

CITY OF STANWOOD
Regular Meeting of the City Council
Thursday, October 25, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.
Stanwood Camano School District Administration Board Room
MINUTES

1. Call to Order and Pledge of Allegiance

Mayor Leonard Kelley called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

2. Roll Call

Deputy Clerk Tania Hawes called the roll with the following Councilmembers present: Rob Johnson, Dianne White, Elizabeth Callaghan, Timothy Pearce, Larry Sather, and Kelly McGill. The meeting was quorate.

Also present: City Administrator Jennifer Olson, Public Works Director Kevin Hushagen, Finance Director David Hammond, Community Development Director Patricia Love, Assistant Fire Chief Don Bartlett, City Attorney Representative Brett Vinson, and Deputy Clerk Tania Hawes.

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember McGill, to excuse Councilmember Williams. Motion carried unanimously.

3. Approval of the Agenda

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember Callaghan, to approve the agenda. Motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizen Comments

Cathy Wooten – 27828 84th Ave NW

Cathy Wooten requested that the minutes of tonight's meeting capture a comment made in the October 11, 2018 City Council meeting. Ms. Wooten commented that the minutes of the October 11th meeting did not capture enough of Angie Siever's comment, particularly that she cautioned Council of raising utility rates and fees too high too fast.

Tim Schmitt – 27308 101st Avenue

Mr. Schmitt thanked staff for creating an email list for the City. Tim then added to the comments made by Mr. and Ms. Krick at the September 27th, 2018 meeting on Roundup being sprayed on their property. Mr. Schmitt commented that though Roundup is generally considered safe, there is growing evidence concerning some dangers. Tim requested that staff revisit the question of what the City should be using to get rid of weeds. He also encouraged staff to consider what methods neighboring cities are using, as well as giving citizens an option to opt-out of spraying on their property.

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5. Staff Reports

- a. Police Compstat Report – September 2018
- b. Public Works Monthly Report – September 2018
- c. Finance Report – Third Quarter

6. Committee Reports

- a. Public Works

Councilmember McGill commented on a question raised in the Public Works Committee Minutes: Can the City work with PUD to buy the pole yard for Viking Way? Councilmember McGill commented that the PUD is making a big request of the City and that they have yet to come to the table in a significant way to talk about allowing the right of way to go through the pole yard.

Mayor Leonard Kelley commented that he has spoken with the PUD in the past and they have acknowledged the importance of their commitment. At the Chamber meeting last week, the PUD made a presentation and discussed moving their customer service centers.

City Administrator Jennifer Olson added that during the Chamber meeting the PUD provided an overview of the North County Pole project. Ms. Olson is working on coordinating a meeting with the Mayor, Community Development Director Patricia Love, Public Works Director Kevin Hushagen, and the PUD to discuss the needs of the City and the PUD.

7. Consent Agenda

- a. Approve Vouchers and Payroll Checks
- b. 2019 Glass Quest, Stanwood Chamber, and Philips Publishing Contracts
- c. Approve October 11, 2018 Regular Meeting Minutes

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember McGill, to approve the consent agenda items a through c. Motion carried unanimously.

8. New Business

- a. First Reading of Ordinance 1463 – 2019 Property Tax Levy and Ordinance 1464 – 2019 EMS Levy

Finance Director David Hammond presented Ordinances 1463 and 1464 on revenue sources to Council.

Councilmember Johnson clarified with City Attorney Representative Brett Vinson if it was okay to hold a public hearing on both Ordinance 1463 and Ordinance 1464 at the same time.

City Attorney Representative Brett Vinson clarified that it is okay to hold a public hearing for both Ordinances at the same time, but each Ordinance would need its own separate motion.

Mayor Leonard Kelley opened the meeting to public hearing to hear testimony on revenue sources.

