

**Mount Vernon
City Council
Study Session Minutes
January 20, 2010**

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

Present: Mayor Norris, Councilmembers Fiedler, Lindquist, McMullen, Molenaar, Quam, and Urban

Absent: Councilmember Ragan

Staff Present: Police Chief Bergsma, Fire Chief Hari, Finance Director Huschka, Development Review Engineer Oates, Building Official Prosser, City Attorney Rogerson, Special Projects Administrator Stendal.

Citizens Present: 6

NEW BUSINESS

- A. Approval of Year End Claims: The December 31, 2009 Claims Numbered 114166, 114178, 114181-114442 in the amount of \$1,579,387.17 were presented for approval.

Councilmember Urban moved to approve the December 31, 2009 claims numbered 114166, 114178, 114181 – 11442 in the amount of \$1,579,387.17. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 6-0.

- B. Committee Report – Parks and Recreation (see committee minutes for details).

- C. Extend Preliminary Subdivision Approval Period: Ms. Oates presented a request for Council to approve a temporary extension to the approval periods for subdivisions as outlined in Mount Vernon Municipal Code Title 16. In the next four years 27 development projects with approximately 1,066 buildable lots within the City of Mount Vernon will reach preliminary approval period expirations. The proposal is for the current maximum of a 6 year period be extended to a proposed maximum of 8 years. This extension is only available to those projects that have been approved prior to January 1, 2010.

Mayor Norris opened the public hearing

- Skagit Island County Builders Association (SICBA) submitted a letter endorsing this action.
- Lois Kuntz, real-estate developer, spoke in favor of this proposal.

There being no further comments Mayor Norris closed the public hearing.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to approve Ordinance 3479 providing a temporary extension of preliminary subdivision approval, with a change to the ordinance stating that it shall be effective five days after publication. Motion seconded by Councilmember Molenaar. Motion carried 6-0.

- D. Temporary Extension of Building Permits: Mr. Prosser presented a request for Council to approve a temporary one year extension to building permits that were applied for between December 31, 2007 and June 30, 2009. This does not apply to any units that are currently under construction. Permits that were issued July 1, 2009 or after are allowed an extension of 18 months, following state guidelines. Councilmember Urban asked that the wording of Item 1 of the resolution be amended to indicate that the extension is available “prior to issuance of the permit or after issuance of the permit, but not both.”

Councilmember Urban moved to approve Resolution 801 authorizing a one year extension to building permits that were applied for between December 31, 2007 and June 30, 2009. Motion seconded by Councilmember Lindquist. Motion carried 6-0.

- E. Amendment to Agreement with DEA: Ms. Oates requested that Council authorize the Mayor to amend the existing agreement with DEA to perform transportation concurrency review on proposed development projects.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an amended agreement with DEA to provide transportation concurrency reviews. Motion seconded by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 6-0.

- F. Interlocal Agreement with Houston Galveston Area Council (HGACBuy): Chief Hari presented background information regarding a request for authorization for the City to enter into an interlocal agreement with HGACBuy for the purchase of a new ladder truck for the Fire Department. The new truck will cost \$856,997 including sales tax and should be ready for delivery within ten months. Fire District #1 has committed \$213,000 and the Equipment Rental Reserve Fund has accumulated the balance of the funds needed to purchase this equipment.

Councilmember Fiedler moved to authorize the Mayor to enter into an interlocal agreement with HGACBuy for the purpose of purchasing a ladder truck. Motion seconded by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 6-0.

Councilmember Lindquist moved to approve the purchase of a ladder fire truck through the HGACBuy Interlocal agreement. Motion seconded by Councilmember McMullen. Motion carried 6-0.

- G. Amending Small Works Roster Process: Mr. Rogerson presented a proposed amendment to the ordinance relating to a small works roster list. The Washington State Legislature has adopted HB 1196 (Chapter 79, 2009 Laws), that raises the dollar limits for projects subject to the small works roster process and adds the Public Works Director as an official who may administer the small works roster process. The current small works roster is utilized for work with an estimated cost of \$200,000 or less. The new limit would be \$300,000.

Councilmember Urban moved to approved Ordinance 3480 amending the Small Works Roster Process as outlined above. Motion seconded by Councilmember Quam. Motion carried 6-0.

The meeting was convened into executive session at 7:55 p.m. which was estimated to last 30 minutes.

H. Executive Session – Potential Litigation

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

SUBMITTED BY:

Rebecca J. Wade, Recording Secretary

ATTEST:

Alicia D. Huschka, Finance Director

APPROVE:

Bud Norris, Mayor