

**CITY OF PROSSER, WASHINGTON  
601 7<sup>TH</sup> STREET  
CITY COUNCIL CHAMBERS  
CITY COUNCIL REGULAR MEETING  
TUESDAY, APRIL 24, 2012**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Warden called the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council to order at 7:00 p.m.

**PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE**

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Prosser Heights Elementary "Kid that Cares" Naomi Akinbade.

**ROLL CALL**

Council Members Rainer, Elder, Everett, Taylor, Troemel, Hamilton, and Becken were present.

**CITIZEN PARTICIPATION** (None)

**MAYOR AND COUNCIL REPORTS AND COMMENTS**

Council Member Hamilton expressed his gratitude to the Public Works crews for all their hard work during the free City clean up.

Council Member Troemel expressed his gratitude to City Clerk Rachel Shaw for her assistance with the iPad.

Mayor Warden reported the Chamber of Commerce has requested the Council consider allowing free admittance into the Prosser Aquatic Center during Sportsfest weekend June 9<sup>th</sup> and 10, 2012. With Council's approval, staff will prepare the information and bring it back the item for consideration at a future Council meeting.

**REPORT FROM THE CITY ADMINISTRATOR**

***INTRODUCTION OF NORTHWEST OPEN ACCESS (NOA) NETWORK FRANCHISE AGREEMENT***

Public Works Director L.J. DaCorsi introduced the proposed Franchise Agreement with Northwest Open Access (NOANet) a broadband services provider. Mr. DaCorsi explained the City had been contacted by NOANet requesting a franchise with the City of Prosser for the installation of fiber optic cable to extend internet service within city limits. The process for enacting the ordinance included initial introduction of the ordinance to the governing body, advertisement of a Public Hearing one week in advance of the Public Hearing and subsequent action. This item has been scheduled for the May 8, 2012 City Council meeting.

***LIVESCAN UPDATE***

Police Chief Pat McCullough briefed Council on the LiveScan digital finger print equipment update. Chief McCullough reminded Council in 2011 Council authorized staff to spend funds out of Criminal Justice to purchase the equipment. The vendor did not fulfill the order until 2012 requiring the funds to come out of the current 2012 budget. Council reapproved the request to spend Criminal Justice funds on the purchase of the LiveScan equipment out of the 2012 budget.

**PUBLIC HEARING**

**LIGHTSPEED NETWORK FRANCHISE AGREEMENT**

At 7:07 p.m., Mayor Warden recessed the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council to conduct a Public Hearing regarding a franchise agreement with Lightspeed Network. Mayor Warden called for public comment and none was received. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:08 p.m. and the Regular City Council Meeting was reconvened.

**ORDINANCE NO. 12-2778 GRANTING A FRANCHISE AGREEMENT TO LIGHTSPEED NETWORK**

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Rainer to adopt Ordinance No. 12-2778 approving a franchise agreement with Lightspeed Network. Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT.

**480 NORTH RIVER ROAD PROPERTY, PRE-ZONE TO HIGH DENSITY (HD)**

At 7:08 p.m., Mayor Warden recessed the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council to conduct a Public Hearing regarding a pre-zone to High Density (HD) at property located at 480 North River Road. Mayor Warden called for public comment and none was received. Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT. The Public Hearing was closed at 7:09 p.m. and the Regular City Council Meeting was reconvened.

**DISCUSSION ITEMS****SECOMM DISPATCH DISCUSSION**

Virginia Bradbury, 1928 Miller Ave., expressed her concerns with the possibility of the City contracting dispatch services. Mrs. Bradbury related her previous experiences with dialing 9-1-1 and stated her preference to not outsource the local dispatch center.

Dan Baldwin, 1309 Sunset Ave., stated his understanding of the City's budget deficit however wanted express his concerns with the City losing such a valuable piece of the community.

David Smith, 1052 Spokane Ave., reiterated the thoughts already shared with the other citizens and stated his concerns with the loss of jobs within the community.