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Tim Schmitt – 27308 101st Avenue

Mr. Schmitt encouraged Council choose to the least aggressive property tax increase available. Tim stated that he had three reasons to ask for the least aggressive rate. First, the tax rate increases over the last few years have added up to make a large financial impact on citizens. Second, a property tax increase paired with the recently approved utility rate increase could create a double impact on citizens. Third, the rate increase affects the financially vulnerable in the community. Though the rate increase is only about \$7 a month, the rate change could cause financial hardship to many of the citizens in Stanwood. Tim suggested Council consider Councilmember Pearce's suggestion in the October 22, 2018 special meeting to look at cutting City expenses instead of raising income. Mr. Schmitt also referred to Councilmember Callaghan's comment during the October 22 meeting stating that if the City raises tax rates, they should start with the least aggressive increase to help the City reach its financial goals.

Steve Shepro – 8611 280th St NW

Mr. Shepro clarified questions he had about the data for the 2018 budget presented in the staff report for this item.

Cathy Wooten – 27828 84th Ave NW

Cathy Wooten stated that if we begin to have money saved up within the City for when we need our new police station, the City won't have to borrow as much money and will get a better interest rate on the money they borrow. Cathy stated that the City needs to start anticipating expenditures and working proactively to prepare for large expenses.

Seeing no more citizen comments, Council closed the public hearing.

Councilmember McGill asked to clarify which option Council was approving in their motion.

Councilmember Sather clarified that his motion was in favor of option five.

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember Johnson, to approve first reading of Ordinance 1463 levying taxes upon all property subject to taxation within the corporate limits of the City of Stanwood for the year 2019. Pearce – no, Sather – yes, McGill – yes, Johnson – yes, White – yes, Callaghan – no. Motion carried.

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember McGill, to approve first reading of Ordinance 1464 levying taxes for emergency medical services upon all property subject to taxation within the corporate limits of the City of Stanwood for the year 2019. Pearce – yes, Sather – yes, McGill – yes, Johnson – yes, White – yes, Callaghan – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

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b. First Reading of Ordinance 1459 – Industrial Zone Code Amendment

Community Development Director Patricia Love presented the proposed code amendment to update the light industrial and general industrial zoning code to Council. This discussion item came forward as part of the docket from last year to revisit some of the standards from which industrial developments are applied. The goal of this code amendment was to reduce the negative affect of industrial zones on adjacent properties. The Planning Commission reviewed the enforceability of the code amendment, resulting in language requiring sufficient engineering studies by the developer if there is reasonable doubt that zoning standards are not being met. Patricia stated that there was additional clarification language that will be added for the second reading of the Ordinance.

City Council opened the meeting to public hearing.

Cathy Wooten – 27828 84th Ave NW

Cathy Wooten spoke in favor of Ordinance 1459 – Industrial Zone Code Amendment because of its clarity and specific standards.

Seeing no other comments, Mayor Leonard Kelley closed the public hearing.

Motion by Councilmember Sather, second by Councilmember McGill, to approve first reading of Ordinance 1459 as set forth in Attachment "A" amending Title 17, Additional Development Standards in the light industrial and general zones and proceed with the second and final reading of the Ordinance on November 8, 2018. Pearce – yes, Sather – yes, McGill – yes, Johnson – yes, White – yes, Callaghan – yes. Motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember McGill thanked Cathy Wooten for her help as this is an example of government working for the people.

Councilmember Johnson clarified that the additional language Community Development Director Patricia Love presented would be included in this meeting's motion.

9. Reports of Officers and Committees

a. Mayor's Report

Mayor Leonard Kelley announced that the Merchants will be holding a trick-or-treat event on Halloween between 4:00pm and 5:00pm. Between 4:00pm and 7:00pm there will be a trunk-or-treat at the Stanwood Grocery Outlet. Mayor Leonard Kelley attended a board workshop for Community Transit today and announced that the Board gave approval for Community Transit to create reduced fares for passengers that fall below the low income line.

b. City Administrator's Report

City Administrator Jennifer Olson commented on the Discover Stanwood-Camano Magazine Report, announcing that part of the services provided by the magazine will be a specialized advertising tool for Stanwood Businesses magazine's website next year.

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c. Councilmember Reports and Questions

Councilmember McGill stated that the citizen testimony on raising property taxes is being taken into consideration and that his vote in favor of the rate increase was not an easy decision.

10. Adjourn

Mayor Kelley adjourned the meeting at 8:02 p.m.

CITY OF STANWOOD



Leonard Kelley, Mayor

ATTEST:



Tania Hawes, Deputy Clerk