



City Council Meeting
October 3, 2016 - 6:00 PM
Auburn Community and Events Center
910 9th Street SE
MINUTES

I. CALL TO ORDER

A. Pledge of Allegiance

Deputy Mayor Largo Wales called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. in the Auburn Community and Events Center located at 910 9th Street SE in Auburn. Deputy Mayor Wales led those in attendance in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Mayor Nancy Backus arrived at 6:01 p.m.

B. Roll Call

City Councilmembers present: Deputy Mayor Wales, Bob Baggett, John Holman, Bill Peloza, Yolanda Trout-Manuel and Rich Wagner. Councilmember Claude DaCorsi arrived at 6:32 p.m. Councilmember Trout-Manuel left the meeting at 7:33 p.m.

Junior City Councilmembers present: Chair Sydney Campbell, Matthew St. George, Tyler Cushing, Justen Hardaway, Diego Izquierdo, Jon Kosaka, Tanner Johnson. Member Thomas was not present.

Department directors and staff members present included: City Attorney Dan Heid, Chief of Police Bob Lee, Police Commander Steve Stocker, Police Officer Darrell Jones, Director of Administration Dana Hinman, Executive Assistant to the Mayor Tamie Bothell, Communications Coordinator Kalyn Brady, Human Services Program Coordinator Emily Pearson, Community Development and Public Works Director Kevin Snyder, Assistant Director of Engineering Services/City Engineer Ingrid Gaub, Parks, Arts and Recreation Director Daryl Faber, Innovation and Technology Assistant Director Ashley Riggs, and Deputy City Clerk Shawn Campbell.

II. ANNOUNCEMENTS, PROCLAMATIONS, AND PRESENTATIONS

There was no announcement, proclamation or presentation.

III. APPOINTMENTS

A. White River Valley Museum Board Appointments

City Council to confirm the following two appointments to the White River Valley Museum Board for terms to expire on December 18, 2018:

- James Bothell
- Gordy Nishimoto

Councilmember Holman moved and Councilmember Baggett seconded to appoint James Bothell and Gordy Nishimoto to the White River Valley Museum Board.

Councilmember Holman noted both men have served on the board previously and have longstanding ties to the community.

Councilmember Pelozo noted both appointees will be a good fit, and the City is lucky they are willing to serve. Councilmember Pelozo reported he served with Mr. Nishimoto on the Museum Board approximately 15 years ago.

Deputy Mayor Wales stated she has heard many great things about the proposed nominees. She expressed a desire that Council be provided full applications for any potential appointment prior to the meeting in the future.

Mayor Backus noted the staff did provide Council with information on each proposed appointee prior to the meeting via email. The practice of providing Council the full application is a courtesy.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

IV. AGENDA MODIFICATIONS

There was no change to the agenda.

V. CITIZEN INPUT, PUBLIC HEARINGS & CORRESPONDENCE

A. Public Hearings

There was no public hearing scheduled this evening.

B. Audience Participation

This is the place on the agenda where the public is invited to speak to the City Council on any issue. Those wishing to speak are reminded to sign in on the form provided.

There was no audience participation.

C. Correspondence

There was no correspondence for Council review.

VI. COUNCIL AD HOC COMMITTEE REPORTS

Council Ad Hoc Committee Chairs may report on the status of their ad hoc Council Committees' progress on assigned tasks and may give their recommendations to the City Council, if any.

Councilmember Baggett reported on behalf of the Finance ad hoc committee that reviews claims and payroll vouchers. Councilmember Baggett reported he and Councilmember Wagner reviewed the claims and payroll vouchers as presented and described on this evening's agenda and recommend their approval by Council.

VII. CONSENT AGENDA

All matters listed on the Consent Agenda are considered by the City Council to be routine and will be enacted by one motion in the form listed.

