Roll Call
Mayor Young called the workshop to order at 7:02 p.m. Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Phil DeLeo, Councilmember Neil Johnson, Councilmember Dave King, Councilmember Cheryle Noble and Councilmember Jim Rackley.

Staff members attending were Administrative Services Coordinator Tom Reber, Finance Director John Weidenfeller, Planning & Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Public Works Director Seth Boettcher, Police Chief Bryan Jeter, Senior Center Director JoAnne Barkley and City Clerk Harwood Edvalson. Other staff members were in the audience for the employee presentation.

Agenda Items

   Mayor Young recognized Accounting Assistant Mona Musgrave for her thirty years employment with the City of Bonney Lake. He read a proclamation honoring Ms. Musgrave and proclaimed November 5, 2003 as Mona Musgrave Day. The meeting was briefly recessed to provide participants an opportunity to congratulate Ms. Musgrave.

2. Open Discussion.

   Administrative Determination – “Considering the sewer connection requirements for the remodel and or replacement of existing businesses on septic systems.” Mayor Young announced that Public Works Director Seth Boettcher had made an administrative determination and interpretation of BLMC 13.12.150. He added that Director Boettcher had been in consultation with the City Attorney in making the determination. A copy of the determination was distributed. The document concludes with the following:

   “Considering the above, the remodel or replacement of existing businesses on septic systems more than 250 feet away from sewer are exempt from the sewer connection requirements of 13.12.150, so long as the remodel or replacement will not result in the generation of any additional sewage or require improvements to the septic system.”

   Deputy Mayor Swatman clarified that the determination only applied to existing septic systems. Director Boettcher added that it was also extended only to remodels or replacements.

   Spa City Sign. Mayor Young announced that the owner and sign company installing the sign have come to agreement. The sign company has agreed to complete the relocation of the sign this week. Councilmember King acknowledged the extra effort of Code Enforcement Officer
Denney Bryan in working with the property owner and the forbearance of the City in apparently bringing this situation to a successful conclusion.

**Special Meeting – Saturday Budget Session.** Mayor Young reminded the Council of the Saturday budget session. He asked the Council to respond to Finance Director Weidenfeller’s memo. He added that he would be late again this year due to his participation in the Auburn Veteran’s Day parade that day.

**Agenda Modifications.** Mayor Young announced that Agenda Item #3, AB03-259 – Resolution 1187 - Water Developers Extension Agreement with Fairweather Cove was not quite ready for further Council consideration and was pulled from the agenda. He asked that Council accept a request from Director Weidenfeller for pre-approval of payments for accounts payable to the U.S. Postmaster and to Expanets as a substitute for Item #3.

Deputy Mayor Swatman made a motion to move Item #3 to the next workshop. Councilmember Rackley seconded the motion. Motion approved 6 – 0.

**Lake Bonney road improvements and lake management.** Councilmember Rackley reported that he, Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmember Noble took a walking tour with residents around Lake Bonney to observe the citizen concerns regarding the direct storm water discharge into the lake. He said he took photographs and presented some to Director Boettcher. He hoped there may be something the City can do to help with the drainage problems while the work on the roads is in process. Deputy Mayor Swatman thanked the Andersons and others who helped lead the tour. He asked who was responsible for the lake. Mayor Young said he thought it was the WA State Department of Fisheries. Deputy Mayor Swatman hoped there could be a future meeting to include interested neighbors, Council representatives and City staff to discuss issues of lake management, drainage and filtration.

**House-on-wheels.** Councilmember DeLeo asked for an update on this issue. Director of Planning and Community Development Leedy said that the City had reminded the owner that the time to get the house onto a permanent foundation was fast approaching. He said the code allowed six months, and thought that time was up in February. He said in the meantime the house did not pose a dangerous situation.

**Kelly House on Corliss Property.** Councilmember DeLeo asked for an update on the 100+ year old house on the Corliss property. Mayor Young reported that a new roof was being put on the house and a new foundation. He added that the property was going to be restored, the pasture improved and someone would be moving in as a resident of the house.