Shane Hellyer stated his concerns with the information disseminated regarding dispatch services. Mr. Hellyer listed names of the dispatchers and described each of them and their unique services provided to the city. He explained that with the loss of the dispatch, more work for officers as well as the Police Records Clerk can be assumed. Mr. Hellyer encouraged Council to consider alternate cost saving options and stated he would prefer the City to maintain current services levels and not outsource.

Cliff Bohlke, 809 Concord Way, explained a situation he experienced when calling the Prosser local Dispatch Center and commented on the fast response time. Mr. Bohlke talked about benefits of maintaining a local Dispatch Center and stated he would be happy to pay extra taxes to keep dispatch in town and felt that the dispatch center partly attributed to property values being so high in Prosser.

Ross Esparza, 1419 Meade Ave., reported on two different positive incidents he experienced with his dealings with Prosser Dispatch. Mr. Esparza commended the Officers and Dispatchers in the audience for their dedication and contributions to the city of Prosser and willingness to be a lifeline to the Officers out in the field.

Tina Randles, 174302 W. Byron Road, advised her husband Gary Randles was an Officer in Prosser for twelve years. Mrs. Randles reported on previous experiences she had with dispatchers and expressed her concerns with outsourcing. She suggested Council consider raising taxes to fill the budget deficit and urged Council to identify other items to cut first rather than dispatch services.

Mark Cole explained he shared much of the thoughts previously stated. He reiterated the need to maintain the city's dispatch services and discussed what a vital part of the community the Prosser Dispatchers serve. Mr. Cole talked about the necessity to establish officer safety and how contracting dispatch services would move away from that. He related a negative previous experience encountered when SECOMM dispatched officers to an incorrect location due to the information provided on the computer and further elaborated on the importance of local knowledge. Mr. Cole acknowledged the decision before Council was a difficult one and suggested Council consider other options rather than outsourcing dispatch services. He stated in the end, all that matters is the community is served.

Dave Sandretto discussed what he felt to be erroneous information provided to Council on the Police Officer coverage if dispatch were to be outsourced. He addressed a list of items that he stated had not been mentioned in previous correspondence to Council. Mr. Sandretto addressed concerns he had with technology, radio frequencies, and hidden costs of upgrading equipment.

Christine Boast explained she is a dispatcher for the city of Grandview and discussed how Prosser dispatchers back up Grandview. Ms. Boast talked about the differences between local dispatch services verses the experience she has encountered with SECOMM.

Gary Randles, 174302 W. Byron Road, explained his previous tenure as a Prosser Police Officers and stated how the dispatchers became like family with familiar voices to help aide in

times of crisis. Mr. Randles stated he felt outsourcing is not a way to stay in touch with the community. He said he understood the decision was a fiscally difficult one to make but urged the Council to “keep it local.”

Cliff Bohlke, 809 Concord Way, inquired what Council was thinking even considering outsourcing dispatch services. Mr. Bohlke explained he was born and raised in Prosser and if he wanted less than quality services provided for his tax dollars, then he would move to an alternate community; he does not want cheaper, he wants good. He suggested other options for Council to consider including putting the item on the ballot for the public to vote on.

Virginia Bradbury explained for several years she sold real estate for a living and heard throughout her time as a realtor that most people looking for homes wanted to buy in either Zillah or Prosser. Mrs. Bradbury suggested the city look into getting grant monies.

Vanessa Gutierrez stated she was against the city outsourcing dispatch services. Ms. Gutierrez discussed how dispatchers go above and beyond the call of duty to make the community a safe place verses SECOMM who has a defined role. Ms. Gutierrez further explained the working relationship the dispatchers have with both the Prosser and the Benton County Officers. She questioned how much longer until the Officers were outsourced too.

John Markus, 1224 Playfield Street, expressed his gratitude towards the dispatchers for their loyalty and dedication to the city.

#### **POTENTIAL REGIONAL FIRE PROTECTION SERVICE AUTHORITY (RFA) OR ANNEXATION INTO THE FIRE DISTRICT**

Council Member Everett reported Benton County Fire District No. 3 wants direction on Regional Fire Authority (RFA) in order to move forward. There was discussion regarding the RFA Plan and the representation of three city and three county board members. Discussion ensued on whether or not to write into the Plan to require a supermajority to collect up to \$1.50 in taxes and how banked capacity would apply to city and county residents.