- A. Minutes of the November 23, 2015 Council Study Session
- B. Minutes of the September 19, 2016 Regular City Council Meeting
- C. Claims Vouchers (Coleman)
Claim voucher numbers 440718 through 440914, dated October 3rd, 2016 in the amount of \$1,665,443.18 and three wire transfers in the amount of \$197,042.50.
- D. Payroll Vouchers (Coleman)
Payroll check numbers 536730 through 536773 in the amount of \$699,694.51, electronic deposit transmissions in the amount of \$1,431,088.30 for a grand total of \$2,130,782.81 for the period covering September 15, 2016 to September 28, 2016.
- E. Public Works Project No. CP1202 (Snyder)
Approve Final Pay Estimate No. 10 to Contract No. 15-01 in the amount of \$129,991.37 and accept construction of Project No. CP1202, Auburn Way South Flooding Improvements Phase 2
- F. Public Works Project No. CP1605 (Snyder)
Approve Final Pay Estimate No. 2 to Contract No. 16-16 in the amount of \$85,607.49 and accept construction of Project No. CP1605, Herr Properties Demolition.

Deputy Mayor Wales moved and Councilmember Trout-Manuel seconded to approve the Consent Agenda.

Deputy Mayor Wales stated the Consent Agenda consists of minutes, claims and payroll vouchers, contracts, and public works projects.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

VIII. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

There was no unfinished business.

IX. NEW BUSINESS

Deputy Mayor Wales moved and Councilmember Wagner seconded to repeal the ordinances and resolutions in place that effected Council Study Sessions.

Deputy Mayor Wales stated that when the Councilmembers ran for office it was to provide leadership to the community. The Study Session format gives leadership opportunity to the Deputy Mayor but at the expense of the leadership opportunities previously provided to the other Councilmembers by the committee chair positions. Council Committees provided equal opportunity for Councilmembers that is now limited by the Council Study Session format. She stated Council does not have the same ability to attain information and have become generalist and lack specificity. She said Councils' ability to provide policy filters has been hampered by the new process.

City Attorney Heid stated if the motion passes, staff would draft an ordinance to

address repealing the referenced ordinances and resolutions. The only way to repeal an ordinance is through another ordinance; and by Council rules, an ordinance must go to a Council Study Session prior to a Council meeting for consideration.

Councilmember Holman stated he would like more information. He would like additional time to prepare a rebuttal. He stated the proposed action is not the best way to achieve open transparent government.

Councilmember Wagner stated he believes the Council needs to have more in-depth discussions regarding utilities and public works. The Council Committees had more in-depth discussions and prepared suggestions from staff. He suggested the Deputy Mayor add a date requirement to her motion. The main reason he supported the Study Session process originally was to be able to discuss City issues with other Councilmembers without violating the Open Public Meetings Act.

Councilmember Pelozo stated the Council has operated under the Study Session format for nearly two years. He is disappointed in the limited Study Session agenda process. He stated the Study Session process has weakened the City Council's depth and knowledge of City issues. He stated the Study Session process has denied the Council their legislative body power.

Councilmember Trout-Manuel stated she agrees the Council Committee way of business is better. She ran for office to be able to be a chair of a committee.

Councilmember Baggett stated he attended several committee meetings prior to being on Council. He said there was a lot of details and information resolved in the Council Committees prior to being presented to full Council. He said the Council should review the process.

Councilmember Holman stated he was disappointed in his fellow Councilmembers for the obvious prepared statements and discussing this issue privately. Councilmember Holman stated the existence of Council Committees started power struggles between the committees with staff in the middle. With the Study Session format, all Councilmembers hear the information at the same time. If Council feels they are not getting the information they want, it is because Council is not asking the questions. Councilmember Holman stated the previous Council Committee system was seniority based and Junior Councilmembers had less authority or ability to effect change. Councilmember Holman stated every Councilmember needs an equal voice.

Councilmember Pelozo stated when he began his tenure on the Council, it took six years to become a chair of a Council Committee. Councilmembers need to work hard and earn a chair position. He stated the good ol' boys and girls have kept the City running over the years.

Councilmember DaCorsi noted when he joined the Council he was on two committees. Because he was on two committees, he could not have a conversation with another Councilmember as it was a violation of the Open Public Meetings Act. He felt he was a committee of three and not a Council of seven. He could not ask other Councilmembers questions to help with the

transition of becoming a Councilmember. He felt Council is at a disadvantage when members receive information from staff at different times.