**Rainier Communications Commission Budget.** Councilmember DeLeo said that he had a copy of the proposed 2004 budget and a brief video presentation from the Commission that he would like to show the Council at the City’s Saturday budget session.

**Notice of Public Hearing – Copperfield Estates.** Councilmember DeLeo asked about this notice that says the development will have lots within the City of 3500 sq. ft. He asked how this could be allowed when the City has an ordinance with a minimum lot size of 6,000 sq. ft. Believing he was referring to the Lakeview Court applications, Director Leedy responded that prior to the zone change hearing and PUD process, the developer’s have a companion text amendment application for consideration. (Upon further clarification of the topic, Director Leedy advises that Copperfield Estates vested in the County before annexation and that the
3,500 sq. ft. lot sizes must now be allowed for this development.

Costs to televise Council meetings. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked Councilmember DeLeo if he would be able to provide information on what it would cost the City to televise its meetings. Councilmember DeLeo said he could call on it before Saturday’s meeting, but said that the Rainier Communications’ budget did not contain the information. Finance Director Weidenfeller said that the equipment cost was $30,000 and the cost to televise all meetings for a year was approximately $58,000.

Wind debris and street-sweeper. Deputy Mayor Swatman mentioned the street sweeper still un-purchased in the current fiscal year budget and the need to sweep wind-borne debris from some streets.

School impact fee consideration. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked about a timeline for consideration of school impact fees. Mayor Young said that he had provided information in his weekly wrap-up report to the Council. Director Leedy said it would be part of the Phase II Comprehensive Plan update and a Capital Facilities Plan, and should occur early in 2004.

Streetlight patrol. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that the City of Tacoma had an employee do an annual survey of streetlights to determine proper operation. Mayor Young asked Councilmembers to also report inoperative streetlights to the City for follow-up by staff.

Design Commission. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked if the Design Commission was at full strength. Mayor Young responded that with the recent appointment the Commission was complete. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked when the Commission would be fully integrated into the permitting process like the City of Sumner does. Director Leedy said the Commission did just complete their second dry-run review of a commercial site plan. He said the Commission members are getting a good feel for where they believe they belong in the process before making a recommendation. He added that he felt they would have a recommendation to the Planning Commission within a couple of months that would in turn be presented to the City Council.

Retail sales tax report. Councilmember Johnson asked if he would receive the retail tax report as requested. Director Weidenfeller said he would follow-up with Councilmember Johnson before Saturday, November 8.

Lake Bonney one-way. Councilmember Johnson asked when the project was targeted for completion. Director Boettcher said it would be sometime in the month of November. He added that paving would start in the current week.

Neighborhood traffic calming program. Councilmember Johnson handed out for Council review the neighborhood traffic calming program on which the Public Safety Committee has been working. He said the Committee had received a lot of requests for mitigation. He said the program allows neighborhoods to go through the steps to determine the appropriate measures. He said that they can either pay for it, or if the project is large enough it would go to the Council for review. Councilmember Rackley asked if funding for the program would be requested in the budget process. Councilmember Johnson said he would be requesting at least $25,000 to set up the program. Councilmember King expressed appreciation for Councilmember Johnson’s initiative in seeking a resolution to the citizen’s concerns.

Letter from Police Guild. Councilmember Johnson said he found a copy of the Police
Guild’s press release in his newspaper box. He asked if others had received a copy. He asked if the assertion was true that the department heads had been stripped of decision-making. He said he was concerned that Council may not be able to get accurate information during the budget process. Mayor Young asked Director Leedy and Director Boettcher if they had been restricted in providing information. Both responded, no. Mayor Young added that he asks for accountability from department heads, but that is not restrictive. Councilmember Rackley said that they had been informed that employee morale is good. He asked how this letter relates to morale. Mayor Young said he thinks morale is good, but was frankly surprised by the letter. He added that comments from the community say the City has a good staff.

