

TOWN OF SOUTH PRAIRIE
REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 6, 2007, 7:00 PM

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Peggy Levesque called to order and presided over the Regular Council Meeting of Tuesday, February 6, 2007 at 7:03 PM.

ROLL CALL:

Council Members: Laura Heideman, Anthony Caldwell and Eric Satterthwaite were present. Dave Lykstad arrived late and Virginia Thompson was absent.

Also in attendance: Marydale Brooks, White River Hometowns; Judy Halone, Gazette Reporter; Mathieu Cameron and Karen Shell citizens; and Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer

COUNCIL MEMBER ABSENCES:

Mayor Peggy Levesque entertained a motion to excuse Dave Lykstad's absence from the Recessed Council Meeting on January 16, 2007.

- ❖ **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** moved to approve Dave Lykstad's absence from the Recessed Council Meeting on January 16, 2007. **Councilor Laura Heideman** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Mayor Peggy Levesque entertained a motion to excuse Virginia Thompson's absence from the Regular Council Meeting for February 6, 2007.

- ❖ **Councilor Laura Heideman** moved to approve Virginia Thompson's absence from the Regular Council Meeting on February 6, 2007. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

FLAG SALUTE:

Mayor Peggy Levesque requested everyone stand for the "Pledge of Allegiance."

MARYDALE BROOKS – WHITE RIVER HOMETOWNS:

Marydale Brooks gave a presentation to introduce the White River Hometowns concept, which represents a new funding source partnered with Greater Tacoma Community Foundation. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** read the concept page into record. "Greater Tacoma Community Foundation, White River Hometowns, c/o Marydale Brooks, Facilitator. Hometowns represents a new funding source partnered with the Greater Tacoma Community Foundation yet functioning as a self-directed local entity. Hometowns is established in memory of Mary A. Brooks as a perpetual endowment benefiting citizens served by White River and Carbonado School Districts and/or residential postal service via Buckley, Burnett, South Prairie, Wilkeson and Carbonado.

- Augment what is already happening.
- Welcome new inspiration.
- Through a balance of in-cash/in-kind contributions. Grants for specific projects using people power to accomplish.

Marydale Brooks said White River Hometowns is looking for pilot programs to benefit communities using people power and community involvement. Council discussed with Marydale Brooks the possibility of White River Home Towns sponsoring a skateboard park and other projects in the Town of South Prairie. The Mayor and Council thanked Marydale Brooks for her presentation.

APPROVAL OF REGULAR COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 2, 2007:

- ❖ **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** moved to approve the Regular Council Meeting Minutes of January 2, 2007, with corrections. **Councilor Laura Heideman** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** requested a correction on Page 2 under AWC Loss Control Grant as follows: “*She said she* spoke to the insurance and they would allow us to use the grant money to help pay for the purchase of a piece of playground equipment. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said he was checking out the Rock & Cross with a purchase price of \$3,995 and with tax a total purchase price of \$4,346.56;” and a correction on Page 3 under Public Works’ Report as follows: “**Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said he turned *hypodermic needles* over to the Pierce County Sheriff’s Department that was found by Tacoma Avenue and SW Second Street.” No further discussion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.** Minutes approved as corrected.

APPROVAL OF RECESSED COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES OF JANUARY 16, 2007:

- ❖ **Councilor Laura Heideman** moved to approve the Recessed Council Meeting Minutes of January 16, 2007. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

****Recessed Council Meeting for January 22, 2007 was canceled – Presenter was not available. ****

APPROVAL OF BILLS FOR JANUARY 2007 IN THE AMOUNT OF \$21,998.95:

- ❖ **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** moved to approve the bills for January 2007 in the amount of \$21,998.95 (twenty-one thousand nine hundred ninety-eight dollars and ninety-five cents). **Councilor Laura Heideman** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked if the Utility Operator being out sick was the reason the NW Cascade bill was so high? **Marla Nevill** said yes, because they had to clean out the screens, which is usually done by the Utility Operator. No further discussion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

NEW BUSINESS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

CITIZENS’ COMMENTS:

