

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, January 7, 2013

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

The first Council meeting for the month of January was called to order by Mayor Nichols at 7:00 p.m. at the home of Dan and Kaye Lyon, 22430 Dogwood Lane.

Councilmembers present were William Anderson, Kent Saltonstall, Elizabeth Mitchell, and Tom Whitson. Councilmember Mike Quinn had an excused absence. Town Administrator Eric Faison was also present.

Mayor Nichols requested that the agenda be amended to include an Executive Session at the end of the meeting for approximately 10 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

ACTION: *Councilmember Anderson* moved to amend the agenda to include an Executive Session. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE MAYOR PRO TEM:

Councilmember Mitchell moved to designate Councilmember Anderson as Mayor Pro Tem and Councilmember Saltonstall as Alternate Mayor Pro Tem. *Councilmember Whitson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Councilmember Mitchell* moved to approve the minutes of December 3, 2012 as amended. *Councilmember Whitson* seconded the motion. The motion to approve the minutes as amended carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: *Councilmember Mitchell* moved to approve Claims Checks #8414 through #8432 for the total amount of \$18,462.25. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to approve Claims Check #8433 for the total amount of \$213,209.91. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to approve Payroll Checks #10698 through #10717 including EFT's for the total amount of \$66,244.43. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ACTION: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to amend the agenda to move the Regional Fire Authority presentation by Robert Eastman to agenda item 3 instead of agenda item 6. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

REVIEW OF REGIONAL FIRE AUTHORITY (RFA) FUNDING OPTIONS - ROBERT EASTMAN:

Mayor Nichols gave a brief overview of the proposed Fire Benefit Charge and introduced Robert Eastman, Captain/EMS Division, of Fire District 1. Mr. Eastman explained various methods used to fund fire services. He explained that in an RFA fire service can be supported by a Fire Benefit Charge in addition to traditional charges based on assessed property value. The Fire Benefit Charge is designed to be more of a "use" charge and can reduce the amount a homeowner is charged per \$1000 of assessed value. In an RFA, the total amount charged for fire services would be the "FBC" plus an amount per \$1000 of assessed value. In any scenario, a separate EMS charge of \$.50 per \$1000/AV would also be charged.

Discussion followed regarding future RFA labor and benefit costs, how a Fire Benefit Charge is determined, and what total costs would be for Woodway residents if the Town joins the RFA. The exact cost to Woodway residents is unknown until it is determined which entities decide to join the RFA. The RFA planning committee is hoping to have an answer to that question in February.

Currently, the Town contracts for fire services with Fire District 1, and pays the contract amount from property taxes collected from residents. In an RFA, the Fire Authority would bill residents directly for fire services and EMS.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Saltonstall reported that the owner of the property on the northwest corner of Woodway Park Road and S. Dogwood Lane contacted him about his development plan.

Councilmember Anderson reported that he attended a recent SnoCom meeting where the New World (emergency services communication) system software program, was discussed. He shared his concerns about the questionable financial viability of the company who created the system and their long-term ability to fulfill their service agreement.

Councilmember Anderson also reported that Gates Foundation gave a \$50,000 grant to the Snohomish County low income housing foundation.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nichols confirmed with the Council that the first meeting in February would be a good date for a discussion with Snohomish County PUD representatives.

Mayor Nichols shared with the Council that the Washington State Court of Appeals ruled that the BSRE's Point Wells development application was vested. Mayor Nichols informed the Council that Town Attorney Wayne Tanaka would be present at the next meeting to discuss the ramifications of that decision and next steps.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:

Town Administrator Faison reported on the status of the development project on the northwest corner of Woodway Park Road and S. Dogwood Lane.

DISCUSSION ON PROVISION OF JUDICIAL SERVICES

Mayor Nichols asked the Council to consider contracting with the Edmonds Municipal Court instead of with Snohomish County District Court. She informed the Council that they would need to make a decision before February 1, 2013 and asked that they speak to her if they have any concerns. The issue will be discussed further at the January 22nd Council meeting.

CONFIRM MAYOR'S APPOINTMENT OF PLANNING COMMISSIONER-JENNIFER ANGE

ACTION: *Councilmember Anderson* moved to reappoint Jennifer Ange to the Planning Commission. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

DESIGNATE REPRESENTATIVES TO REGIONAL COMMITTEES AND HEALTH BOARD

Mayor Nichols reminded the Council that, historically, they have asked the City of Lynnwood's representative to the Snohomish Health District Board to represent Woodway as well. She shared that she contacted the Lynnwood representative and asked her to continue in this capacity.

ORDINANCE NO. 13-544: UPDATE TO PERSONNEL POLICIES AND PROCEDURES MANUAL

Town Administrator Faison presented the proposed changes to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual, which include allowing for administrative discretion in continuing benefit coverage if an employee is on a leave of absence, and allowing part-time department heads to receive full (non pro-rated) medical benefits.

ACTION: *Councilmember Mitchell* moved to approve Ordinance No. 13-544, approving the changes to the Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

EXECUTIVE SESSION: Council recessed to an executive session at 8:55 p.m. for approximately 10 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

Mayor Nichols reconvened the meeting at 9:13 p.m.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION – CHOICE OF SUBJECTS: No discussion.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:14 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

Heidi K. S. Napolitano, Deputy Clerk

Carla Nichols, Mayor

(These minutes accurately reflect what was said at the Council Meeting. Publication does not vouch for the veracity of these statements.)