

August 10, 2006

**CALL TO ORDER:** Mayor Tjeerdsma called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., with the Pledge of Allegiance. Council Members present: Bensen, Doyle, Loving, Valentine, Straathof and Montgomery. Staff present: Aarstad, Harmon, Sheahan, and Thomas.

A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Doyle** to excuse **Councilor Aslett** from tonight's meeting. All agreed. Motion carried.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

**Councilor Bensen** noted a spelling error on page 2. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Doyle** to approve the corrected minutes of the July 27, 2006 Council meeting. All were in favor. Motion carried.

**AUDIT OF BILLS:**

**Councilor Bensen** presented the bills. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Valentine** to approve vouchers 47252 - 47361 in the amount of \$690,204.84. All were in favor. Motion carried.

Current Expense	\$ 63,312.91
Current Expense Cumulative Reserve	2,297.77
Fire Equipment Cumulative Reserve	58.49
City Street	5,153.63
Library	5,501.82
Parks & Recreation	9,187.02
Cemetery Fund	146.11
Stadium Fund	10,607.90
Local Capital Improvement Fund	473,658.24
Parks & Recreation Reserve	6,214.19
Sewer Fund	17,752.39
Sewer Cumulative Reserve	96,314.37
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 690,204.84</b>

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

Mr. Brian McGuire, Fibrex Corporation 750 S. Spruce, asked about the possibility of leasing property from the city (near the Fire Station). He does not have enough area on his property for parking so the employees & customers park on the city street which is near a busy intersection. Council discussed his proposal. **Councilor Bensen** noted that this is a safety issue with cars parked on the street near the intersection of S. Spruce and Sharon Street. Mr. McGuire stated that he has about 50 employees so would probably need the entire area for parking (about 35 cars). **Councilor Doyle** suggested the property be posted as "private property" if he leased the land from the city. **City Administrator Aarstad** suggested the city also address the option of eliminating all street parking along S. Spruce near the Sharon Street intersection. Council recommended Mr. McGuire get together with **Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** to discuss the proposal.

Mr. Mike Turner, NORA RC Car Club, reported that all seems to be going well at the remote control car track at Skagit River Park (on Whitmarsh Road). He thanked the City for their help in developing the race track. He noted that club membership has gone up from 50 to 70 members and attendance at races has also increased every week. He will be attending an upcoming Burlington Parks Board meeting to let them know how things are going with the club. He has not heard of any complaints regarding the car track. He reviewed the calendar of upcoming events. He noted the club will also host a fundraiser with all proceeds going to a family adopted through the Skagit Valley Herald Christmas Fund. **Councilor Loving**

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noted that some local civic clubs have made donations to provide cars for kids that can't afford to purchase one. The club will maintain the cars and monitor which kids are allowed to use them (so that all needy kids have an opportunity to race).

**Councilor Straathof** asked about the dirt piles and weeds on the property near where the race track is located. **Councilor Loving** noted that the project is not yet complete and they are waiting for another load of dirt. After completion the piles will be gone and the area should look very nice.

Mr. Mark Kramer, 506 S. Cherry, discussed construction of a new storage facility on City property at the old sewer plant site. He noted that the Planning Commission voted to require a picnic table on site and understands that the City is not planning on complying with this requirement. **City Administrator Aarstad** clarified that the property is slated to be a park at some time in the future but currently there are not any capital improvement funds to create a new park at that location.

#### **OFFICER REPORTS:**

**City Administrator Aarstad** noted that the 2007 Budget Calendar has been distributed to city staff and Council Members. He stated that departments are required to submit their 2007 budget requests by August 25<sup>th</sup>.

**City Administrator Aarstad** stated that construction projects for City Hall and the Library are moving along well. City Hall is about three weeks ahead of schedule. A large crane will be moved onto the library site project next week to install the center trusses of the structure. The library project is on schedule.

**City Administrator Aarstad** distributed a letter from the County Commissioners requesting the cities share a greater portion of sales tax revenue with the County. He also distributed a copy of a response from Anacortes Mayor Maxwell.

**City Attorney Thomas** noted that the state legislature passed a statute regarding the safety of children and registered sex offenders. Once a registered sex offender has been given written notification of locations and areas where children gather and then returns to any of those areas, the offender can be charged with a class 3 felony. This statute requires several steps by the city prior to being put into place. He wanted to let the council know about the new law and that he will be working on implementation within the City.

#### **PROCLAMATION:**

**City Administrator Aarstad** read the proclamation declaring September, October and November as United Way Campaign months in the City of Burlington.

#### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

There was no unfinished business.

#### **NEW BUSINESS:**

#### **PROPOSED CITY COUNCIL AUTHORIZATION OF TEMPORARY STREET CLOSURE ON FAIRHAVEN BETWEEN SPRUCE AND WALNUT ON FRIDAY EVENING, AUGUST 25, 2006.**

Mr. Brad Whaley, Café Burlington, noted that he has submitted a request for a temporary use permit for an event and street closure (for the purpose of an outdoor barbeque event) in front of Café Burlington on Friday evening, August 25, 2006. He described how the event will be staged on the street and the discussions he had with City staff. The Technical Committee has reviewed the request and recommended approval. An emergency plan has been approved by the Police and Fire Departments. The event has been scheduled to begin at 6:30 p.m. (after

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the bank drive-through windows close at 6:00 pm). He has spoken with management staff at Skagit State Bank regarding this request. A motion was made by **Councilors Loving/Straathof** to approve the issuance of a temporary use permit for an event and street closure on August 25, 2006 on Fairhaven Avenue between Walnut and Spruce Street. All approved. Motion carried.

**2007 – 2012 SIX YEAR TRANSPORTATION IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM.**

**Mayor Tjeerdsma** opened the public hearing. **Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** reviewed the changes and additions to the Transportation Improvement Program. He distributed a revised TIP packet noting that the plan now includes a (wetland enhancement) Water Quality Project. This project is located on the south side of Cascade Mall in the Gages Slough area. He also included the north Skagit Street/Hwy 20 signal light project. **Mayor Tjeerdsma** stated that the overlay of Skagit Street has been delayed until such time as the street can be widened north of Fairhaven Avenue. **Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** noted that if a development project comes to the area, the proposed signal light could be upgraded because of additional funding from a development project. **Councilor Bensen** suggested if this project (signal, widening, and overlay of street) is done as one project, the City should also move the overhead utilities underground at the same time. **Mayor Tjeerdsma** suggested the City implement a policy to move utilities from overhead to underground during street projects if possible. **Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** offered to prepare a "City standard" policy for council review at a later date. He noted that partial funding for these projects in the TIP are Federal which requires they be included in the TIP (even through they aren't always directly related to transportation). He noted that the TIP plan is primarily used by Washington State Department of Transportation to help determine what the transportation financial needs are in the state. He described the plan for a water quality project in Gages Slough south of Cascade Mall. Mr. Mark Kramer, 506 S. Cherry, asked if the railroad overpass project is still in the plan, if there is any funding for this project and if he thinks it will ever happen. He stated he would like the project removed from the plan. Mr. Kramer asked about the North Burlington Boulevard project and when it will begin. **Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer Harmon** noted that the project will begin summer 2007 and be completed in two phases. Mr. Kramer asked if there will be any improvements to local neighborhood streets. **City Administrator Aarstad** noted that many improvements to neighborhood streets are done by the Street Department as routine maintenance projects (and not included in the TIP). A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Loving** to close the Public Hearing. All agreed. Motion carried. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Valentine** to approve Resolution adopting the 2007 – 2012 Six Year Transportation Improvement Plan. All agreed. Motion carried.

**(Resolution # 15-2006)**

**AMENDMENT TO INTERLOCAL AGREEMENT WITH SKAGIT COUNTY TO INCREASE TO 10% THE CITY'S SHARE OF LIQUOR TAXES SENT TO THE COUNTY TO SUPPORT SUBSTANCE ABUSE TREATMENT AND PREVENTION PROGRAMS.**

**City Administrator Aarstad** stated that a request has been made by Skagit County Human Services that the City increase funding to support substance abuse treatment and prevention programs. He noted that the Cities of Anacortes and Mount Vernon have changed their share of liquor tax revenue support to the county from 7% to 10% effective the first quarter of 2006. A motion was made by **Councilors Bensen/Montgomery** to approve Amendment #1 to Interlocal Cooperative Agreement #C20040481 between Skagit County and City of Burlington changing the liquor tax revenue share to Skagit County from 7% to 10% and authorize the Mayor to sign the agreement. All agreed. Motion carried.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

The Mayor and Councilmembers adjourned to Executive Session at 8:08 p.m. to discuss personnel and litigation. The Mayor and Councilmembers returned from Executive Session at 8:42 p.m.

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**ADJOURNMENT:**

A motion was made by **Councilors Doyle/Montgomery** to adjourn the meeting at 8:43 p.m. All were in favor. Motion carried.

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Richard A. Patrick  
Finance Director / City Clerk

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William Aslett  
Mayor Pro-Tem