Mayor Peggy Levesque welcomed the citizens to the Council Meeting. **Karen Shell** asked whom they contact about dog complaints? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said the Town is working on an Animal Control Contract with Pierce County, but in the meantime they could contact the Town Hall. **Mathieu Cameron** said he hears the siren going off but how would they know if it is a real emergency? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we would have the siren turned on and left on. She said she is working on changing the use of the siren for civil defense purposes only. She said the system they have in Orting was very expensive. Discussion followed. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** said the siren system was established to let the volunteers know to come to the fire station and was set up prior to having pagers. He said the siren is used only during the daytime and early evening hours. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said it is an archaic system but we are working on changing it. Discussion followed. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** welcomed **Mathieu Cameron** and **Karen Shell** to the Town.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Scout Projects:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said the following Scout projects are in process: 1) Josh Brown is working on building a sign and mounting the Town's bell at the Third Street Park; 2) TJ Brown is working on building footbridges to access the south side of Third Street Park; 3) Nate Dedge is doing prep work for the Rock and Cross and painting the merry-go-round and swings; and 4) Jake Dedge is planning on mounting the School Bell for the fire department. She said Daniel Plewnarz Eagle Scout Badge presentation would be on Sunday, February 25, 2007, 1:00 – 3:00 PM, at the Community Center. She said Dan offered to replace the picnic tables that were washed away in the flood if the Town paid for the materials. Discussion followed.

Employee Request to Telecommute:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said the Deputy Clerk spoke to her last week and requested permission to telecommute due to health problems and to take care of her grandson. She said she granted the Deputy Clerk's request. She said it is nice to have two people in the office but we have to do what we have to do. Discussion followed. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we might have to change the hours of operation for the Town Hall. She said we might be closed on Monday's and open for a half-day on Tuesday's, so the Town Clerk would not have to work such long hours on Council Meeting days. She said the office would be open on Wednesday and Thursday and closed on Friday. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** suggested checking the Union Contract. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she would check into the Union Contract and get back to the Council.

Codifying Ordinances:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said she spoke to our Town Attorney, Kathleen Haggard, Dionne & Rorick, and they could work on codifying the ordinances and Kathleen suggested having help from Town staff to reduce the cost for this task. **Councilor Laura Heideman** said Erin Madigan might also be another resource for filing. Discussion followed.

Purchase New Computer:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said we might have to purchase a new computer. She said she would like to be able to do computer work at the Town Hall, and Marla has had trouble with her computer. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked if Judy's computer was working? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said Judy has her computer at her home, because it has the ASP Billing and Budget Programs on it. **Councilor Laura Heideman** asked how old is the computer? **Marla Nevill** said we received the computers in 2000 through a grant from AWC. Discussion followed.

Excuse Laura Heideman to Leave Early:

- ❖ **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** moved to excuse Laura Heideman to leave early. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.** **Councilor Laura Heideman** said she is okay with the purchase of a new computer.

Purchase New Computer Cont.:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell asked if we could get a grant to get a new computer? **Marla Nevill** said she did not know. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she would entertain a motion to repair or replace Marla's computer whichever was more cost effective.

- ❖ **Councilor Dave Lykstad** moved to approve the repair or replacement of the Town Clerk's computer whichever was more cost effective. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

Safe Streets Meeting:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said there is a Safe Streets Meeting at the Community Center tomorrow, February 7, 2007 at 7:00 PM. She said Deputy Kocher and Sergeant Voiles with the Pierce County Sheriff's Department would be attending the meeting, and Barbara Nelson with PCNET (Pierce County Neighborhood Emergency Teams) might also be attending the meeting. Discussion followed. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we could recess this meeting to the Safe Streets Meeting in case we have a quorum at the Safe Streets Meeting.

Nuisance Ordinance:

Mayor Peggy Levesque said Kathleen Haggard reviewed the Town's Nuisance Ordinance and said it should be changed. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she spoke to Deputy Boyle, Pierce County Sheriff's Department, who deals with abandoned vehicles on rights-of way and he would like to help us with this problem. She said he suggested adopting the same ordinance as Pierce County. She said we might have to amend the agreement with the Pierce County Sheriff's Department to add this service. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** suggested the possibility of hiring an off-duty police officer. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said Deputy Boyle really knows the regulations and we have to do this correctly. Discussion followed. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said the enforcement is totally different for vehicles on private property. She said Pierce County is trying to set up their regulations so people could not move "junk" vehicles from the county to the city and vice versa. She said we already have enforcement through the Health Department on some nuisance violations. Discussion followed.

