Presiding: Mayor Cronce, Commissioner Olsen and Commissioner Moore
Staff Present: Dave O'Leary, Vicki Look, Cathy Beierle, Tracy Wilson and Lesleann Kangas

Mayor Cronce called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

**Commission Reports**
One or more Commissioners will attend the following activities this week:
- Public Works Week/Public Works BBQ
- League of Women Voters
- Kiwanis Open House/90 year celebration
- Mason Transit Authority Board Meeting
- Mental Health and Substance Abuse Meeting
- Judge Senior High School Student Projects
- Criminal Justice Meeting

**Public Comment**
Mayor Cronce recognized Mr. Charles Orthmann who said he is in favor of Water Option #3.

Mayor Cronce recognized Mr. Forrest Cooper who wanted to recognize the Shelton Dance Studio for their fundraiser and to the Rotary for the street cleanup. Mr. Cooper thanked all the volunteers who helped with the cleanup and Senior Planner Jason Dose for notifying the businesses that might be affected.

Mayor Cronce recognized Mr. Tom Davis who expressed his support for the proposed internship for sewer. Mr. Davis said that organizing a collation to lobby for funds as a group is moving in the right direction.

Mayor Cronce announced that in his campaign he said he would pledge 10 percent of his wages back to support things in the City of Shelton. He donated $1,000 to the Shelton Mason County Chamber of Commerce Flower Basket Project and $1,000 to the City of Shelton Parks and Recreation Programs.

Commissioner Moore, President of the Shelton Metropolitan Park District Board, thanked Mayor Cronce for his donation to the Parks.

**Consent Agenda**
1. Vouchers numbered 83360 through 83462 in the amount of $266,185.69
2. Payroll Warrants numbered 71382 through 71559 in the amount of $624,180.92
3. Commission Meeting Minutes from:
   - Business Meeting May 5, 2014
   - Study Session of May 12, 2014

*Commissioner Olsen moved to approve the consent agenda as is, but remove item 6, placing under old business for the next meeting for further discussion; Commissioner Moore seconded the motion. A vote was taken and the motion passed.*

**Old Business** — None
New Business

1. Sewer Funding Coalition – Internship – City Administrator O’Leary reported that in recent years, the City has been obligated to borrow $56 million do help fund a series of sewer-system-related rehabilitation projects. These projects were to replace aging systems that no longer operated as originally intended, or to meet current standards, which the state ordered us to complete. If the projects had not been completed the state could have placed us in a building moratorium. The current rate for residential sewer rose to $92.00 per month with future rate increases. CA O’Leary said that current cash flow is negative so we are using sewer utility reserves, and if necessary, borrow money from the storm water fund to ease rates up to a substantial level. The discouraging part is we have at least one more project to do. The design portion is complete but construction cost estimates are $6.5 million. We have secured a $1.87 million grant and will need to borrow $4.6 million to build the project. This will obligate rates to rise even higher. Local legislators are very sympathetic but are unable to secure a capital appropriation of $4.6 million. They have advised us to form a coalition of sewer service providers that will put pressure on Legislators throughout the state to find grant money for our project and others like it. CA O’Leary said that we secured a list of southwest Washington cities who have been working with Department of Ecology on sewer projects who met during the recent Legislative Action Conference in Olympia. Since then we have put together a list of sewer providers from throughout the state with the intention of expanding the group to between 50 and 100 members, who will commit to lobbying their legislators. Other plans include:
   - Organizing an event at the 2014 Association of Washington Cities conference in Spokane.
   - Organizing a presence at Washington Association of Counties Conference this fall.
   - Working with our local legislators to craft and introduce legislation in the 2015 Legislature.
   - Developing a variety of recruitment and communication strategies.

Strategies include and are not limited to: recruiting prospective coalition members, setting up a web page where stakeholders can post comments, researching and communicating helpful statistics, compiling and communicating stories of cities facing unreasonable indebtedness and high sewer bills, assisting with the development of specific legislation, and making early contacts to lobby influential Legislators. An intern would be recruited from local graduate students or recent graduates, who are pursuing (or have recently earned) an advanced degree in Public Administration or perhaps Political Science. Minimal qualifications include and are not limited to:
   - The ability to comprehend and utilize concepts of sewer utility capital facility financing
   - The ability to be persuasive
   - The ability to research and assimilate complex subjects
   - The ability to write and speak well and to convert complex concepts into plain English
   - The ability to listen with comprehension and empathy
   - The ability to manage a blog, and other social media
   - The ability to keep records and understand Washington public records requirements
   - The ability to assist in the preparation of legislation for presentation to the Washington Legislature
   - The ability to work directly and effectively with elected officials and senior local government managers.

CA O’Leary said he believes we can fill this position with one or more graduate student interns earning $18 per hour. Funding can come from Sewer Fund. Including associated non-labor expenses, the 2014 impact should be no more than $24,000. He said he will provide direct supervision. Details, including the number of interns will vary depending on the needs of the university program and the intern. As the coalition forms and begins to attract membership, we should form a more formalized association. This could result in dues paid which could offset some of the above costs, as well as the costs of lobbying the 2015 Legislature. CA O’Leary recommended that the Commission authorize him to hire a post-graduate intern for the purpose of organizing a sewer stakeholder coalition and to make the associated budget amendments.

The Commission concurred to authorize the City Administrator to hire a post-graduate intern for the purpose of organizing a sewer stakeholder coalition and to make the associated budget amendments by placing on the consent agenda for May 27, 2014.

Administration Reports - None
General Public Comment - None

Administrative Final Touches - None

Announcement of Next Meeting
Mayor Cronce announced the next regular Commission meeting of Tuesday, May 27, 2014 at 2:00 p.m. due to the observance of the Memorial Day Holiday.

Adjournment
Mayor Cronce adjourned the meeting at 6:34 p.m.

Mayor Cronce

City Clerk Look