

**Mount Vernon
City Council
Regular Meeting Minutes
October 14, 2009**

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

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

Staff Present: Police Chief Bergsma, Fire Chief Hari, Community and Economic Development Director Hanson, Senior Planner Lowell, Library Director Soneda, Finance Director Huschka, Special Projects Administrator Stendal.

Citizens Present: Five

CONSENT AGENDA

- A. Approval of October 14, 2009 Claims numbered 112949 – 113239 in the amount of \$1,062,736.48.

Councilmember Urban moved to approve the claims as stated above. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 7-0.

REPORTS

- A. Public Works Committee: see Committee agenda and minutes for details.
- B. Community Comments:
- Brian Hill, Mount Vernon resident, said that Mayor Norris is in violation of the open meeting act by not giving everyone equal input because he invited only certain people to speak at last week's study session. He requested that Mayor Norris resign as Mayor or face being recalled.
 - Richard Bowyer, Mount Vernon resident, stated that the members of council represent the community and should not be rubber stamps of the administration. He would like an update about residential sewer billing equity, the moratorium on raises, and the city's gold-plated healthcare plan being reduced.
- C. Councilmember Comments:
- None.
- D. Mayor's Report:
- Mayor Norris responded to Mr. Bowyer's inquiries; a residential Wastewater rate study is presently underway, negotiations with the unions are underway to address cost of living increases, and the City changed its insurance plan in August of this year.

E. Committee Agenda Requests:

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Selection of Ambulance Billing Company: Fire Chief Hari explained that last spring he was involved in selecting an ambulance billing company for the EMS Council. They selected System Designs of Silverdale for their billing company. In light of the research done at that time, this company would be the recommended choice for the City of Mount Vernon. Councilmember Ragan asked about uncollectible debt. Fire Chief Hari responded that it is approximately 30%.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an agreement with System Designs for ambulance billing services. Motion seconded by Councilmember Fiedler. Motion carried 7-0.

- B. Open Record Public Hearing – Continuation of the Planned Unit Development (PUD) Moratorium with the Adoption of a New Resolution and Work Plan: Ms. Lowell stated that this item is being postponed until November 4th to allow the city attorney to be in attendance.
- C. Closed Record Public Hearing – Skagit Family Natural Medicine Rezone Application LU09-034: Ms. Lowell explained that this rezone request is for the property located at 113 Snoqualmie Street. The change is from Light Manufacturing and Commercial District (M-1) to Central Business District (C-1). The proposed zoning designation is consistent with the site's Comprehensive Plan designation of Downtown Retail/Support Commercial (DT). The Hearing Examiner has recommended approval in a decision dated September 15, 2009.

Mayor Norris opened the closed record public hearing. Hearing no comments Mayor Norris closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to adopt Ordinance 3458 approving rezone application LU09-034 for Skagit Family Natural Medicine. Motion seconded by Councilmember Combs. Motion carried 7-0.

- D. Interlocal Services Agreement with the City of Anacortes for Reciprocal Library Borrowing: Mr. Soneda stated that this interlocal agreement with the City of Anacortes is for reciprocal library borrowing between the two libraries. This will be a 13 month pilot project modeled after the agreement with the City of Burlington Library.

Councilmember Ragan moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with the City of

Anacortes for the Reciprocal Library Borrowing program. Motion seconded by Councilmember Cheney. Motion carried 7-0.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Lori J. Kimbriel, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Bud Norris, Mayor