PUBLIC WORKS' REPORT:

Request for Projects:

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said we were contacted by Senator Pam Roach's office and they wanted to know if we had any projects that needed funded. He said we submitted the information to Senator Pam Roach's office to extend South Prairie Carbon River Road to Highway 162 for a project cost of \$212,000.00 (two hundred twelve thousand dollars). He said now we have to wait and see what happens. He said after reading the request further from Senator Roach's office, it states they are requesting construction projects except transportation. He said he spoke to the property owner whom this project could impact and he might be willing to trade for another piece of property, which might reduce the project cost of. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said for emergency purposes, it would be good to have more than one intersection. Discussion followed.

Purchase of "Rock and Cross":

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said the "Rock and Cross" has been purchased. He said the slide and teeter-totter was inspected and they are unsafe. He said Les Russell offered to try to repair the slide and the teeter-totter would be removed this week. He said we have to clear the area and remove the chips where the "Rock and Cross" would be located. Discussion followed.

Councilor Anthony Caldwell said we are dealing with a small issue and we'll wait and see how it works out. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she would prefer to deal with the issue instead of it being a Council Action item. Discussion followed.

Skateboard Park:

Councilor Eric Satterthwaite said he contacted a friend who is a great ironworker and he will donate the labor to build the ramps for the Skateboard Park. He said the Town would have to purchase the metal but he is working with a couple of suppliers to get the materials at a reasonable price. Discussion followed. He said a sample is coming to him and he would get the framework for a small ramp. He said he would donate his labor and the materials to finish the small ramp would be around \$50 - \$60. He said we could put the ramp at the Third Street Park for a couple of weeks so it could be tested by the teens. Discussion followed. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** said he could have the cost estimates finished within a couple

of days. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we have money budgeted for playground equipment. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** said we could probably build the test ramp for under \$100. He said we could probably get a lot of stuff donated. Discussion followed. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said when we had the work party at the Town Hall; the older Scouts were really excited about the Skateboard Park. She thanked Eric for his work on this project. Discussion followed.

CLERK'S REPORT:

Received Scholarship for Registration to the Washington Municipal Clerks Association Conference in March 2007. Request Council Approval for lodging and mileage reimbursement:

Marla Nevill said she received a scholarship from the Association of Washington Cities, Risk Management Service Agency (AWC RMSA) for the registration fee to the Washington Municipal Clerks Association Conference. She requested Council approval for lodging and mileage reimbursement to attend the conference. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said she might be able to have **Judy Tremblay** cover for Marla while she attends the conference. **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** asked if Judy could come in for a couple of hours each day? **Mayor Peggy Levesque** said we could work it out. Discussion followed.

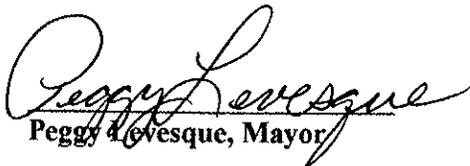
- ❖ **Councilor Dave Lykstad** moved to approve lodging and mileage reimbursement for **Marla Nevill** to attend the Washington Municipal Clerks Association Conference March 11 – 14, 2007. **Councilor Eric Satterthwaite** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**

COUNCIL MEMBERS' REPORT:

None.

RECESS TO FEBRUARY 7, 2007:

- ❖ At 8:45 PM, **Councilor Anthony Caldwell** moved to recess the Regular Council Meeting of February 6, 2007, to the Safe Streets Meeting at the Community Center on February 7, 2007, 7:00 PM. **Councilor Dave Lykstad** seconded the motion. **Mayor Peggy Levesque** called for discussion; seeing none, she called for the vote. **Motion carried unanimously.**


Peggy Levesque, Mayor


Marla Nevill, Clerk/Treasurer