

**CITY OF MCCLEARY**  
**Regular City Council Meeting**  
**Wednesday, November 28, 2018**

ROLL CALL AND FLAG SALUTE	Councilmembers Richey (by telephone), Huff, Heller (by telephone), Blankenship and Iversen were in attendance.
ABSENT	None.
STAFF PRESENT	Present at the meeting were Director of Public Works Todd Baun, Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Collins, Chief Steve Blumer and Attorney Chris Coker.
PUBLIC HEARING	None.
PUBLIC COMMENTS	None.
MAYOR COMMENTS	<p>Both Councilmember Heller and Richey attended the meeting by telephone due to illness. The ordinance allows for teleconference attendance so we are in compliance.</p> <p>The tree lighting is this Friday and there will be carolers, cookies and candy canes. Mayor Orffer thanked the city staff for all of their preparations.</p> <p>Santa Breakfast is also this Saturday at 8:30 with the tree auction.</p>
VOUCHERS	<p>Accounts Payable checks approved were 45216 - 45279, including EFT's, in the amount of \$250,798.38.</p> <p><b>It was moved by Councilmember Huff, seconded by Councilmember Iversen to approve the vouchers. Motion Carried 5-0.</b></p>
MINUTES APPROVED	None.
CITY ATTORNEY REPORT	Chris Coker provided a written report for the Mayor and Council.
DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS REPORT	Todd Baun provided a written staff report for the Mayor and Council.
POLICE CHIEF REPORT	Chief Blumer provided a written staff report for the Mayor and Council.
BLIGHTED PROPERTIES DISCUSSION	<p>Chris Coker reviewed the Liberty Lake, Washington, ordinance regarding blighted properties and found the ordinance was related to the ability to identify owners of property. He contacted an official and was told the intent of their ordinance was to get owners of property, that are in foreclosure, to have a list of who the actual owner is for notification purposes. They never implemented a fee for properties and since they passed the ordinance, they have not had anyone on the list because nobody qualified to be on it. The official he spoke with used to be a planner in Spokane and they talked about the registration fees. He conveyed his concerns to her about the taxing nature of the blighted ordinance fee and she said this was tried out in Spokane when she worked there. She said people in Spokane were sitting on property in downtown and using them as parking lots, which was in the property owners best interest but not in the city's best interest because the city wanted to build. The city looked into creating a fee structure for these unimproved lots that people were using for cash-cow parking lots. The city chose not to do it because of the risk related to it being defined as a tax.</p> <p>Chris believes the Liberty Lake ordinance is different because they never imposed any fees. If we want a registry to list properties, that is not a problem. Councilmember Blankenship asked if we did away with the fee process, would that be better and Chris agreed.</p>

Councilmember Iversen read the nuisance ordinance and she thinks it is robust and covers most of what is in the blighted ordinance, and what is not covered, can be added. She spoke with some of the business owners and she personally feels if a person buys a piece of property, they maintain it and pay their taxes, it is their right to do what they want with their property. If she wants to buy a piece of property and not develop it, she feels it should be her right and she should not have to come down and get on a list or pay a fee. She should be able to purchase a property and be able to freely own it. It may prevent people and builders from investing in property in McCleary.

Councilmember Blankenship asked what about property owners that live next to a nuisance property? Councilmember Iversen stated that is why we have a nuisance ordinance and if it's not addressed, we can update the nuisance ordinance. Mayor Orffer asked Councilmember Blankenship if he could site an issue that is not addressed in the nuisance ordinance and he said there are some definitions that he has run across and wrote them down but does not have with him tonight.

Councilmember Huff read Liberty Lakes ordinance and approves of this if they remove the fee. Councilmember Richey thinks the one thing we have going in this town is our property. If somebody from outside the city wants to purchase a bunch of our property, it hurts us.