Council Member Hamilton inquired why is the city considering the two options of RFA or annexation into the Fire District. Mayor Warden explained to purpose is to assist with equipment replacement which is very costly to fund. Currently the county is contributing more money than the city and can afford to replace equipment that the city cannot.

Council inquired what would change if the RFA was formed. There was discussion about the assumed impacts to the city/county being very little and operationally things won't change.

Council asked for language to limit banked capacity for RFA plan to 1%. Staff concurred information would be brought back with revised language for Council's consideration at a future City Council meeting.

#### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Council Member Taylor pulled Item “H” from the Consent Agenda. A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Becken to approve Consent Agenda Items “A-G, I-M”. Motion passed 7 YES, 0 NO, 0 ABSENT.

- a. Approve Payment of Payroll Check Nos. 502213 through 502215 in the Amount of \$2,222.45 and Direct Deposits in the Amount of \$13,575.63 for the Period Ending April 13, 2012
- b. Approve Payment of Claim Check Nos. 68666 through 68742 in the Amount of \$147,517.52, DOR Electronic Payment in the Amount of \$11,561.88, and IRS Federal Tax Wires in the Amount of \$4,185.01, for the Period Ending April 24, 2012
- c. Approve Payment of Washington Trust Bank Claim Check Nos. 1022 through 1024 in the Amount of \$36,275.05 for the Period Ending April 24, 2012
- d. Approve Authorization for the Mayor to Sign Construction Contract Documents between Granite Construction Company and the City of Prosser for the Reconstruction of Sheridan Avenue, from 6<sup>th</sup> Street to

Wine Country Road, and Resurfacing of 6th Street from Sherman Avenue to the BNSF Railroad Tracks

- e. Approve the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Consultant Agreement between Huibregtse Louman Associate, Inc. (HLA) and the City of Prosser for Providing Construction Services on the Sheridan Avenue Improvements Project and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Agreement
- f. Approve the Transportation Improvement Board (TIB) Consultant Agreement between Huibregtse Louman Associate, Inc. (HLA) and the City of Prosser for Providing Construction Services on the 6<sup>th</sup> Street Resurfacing Project and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Grant Agreement
- g. Approve Maintenance Contract Renewal with Abadan for Konica Minolta Bizhub 451 Copier
- i. Approve the 2011 Annual Street Report for the Washington State Department of Transportation
- j. Approve Contract for Animal Control Services between the City of Prosser and Outwest Pet Rescue for off-hours Animal Control Coverage and Authorize the Mayor to Execute the Contract on Behalf of the City
- k. Approve the Agreement between the City of Prosser and the Prosser Swim Team for Providing Concessions at the Prosser Aquatic Center and Authorize the Mayor to Sign the Contract Documents
- l. Approve Meeting Minutes of February 14, 2012
- m. Approve Meeting Minutes of February 28, 2012

Council Member Taylor stated he felt award of the Complete Merchant Solutions is a gift of public funds and subsidizes people. City Attorney Saxton explained the newly adopted utility code requires absorbed costs and is not gifting of public funds.

A motion was made by Council Member Everett, seconded by Council Member Becken to approve Consent Agenda Item "H". Motion passed 5 YES, 2 NO (Rainer, Taylor), 0 ABSENT.

- h. Approve an Agreement with Complete Merchant Solutions to Provide for Credit Card Processing Services

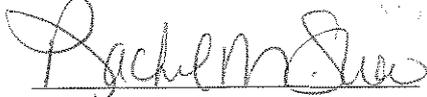
#### **DISCUSSION ITEMS**

Mayor Warden handed out and explained a memo regarding dispatch services revenue. There was discussion regarding some of the testimony received earlier in the evening about dispatch services. Council directed staff to schedule a Special City Council meeting on May 15, 2012 to consider taking action on whether or not to move forward on contracting dispatch services.

#### **ADJOURNMENT**

There being no further business before the City Council at this time, the Regular Meeting of the Prosser City Council was adjourned at 8:47 p.m.

Attest:

  
City Clerk Rachel Shaw



  
Mayor Paul Warden