there were any conflicts of interests or appearance of fairness concerns. None were voiced. The Mayor presented a PowerPoint about the proposed rate increase and implementation. The Mayor invited the public to speak. Mary Jo Durand commented that the proposed increase and rate implementation might be burdensome for residents on a fixed income. She asked if the Town had considered reducing the water rates during the summer peak months to help offset some of the increased costs. Mayor Hughes explained that the summer rates were implemented to encourage water conservation and that the Water Utility slides presented show that the summer rates are necessary to meet expenses. Mayor Hughes also mentioned that by conserving water, residents have some control over how low their utility bill is. There was no other testimony provided at the hearing, via US Mail, or by email. Councilmembers had no questions and the Hearing was closed at 7:50pm.

NEW BUSINESS

Adoption of Resolution 16-07 amending Resolution 16-04, governing participation in the Island Regional Transportation Planning Organization

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Henderson, second by Councilmember Ballay, to adopt Resolution 16-07, amending Resolution 16-04 as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Authorization for Mayor to sign ILA agreement with IRTPO

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Ballay, second by Councilmember Binder, to authorize the Mayor to sign the ILA agreement with the IRTPO as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

Adopt Budget Schedule

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Bernhardt, second by Councilmember Henderson, to adopt the 2017 Budget schedule as presented. The motion passed unanimously.

DISCUSSION

Budget Policies & Priorities

Clerk Treasurer Kelly Beech presented a draft version of the proposed 2017 Budget Policies & Priorities. Questions were asked and answered. A final version will be presented to the Council for approval at the next Regular Council Meeting on September 27, 2016.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:25 pm

Respectfully Submitted:

MAYOR:

Kelly Beech, Clerk Treasurer

Molly Hughes

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