

**Mount Vernon
City Council
Study Session Minutes
October 7, 2009**

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

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

Absent: Councilmembers Fiedler and Ragan

Staff Present: City Attorney Rogerson, Special Projects Administrator Stendal, Police Chief Bergsma, Fire Chief Hari, Human Resource Director Bartlett, Community and Economic Development Director Hanson, Library Director Soneda, Finance Director Huschka, Public Works Director Bell

Citizens Present: Sixteen

NEW BUSINESS:

- A. Committee Report – Public Safety: see Committee agenda and minutes for details.
- B. Out of State Travel – Public Works: Mr. Stendal stated that this request is to send Public Works Director Bell to Colorado Springs, CO from October 19 to 23 for the 2009 annual meeting of the National Association of Flood and Stormwater Management Agencies (NAFSMA).

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

- C. Discussion of Proceeds from Glenn Beck Event: Ms. Huschka explained that the net proceeds from the Glenn Beck Event will generate \$5,746.83. This figure is net of McIntyre Hall fees of \$5,754.17 and \$2,924.00 in radio bills that need to be paid. City costs associated with public safety surrounding the event totaled \$17,748.85 in overtime and supply and equipment costs. A large portion of those supplies and equipment will be reused by the Police Department and \$5,733 of overtime costs will be paid into comp banks rather than being paid out in cash, which creates a lesser burden on the 2009 budget. The net costs to the City after reducing these items totaled \$10,572.54. Staff and the Mayor recommend that the net proceeds of

\$5,746.83 be directed to the Lincoln Theatre. Chief Bergsma said the reason for the extensive police presence was a concern for public safety. Additional assistance from outside agencies helped through an interlocal mutual aid agreement. He added that it was a successful and safe event. It also provided a chance for on the job training in incident control. Councilmember Cheney said that there are many events that require police presence and he is surprised that the cost was not more. Councilmember Urban asked if it would require a budget amendment. Ms. Huschka responded that it would not require a 2009 budget amendment, but rather it could be accomplished through a budget transfer within the General Fund. An agreement will be brought forward to Council between the City and the Lincoln Theatre outlining the benefits the City will receive in exchange for the funding. Mayor Norris stated that he will fundraise the difference to make the total contribution equal \$10,000. Mr. Beck pledged to match the contribution. Mayor Norris allowed comment from the following:

- Tom Mayes, Executive Director of the Lincoln Theatre, expressed his gratitude and ensured that they would work with the City on the agreement. The theatre board will be deciding soon on how to use the donation.
- Al Lyon, Mount Vernon business owner, commented that the Glenn Beck Event was a wonderful event. He felt the protesting was much ado about nothing. A great amount of money will go to a wonderful place, the Lincoln Theatre.
- Larry Pirkle, Mount Vernon resident, said that in our country we have the right to protest but it is unfortunate that it resulted in a loss of funds for the Lincoln Theatre. The event was handled great. He pledged to donate \$500 of his own money to the Lincoln Theatre. He added that the Glenn Beck Event should be televised on TV10.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with the Lincoln Theatre outlining how the donation may be used. Motion seconded by Councilmember Urban. Motion carried 5-0.

Councilmember Urban moved to authorize the Mayor to appropriate the proceeds of the Glenn Beck event to the Lincoln Theatre. Motion seconded by Councilmember Combs. Motion carried 5-0.

- D. Library Update: Mr. Soneda gave an overview of the library system. Library usage has increased since the economic recession. The library has a large selection of new books, large print books, a great reading area for periodicals and a computerized card file. The library offers many programs and

collaborates with other city departments on events. Currently there is a reciprocal borrowing agreement with the Burlington City Library which is working really well and in the future they anticipate expanding the agreement to include the City of Anacortes Library.

The meeting was convened into executive session at 7:35 p.m. and estimated to last 10 minutes.

E. Executive Session – Collective Bargaining:

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lori J. Kimbriel, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Bud Norris, Mayor