Saturday budget meeting. Councilmember Johnson said he observed the City of Sumner’s presentation of the budget on TV. He expressed hope that the City would be able in the future to have its basic budget presentation early in October. He asked if Council would see what the directors had asked for in addition to the final numbers that the Mayor presents. Councilmember Johnson said it would give the Council better opportunity to hear from departments about their concerns and issues. Mayor Young responded that the department budgets are targeted to addressing the Council’s goals.

Mayor Young said with reference back to the Guild letter that he had supported a million dollar increase in the police budget in the last four years. He said they’ve been provided everything they need—maybe not everything they want, but there are some budget constraints. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the Guild comments were about unfilled positions and high-mileage cars. Mayor Young said the high-mileage cars had been rebuilt several years ago. He added that if a vehicle is unserviceable, then it is pulled from the fleet and replaced. Councilmember Noble said that she understood money had been set aside and sitting in the bank since March for replacement of a known vacancy. She added that there are times when our police officers are on duty without backup making it unsafe for police officers and citizens. Mayor Young said he did not believe there was ever a dangerous staffing problem because there is backup. He said that Chief Jeter had elected not to hire a provisional officer, but that all the vacancies would be filled by December 1. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he understood there was a proposal for additional officers in 2004. Director Weidenfeller said there was a proposal for two new officers and two records positions.

Councilmember King said that he hoped the newly sworn reserve officers would also provide a pool for filling future vacancies. He said that the job market was drying up for officers willing to make lateral job moves, and that the process for finding replacements was taking longer. Chief Jeter asked if he could provide a clarification. He said that it was not that he had chosen to not hire a provisional officer, but that in discussion he and the Mayor had come to the conclusion that the time and effort required to hire a provisional officer was better put into hiring a permanent replacement. He said that provisional officers are hard to find and often have issues that have made them available for provisional work.

New traffic signal. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that while the Public Safety Committee examines the possibility of flashing stop lights at Locust and Old Buckley-Sumner Highway, they should consider the need for signage to keep stopped traffic from blocking the public safety building and fire department drives. Councilmember King said the Committee would review the issue.
3. Pre-approval Of Payments For Accounts Payable To The U.S. Postmaster And To Expanets.

Director Weidenfeller explained that the payment to the postmaster was for the mailing of utility bills. He said the check for Expanets had originally been required before the consultant would begin work on the direct inward dial phone set-up.

Councilmember Rackley moved to place the item on the agenda as an action item. Councilmember King seconded the motion.

Councilmember DeLeo said he disliked the habit of bringing action items to Council Workshops. He said workshops are not the place for action items. He said the circumstances did not warrant placing an item on the agenda when the public does not expect action to be taken. Councilmember Noble said she remembered that this has happened in the past, where the Finance Department has allowed things to slip through the cracks. She said she likes to have time to look things over, rather than having it presented to her in public meeting with only a few seconds or minutes to look it over. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that the agenda had specifically listed action items so the public would know in advance if there was action anticipated.

Director Weidenfeller said he was hampered as the Finance Director and Treasurer by not having the authority to approve invoices such as this. He said it was the Council’s privilege and right to make these decisions. He added, however, that when the Council hampers the Finance Director and Treasurer by making him come forward with items like this by withdrawing the ability to approve checks, then he has no choice but to do this. He said he feels it does not happen very often when compared to the large numbers of bills the City pays. He said in defense, he should not have to ask for approval. Since he does, he said this situation would periodically arise. Councilmember DeLeo disagreed, saying that it was the Council’s responsibility to review every bill that goes out, and that the Council should be consulted. He said it should not be too hard to meet a schedule that pays bills every two weeks.

Motion approved 4 – 3. Voting no were Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmembers Johnson and DeLeo. Mayor Young voted yes to break the tie and put the item on the agenda.

Deputy Mayor Swatman said that his concern was not particularly on the postage, but on the phone work. Director Weidenfeller responded that the company had initially asked for money up front, but agreed just earlier in the evening to proceed without pre-payment.

