



# TOWN HALL NEWS

## TOWN OF COUPEVILLE

VOL XV, Issue 5

October 2012

### WHO TO CONTACT AT TOWN HALL • 678.4461 • [www.townofcoupeville.org](http://www.townofcoupeville.org)

Nancy Conard, Mayor  
[mayor@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:mayor@townofcoupeville.org)  
*General questions, community issues*

Lance Davenport, Town Marshal  
[paulone@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:paulone@townofcoupeville.org)  
*Questions about law enforcement issues*

Nanc Garner, Utility Clerk  
[utilityclerk@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:utilityclerk@townofcoupeville.org)  
*Questions about utility bills*

Larry Kwargsick, Town Planner  
[planner@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:planner@townofcoupeville.org)  
*Questions about land use, design review*

Bob Snyder, Building Official  
[buildofficial@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:buildofficial@townofcoupeville.org)  
*Questions about building permits*

Judy Thomas, Clerk Treasurer  
[clerktreasurer@townofcoupeville.org](mailto:clerktreasurer@townofcoupeville.org)  
*Questions about meetings, budget and finance, public records*

## POLICE SERVICES SHORT AND LONG TERM

The Town is experiencing an unprecedented situation. The police department is served by one police chief and four deputies. Two deputy positions are currently vacant, and a third officer will be leaving mid-October. We have gone through the process to advertise the vacancies and have a pool of applicants to consider. Consideration of these applicants and the background and other testing required will take 6-8 weeks.

We have two types of applicants... those who have applied as "entry level" which means they are not currently police officers and, if selected, would be required to attend the WA State Police Academy and then receive field training in Coupeville. These applicants could take as long as 8 -10 months to be fully certified and ready to assume duty. The other type of applicant is a "lateral", meaning an officer that is certified and, with local training, be ready for duty in a matter of weeks.

We know that we will have a period of 2-10 months in which we will be short staffed. Fortunately, we have developed a strong cadre of reserve officers from the Island County Sheriff's Office and Oak Harbor Police Department who have already been taking extra shifts for Coupeville and will fill future shifts when we need assistance. During this time, we will provide a combination of officers on patrol duty and officers on-call, ready to respond to emergencies. We can provide 24 hour response to emergencies with the help of these officers.

Coupeville's pay for police officers is the lowest in the area. Two of our officers left for higher paying jobs. We are taking this opportunity to take a long term look at providing police services. We would like to insulate ourselves from a situation like this occurring in the future. We believe we have three options: reduce staffing from 4 to 3 deputies, and use the money from the 4th deputy to increase pay for the others; ask the voters for a tax increase to fund more pay; or contract for services from Island County or Oak Harbor. Our preference is to maintain our own police department, but we believe we need to look at all options to make an informed choice. We will share more information as we have it.

Although we will not have our own staff on duty on each patrol shift, many of the reserves live in our community and/or are former Coupeville officers. They, and our remaining staff, will maintain a safe community and respond to emergencies.

If you have any questions, please contact Town Marshal Lance Davenport at 678-4461, ext. 1.

## IMPORTANT NOTICE WATER MAIN FLUSHING

The Town of Coupeville will be flushing water mains starting Monday, October 8 and ending October 12. The flushing process will take place Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Central Whidbey Fire & Rescue will be testing fire hydrants as routine maintenance starting October 15 and ending October 19. This work will take place Monday through Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. The purpose of water main flushing is to remove iron and manganese sediment that entered the distribution system from the well sources and settled within the mains. Individual prior notice of daily flushing activities will not be given.

During the flushing and hydrant testing, the water in the mains may become turbid (dirty looking). The turbid water is not hazardous to health, but may cause such aesthetic problems as staining laundry. We suggest you refrain from doing laundry during the flushing hours and be prepared that some of the first water out of the tap may be dirty looking. Running the faucet for a few seconds should clear the line.

If you have any concerns, please call Town Hall at 360-678-4461.

## WATERFRONT EVENTS

### Halloween Torchlight Parade Saturday, October 27 • 5 pm

Wear your coolest costume and march from Cooks Corner (9th & Main St) down Front Street to celebrate the season. Merchants have some "treats" at the end of the parade. There will be prizes for best costumes. Call 678-3310 for information.

### Greening of Coupeville Parade & Tree Lighting • Saturday December 1

Greening of Coupeville sweatshirts and aprons will go on sale October 13 at the Farmer's Market. If you miss us there, stop by the Windjammer Gallery, Front St., to purchase. The annual Greening of Coupeville activities will occur the first weekend in December.

### Red Ticket Event October 13 - December 22

Members of the Coupeville Historic Waterfront Association are offering the Red Ticket program again this year. The drawing event begins at Harvest Fest on Oct. 13 and ends on Dec. 22. Participating downtown merchants will be giving out one red ticket for every \$20 spent at their stores. People who shop locally can win a \$1,000 prize, or one of three \$100 prizes!! The drawing is December 23, at 1 p.m. on the steps of the Island County Museum. Winners must be present to win.