Councilmember Wagner stated there will need to be more Study Sessions if the Council chooses to revert to Council Committees.

Mayor Backus stated Council is able to request and receive information at any time. Those topics that Councilmembers indicated were items for full Council discussion were brought before the full Council for consideration.

Councilmember Pelozo called for the question.

MOTION CARRIED. 4-3 Councilmembers DaCorsi, Baggett and Holman voted no.

X. DISCUSSION ITEMS

A. Joint Council and Junior City Council Meeting

1. Homelessness (Hinman)
2. Parking (Snyder)
3. Distracted Driving (Lee)
4. Internet Availability (Haugan)
5. Heroin and Prescription Opiate Abuse (Stocker)

Homelessness

Director Hinman reviewed the recommendations of the Task Force on Homelessness. The Task Force on Homelessness provided 56 recommendations. Council and staff are working on implementing the recommendations. The City is currently actively working on 19 of the recommendations.

Junior City Council Chair Campbell asked how the City responds to homeless minors. Director Hinman stated the City first attempts to reunite the minor with family, if that is a safe and stable option. If not, staff tries to find services for that minor.

Junior City Councilmember Izquierdo stated Auburn High School has a high student homeless rate. He asked what the City doing to help students know what resources are available to them specifically. Director Hinman stated the City works very closely with the school district. The City first attempts to find housing for the student and their family and then helps with other issues that may arise.

Mayor Backus stated homelessness is an ongoing issue. It is the duty of the Mayor and Council to protect all citizens in Auburn. Rapid rehousing has a concern that many of the barriers to finding housing need to be lowered.

Director Hinman requested the Junior City Councilmembers review the recommendations and provide input to City staff.

Parking

Director Snyder stated the debate on parking has two sides: either there is not enough or there is too much parking. The two kinds of parking the City has control over are on-street parking and off-street commercial parking. Parking in the downtown area is difficult because there is more demand than supply. The City, property owners and businesses have to work together to come up with solutions that work for all parties.

Distracted Driving

Officer Jones played a video with distracted driving scenarios. He explained that in 2014 431,000 people were injured in motor vehicle accidents and 3,179 people were killed in distracted driving accidents. Distracted driving has the same effect on peoples driving as alcohol. Officer Jones reviewed ACC 10.12.410 referring to distracted driving. He encouraged everyone to take the pledge to not drive distracted.

Junior City Council Chair Campbell asked is the City has any plans to have a competition between the Auburn High Schools. Officer Jones stated that is an option they are looking into.

Junior City Councilmember Izquierdo asked if the Police Department has considered working with the local drivers education programs. Officer Jones stated the Police Department is working on setting up a partnership with the drivers education programs.

Councilmember Peloza asked if the video Officer Jones presented could be played on the City's Television Station 21.

Internet Availability

Assistant Director Riggs stated the Innovation and Technology Department has been working to expand the City's infrastructure to allow everyone to have the ability to have internet access.

Junior City Councilmember Cushing stated students are required to take tests online. Occasionally the Wi-Fi cuts out and tests cannot be completed. Assistant Director Riggs stated all students will hopefully have access to Wi-Fi in the future.

Councilmember Peloza asked for the the estimated costs for the pilot project. Assistant Director Riggs stated the pilot project will cost approximately \$10,000.00.

Deputy Mayor Wales asked for the location of the pilot project. Assistant Director Riggs explained it is in the Mt. Baker Middle School area.

Mayor Backus explained due to the late hour and the scheduled Domestic Violence Awareness Vigil, the Council and Junior City Council will hear the Heroin and Opiate abuse discussion on another date.

XI. MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

At this time the Mayor and City Council may report on their significant City-related activities since the last regular Council meeting.

A. From the Council

Councilmember Holman moved and Councilmember DaCorsi seconded to suspend Council and Mayor Reports.

MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY. 6-0

B. From the Mayor

Due to time constraints, there was no report from Mayor Backus.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business to come before the Council, the meeting adjourned at 7:58 p.m.

APPROVED this 17th day of October, 2016.



NANCY BACKUS, MAYOR



Shawn Campbell, Deputy City Clerk