



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Winkelman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. Councilmember Anderson led the flag salute.

ROLL CALL

Those in attendance were Mayor Winkelman and Councilmembers Anderson, Brooks, Carlstrom, Davis, Larsen, Nelson, Pauley, Puvogel, Reid, Smith and Thornton. Absent from the meeting was Councilmember Hinchin.

Staff in attendance were Police Chief Joe Strong, Fire Chief Matt Miller, City Attorney Steve Johnson, City Administrator Brian Shay and Council Secretary Tracy Wood.

PUBLIC MEETING

HDR Engineering – SERP for the WWTP Facility Plan, General Sewer Plan and K St. Pump Station

Councilmember Puvogel moved to open the Public Meeting at 7:03 p.m. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Ty Johnson, Laura Nolan and Shelby Smith, representing HDR Engineering made a presentation to the council regarding the State Environmental Review Process for the WWTP Plan, the General Sewer Plan and the K Street Pump Station. They reviewed the process of updating the plans for the City and what recommendations they have. Ty explained with the wet weather that we have here, there is more use on the pumps trying to clear the water and that shortens the life of the pumps. They hope to have the pre-design done by the end of March and bid documents by the end of 2024. Laura Nolan reviewed the Waste Water Treatment Plan and their recommendations. The preference would be Alternative 2, ditches with sludge conveyance to Aberdeen. This would require negotiations with Aberdeen. There is also options to haul the sludge to other places. It was asked if upgrade or rehabilitation of the current treatment plant would be feasible. HDR does not feel it is financially feasible. The council asked several questions regarding the levy project, the costs for the alternatives, etc. Ty stated that the recommendations would protect the North Shore Levy project.

Adoption of these plans is required for the city to qualify for State and Federal funding. Further discussion was held on option 1 vs 2. Mr. Shay reminded council that producing/cleaning our own sludge would be more labor intensive. It was asked what the cost would be to go with option A – the answer was an additional \$10,000,000. Following further discussion, Councilmember Nelson moved



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

to close the public meeting at 7:42 p.m. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

CONGRESSMAN DEREK KILMER

Congressman Kilmer joined the meeting via Zoom from Washington DC. He stated he grew up on the Olympic Peninsula and has always worked to do the best job he could for the communities here. In recent weeks he and others were able to secure funding for a pilot program to help with economic growth. More business will grow jobs and provide stronger tax bases for small cities like ours. They have secured \$500,000 in funding to help with the removal of the West Fork Dam and improvements for our drinking water. With these funds it does not fall on the back of our citizens. The Port will also receive \$25,000,000. Councilmember Puvogel thanked Congressman Kilmer for being such an advocate for Grays harbor. He will certainly be missed. Several other Councilmembers agreed.

CONSENT AGENDA

Councilmember Brooks moved to approve consent agenda items as presented. His motion was seconded. Appearing on the consent agenda were the City Council Minutes of February 26, 2024. The motion to approve the consent agenda passed by voice vote.

OFFICER REPORTS

Set Public Hearing – Assessment of Abatement Costs for Demolition of a Structure at 2922 Sumner Ave.

City Attorney Johnson provided background information regarding the abatement costs for 2922 Sumner. He requested that the Council set a public hearing date for Monday, March 25, 2024 for the assessment of the abatement costs for this property. Councilmember Puvogel moved to accept the officer report. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Set Public Hearing – Assessment of Abatement Costs for Demolition of a Structure at 205 5th St.

City Attorney Johnson provided background information regarding the abatement costs for 205 5th St. He requested that the Council set a public hearing date for Monday, March 25, 2024 for the assessment of the abatement costs for this property. Councilmember Brooks moved to accept the officer report. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

MAYOR REPORTS

Appointment to Revitalization Task Force

Mayor Winkelmann appointed Casey Roloff to serve on the Revitalization Task Force. He hopes the committee will be able to meet and review the Revitalization Plan and bring back some recommendations at the next meeting.



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

HDR Presentation HDR provided good information to the Council tonight and he encouraged Council to pursue these projects. He stated that it is good to see public participation at the meeting so that they can understand the needs of the City and it doesn't just fall on the council.

Miss Grays Harbor Teen He congratulated his daughter Maci for being selected at Miss Grays Harbor Teen for 2024.

COUNCIL REPORTS

DEHB Board Councilmember Carlstrom stated that while attending these meetings she has listened to equity problems throughout the state, be it race, hate speeches or other. She is thankful that our council has respect for each other and strive to work together.

Public Utilities Committee Councilmember Anderson stated that she has been elected as chair for the Public Utilities Committee for 2024. They will have a report for the council at the next meeting.

Spring Clean-up Spring Clean-up is March 20th through 23rd. Citizens can pick up their vouchers at Hometown Sanitation.

