

**CITY COUNCIL MEETING
STUDY SESSION MINUTES
March 18, 2009**

The meeting was called to order by Mayor Norris at 7:00 p.m.

Present: Mayor Norris, Councilmembers Cheney, Combs, Fiedler, McMullen, and Urban

Absent: Councilmembers Lindquist and Ragan

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Special Projects Administrator Stendal, Police Chief Bergsma, Fire Chief Hari, Community and Economic Development Director Hanson

Citizens Present: Ten

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Mount Vernon School District – Update on Health and Fitness Facility: Mount Vernon School District Superintendent Dr. Carl Bruner gave a brief update on the shared health and fitness facility on the campus of the Mount Vernon High School. This shared project is with Skagit Valley Hospital, YMCA and the Mount Vernon School District. They are working on federal grant funding and zero interest long term loans. Dr. Carl Bruner introduced Brian Poppe of HKP Architects. Brian Poppe presented an overview of the project. Skagit County Commissioners have given their support and State Representatives and Senators have been briefed on the project. Councilmember Fiedler requested that a resolution in support of this project be drafted and brought before council.
- B. Out of State Travel Request – Fire Department: Fire Chief Hari said that this request is to send Fire Prevention Specialist Erica Work to the National Fire Academy in Emmitsburg, Maryland from July 26-31, 2009. All air and ground transportation and lodging are paid by FEMA.

Councilmember Cheney moved to approve the out of state travel for the Fire Department as stated above. Motion seconded by Councilmember McMullen. Motion carried 5-0.

- C. Out of State Travel Request – Fire Department: Fire Chief Hari explained that this request is to send Firefighter Don Bartlett to attend the Oregon Fire Instructors Association Instructor's conference from April 2 – 5 in Medford Oregon specifically for the purpose of training in conducting live fire training.

Councilmember Combs moved to approve the out of state travel for the Fire Department as stated above. Motion seconded by Councilmember Cheney. Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Presentation to City Council by Property Owner Representatives (Skagit D06, LLC) Requesting Action Involving Extension of Sanitary Sewer into the City's Unincorporated Urban Growth Area (UGA): Tom Moser, representing Skagit D06 LLC, presented the request for sanitary sewer extension into the urban growth area to fulfill a requirement of the Skagit County Urban Reserve Development Permit (URDP). Because of the density of the project there is a requirement to have an agreement for extension of sanitary sewer with the City of Mount Vernon. Councilmember Cheney asked what benefit the City would have in extending the sewer. Mr. Moser stated that connection fees and ongoing monthly fees will be paid to the City. Mayor Norris inquired if our building standards would be enforced by Skagit County. Mr. Rogerson said our standards would be enforced throughout the county process. Ms. Hanson added that staff has not completed its review. Mr. Rogerson stated that a feasibility review would be necessary and could be completed within a month allowing time to complete staff review of the project. At that time this request will be revisited.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:54 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lori J. Kimbriel, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Bud Norris, Mayor