ENCLOSED TRAILER  
PURCHASE

There is money budgeted for the purchase of an enclosed trailer for the thumper. It would provide housing for the thumper and alleviates loading and unloading, which is a safety feature for the crew. **It was moved by Councilmember Blankenship, seconded by Councilmember Iversen to authorize the purchase of the enclosed trailer for the thumper from Olympic Trailer for \$6,770.40, including tax. Motion Carried 5-0.**

BPA TC-20/BP-20  
SETTLEMENTS

Todd Baun provided an outline for the settlement from BPA for the Council to review. **It was moved by Councilmember Iversen, seconded by Councilmember Huff to authorize the Mayor to sign the TC-20 Settlement Agreement and the BP-20 Partial Rates Settlement Agreement. Motion Carried 5-0.**

MAYOR AND CITY COUNCIL  
SALARIES

Mayor Orffer asked for this item to be on the agenda tonight. She wants to assure everyone this is not self-serving. She brought this up prior to becoming Mayor. The last time salaries were addressed for the Council and Mayor was in 2006. She understands civic service and duty and supports that, but she also understands the value of peoples time and for the city to give honor where honor is due and to be respectful to the service people provide. She is asking the council to review salaries, which will go into affect after the next general election. Council cannot vote themselves a raise so it will not go into affect until after the next election. The Mayor can receive a raise any time, however, she recommends there will not be any raise increase until after the next election. She feels that would be the most appropriate approach. She will share the salary comparisons she received from Wendy Collins. Councilmember Huff is interested in reviewing an increase and see if it fits appropriately in a community our size. Councilmember Heller would like to see the comparable and thinks it would be a minimal impact to the budget

2019 BUDGET

Minimal changes were made after the creating of the managerial funds. In the spirit of transparency, Mayor Orffer wanted the Council to be aware there were a few minor changes to the proposed budget. Councilmember Iversen said she wanted to first commend Wendy for all the work she has done on this budget. She knows Wendy has worked with the Mayor and Finance Committee but when it comes right down to it, Wendy, Todd and others did the heavy lifting on this budget and she wanted to say thank you. She told Wendy to make sure her statement gets in the minutes since she types them. **It was moved by Councilmember Iversen, seconded by Councilmember Blankenship to approve the 2019 Budget. Motion Carried 5-0.**

ORDINANCE 847, 2019  
BUDGET

**It was moved by Councilmember Huff, seconded by Councilmember Iversen to adopt Ordinance 847 ADOPTING A BUDGET FUNDING THE OPERATIONS OF THE CITY OF MCCLEARY FOR THE CALENDAR YEAR 2019. Roll call taken in the affirmative. Ordinance Adopted 5-0.**

EXECUTIVE SESSION

None.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Mayor Orffer wanted to mirror Councilmember Iversen's compliments to the city staff. There are a lot of hours and energy that goes into the budget and her contribution is small compared to what they do. There is a lot of work that goes into this and she appreciates all they do.

Councilmember Huff told Todd Baun he got pelted again the other day from someone regarding the 5th Street stop sign request, which he made a couple months ago. He asked if anyone has looked into putting something there? Todd said we took it to our traffic engineers and they recommended we not change it at this time but he will go research it again to see exactly what was said and the reason for it.

Councilmember Huff asked Todd if he's heard anything back from the DOT on the crosswalk by the park. Todd said they looked at it and took it to their regional engineering and basically what came back from them was to have the city purchase flagging for the crosswalk like Ocean Shores did. The crosswalk would have flags available for people to grab and use while walking across the street. Todd is looking at getting a grant for that and also for a flashing light for when people are in the crosswalk.

MEETING ADJOURNED

**It was moved by Councilmember Huff, seconded by Councilmember Iversen to adjourn the meeting at 7:13 pm. The next meeting will be Wednesday, December 12, 2018 at 6:30 pm. Motion Carried 5-0.**

*Approved by Mayor Brenda Orffer and Clerk-Treasurer Wendy Collins.*