LEGAL BUSINESS

Resolutions

Local 101 – Hoquiam Register of Historic Places A Resolution listing the Local 101 building, 322 Lincoln St. on the Hoquiam Register of Historic Places. Councilmember Puvogel moved for approval of this resolution and his motion was seconded. A discussion followed where in Mr. shay stated that they are getting permits for the work being done on the building. By being listed on the register, they will need approval of the Historic Preservation Commission for any changes they make. The motion to approve the resolution passed by voice vote.

Adopting the General Sewer Plan and the WWTP Facility Plan A Resolution adopting the General Sewer Plan and the WWTP Facility Plan. Councilmember Puvogel moved for the approval of this resolution and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Surplus Property A Resolution declaring certain personal property owned by the city to be surplus items pursuant to Hoquiam Municipal Code Sections 1.64.005, 1.64.010 and 1.64.020. Councilmember Brooks moved for the approval of this resolution and his motion was seconded. Those items being surplus were a 2006 Toyota Highland, VIN #JTEEP21A160159795; a 2014



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

Dodge Ram Pickup, VIN #C6RR7KT1ES216228; and a 2006 Honda Odyssey, VIN #5FNRL38626B102192. The motion to approve the resolution passed by voice vote.

Other Legal

Rental Agreement – Hoquiam Youth Baseball

Included in the Council packet was a Rental Agreement for use of Olympic Stadium for games by Hoquiam Youth Baseball, as well as other park facilities for their practices. The contract will be for a 3 year term and includes an increase each year based on the CPI. Councilmember Puvogel moved to approve the agreement and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Rental Agreement – Hoquiam Girls Fastpitch

Included in the Council packet was a Rental Agreement for use of John Gable Park by the Hoquiam Girls Fastpitch. The contract will be for a 3 year term and includes an increase each year based on the CPI. Councilmember Puvogel moved to approve the agreement and his motion was seconded and passed by voice vote. Councilmember Puvogel moved to approve the agreement and his motion was seconded. Councilmember Thornton asked why the girls were not using Olympic Stadium and staff explained that Fastpitch fields are a different size. The motion to approve passed by voice vote.

Grays Harbor County Tourism Agreement

Included in the Council packet was an Agreement between Grays Harbor County and the City of Hoquiam for Olympic Stadium Repair, Renovation and Preservation. This was for a tourism grant in the amount of \$20,000 for the stadium project for 2024. Councilmember Puvogel moved to accept the agreement and authorize Mr. Shay to sign. His motion was seconded. Mr. Shay explained that this was for a tourism grant in the amount of \$20,000 that Tracy submitted for the stadium project for 2024. We also recently submitted a grant application to the Recreation and Conservation Office for lighting and completion of additional ADA restrooms which requires no match. There is also another grant available to apply for due in May which requires a match. The motion to approve passed by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS

Appointment to Revitalization Task Force

Councilmember Brooks moved to approve the appointment of Casey Roloff to the Revitalization Task force. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

Set Public Hearing Date – Councilmember Puvogel moved to set a Public Hearing Date of March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the Assessment of Abatement Costs for the Demolition Costs for a Structure at 2922 Sumner Avenue. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Set Public Hearing Date – Councilmember Puvogel moved to set a Public Hearing Date of March 25, 2024 at 7:00 p.m. for the Assessment of Abatement Costs for the Demolition Costs for a Structure at 205 5th Street. His motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Excuse Absent Members Councilmember Thornton moved to excuse the absent councilmember. Her motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

Watershed Committee Councilmember Anderson announced that the Watershed Committee will meet on March 25th at 6:00 p.m. in the Council Chambers.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Kim Chase, Street, Code Compliance, Police Departments and Downtown Area A letter was provided to the Council from Kim chase, 2415 Aberdeen Avenue, thanking the Street and Code Compliance Departments for their recent help. Also included in the letter was a request to see a monthly report at the council meetings from the Police Department so citizens know what is happening around town, as well a request to see something happen with the empty buildings in the downtown area.

Amendments to Park Plan Confirm Mayor Appointments A letter was provided to the Council from the Grays Harbor Sports Association asking that the Council and staff look at amendments to the Park and Recreation Plan as follows:

- include a multi-purpose outdoor sport complex;
- include a multi-purpose sport facility;
- include an Urban multi-purpose pathways for pedestrians and bicycles;
- expansion for Mr. T's batting cages
- Park additions for Art Pocklington Central Playfield.

Increase to Utility Bill Chris Piramus, 303 Emerson Avenue, spoke to the council regarding the recent increase to the City utility bill. This bill is larger than any of his other bills. He would like to see the city



**CITY OF HOQUIAM
Council Meeting Minutes**

March 11, 2024

hold a community hall. There needs to be accountability to the citizens, as these increases are not understandable. The Council needs to talk to their constituents.

ADJOURN

Council moved to adjourn the meetings at 8:17 p.m. The motion was seconded and passed by voice vote.

BEN WINKELMAN – MAYOR

TRACY WOOD – COUNCIL SECRETARY