Councilmember Rackley suggested that the proposed action be amended to approve only the postage. Councilmember Johnson said he was concerned that this was becoming habitual. He said the Council either has to stick with the process in place or change it. Councilmember
King added that it’s not just approval of checks, but other items that are presented at the last minute for Council review and action. He said he was reaching the end of his tether for patience regarding items coming to Council at the last minute for action without any advance notice. He said that nevertheless, he was willing to support an amendment to pay the postage and drop the other item. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that he felt the process was flawed that required Council to approve the expenditure of $4500 when their time should be spent on issues of greater importance. He added that the Mayor was elected to monitor the expenditure of these minor items in a multi-million dollar budget. Councilmember King said that he feared a return to the very intense discussions on check pre-writes that occurred two years ago if the City does not get control of this issue.

**Deputy Mayor Swatman moved to change the proposed action and pay only the postal fee of $6500. Councilmember Rackley seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved 6 – 0.**

4. and 5. **AB03-271 – Contract with Beth Jensen for Senior Center Assessment and AB03-273 – Contract with Don Morrison for Municipal Court Evaluation.**

Mayor Young noted that the next two items had been included on the agenda as action items to get the department assessments started quickly. Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) Reber said that the requests for proposal were sent out to seven or eight people each. He said there were initial responses from only one person on each proposal. He said additional calls identified a couple of additional people who were willing to respond to the requests. He explained that Councilmember Johnson had participated in the consultant interviews for the senior center consultant and Councilmember King in the interviews for the court consultant.

Councilmember Noble asked how many consultants were contacted and how they were selected to receive solicitations. ASC Reber said that seven individuals were consultants known to the City in the Puget Sound Area and that two recruitment firms, Waldron and Prothman, were approached because of their knowledge of individuals with appropriate qualifications. Councilmember Johnson said he was comfortable with the qualifications of the individuals selected, but questioned the intent of the reviews. He was concerned that the Senior Center’s was termed an evaluation and the Court’s an assessment. ASC Reber said he felt in this case the terms were synonymous. He said the intent in both cases was to review the operations, compare with other similar programs, make comparisons and assess costs and make recommendations for improvements as warranted.

Deputy Mayor Swatman asked Senior Center Director Barkley if she participated in the selection of the consultant for the Senior Center. She said no. Councilmember Noble asked if she has participated in the review of other senior center programs. Director Barkley said she was trained on a national level to assess programs for accreditation. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that he felt it was appropriate to have Director Barkley participate in the selection of the consultant just as Director Boettcher had participated in the selection of the consultant that conducted the review of the Public Works Department. ASC Reber said that he was unaware that Director Boettcher had participated. He said he had specifically determined not to have the director participate in these selections in order to show the public that these were truly objective reviews based on neutral observations. Councilmember Johnson said the processes should be consistent, and that the director should participate in the selection of the consultant.
Deputy Mayor Swatman expressed concern that the selection pool had been too small. Councilmember Johnson said he felt that the request for proposals should have been advertised in the newspaper. He said at least he would support re-interviewing the consultants with the director participating. Councilmember DeLeo said he felt that perhaps the consultants should be from outside the County in order to show objectivity.

Mayor Young said these items would now be pulled from the agenda. Councilmember King asked that the contract for the court be discussed. Councilmember King said he preferred discussion of the court contract because it presented a different scenario. He said that review of the rapidly growing administrative load of the court was a more immediate concern for the City. He added that it may be time to look to the future and compare the best practices in other courts to our own. He said the consultant selected appeared to have the ability to do such a comparative study and make appropriate recommendations. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked why the City should pay a consultant to look at the possibility of contracting services if there was no intent on the part of the Council to do that sort of contracting. He said that just because it may be cheaper does not necessarily indicate that it’s better for the City.

Councilmember DeLeo suggested that there was a state entity that would review the court. Judge Helbling said that the Washington Administration of the Courts recognizes a separation of powers issue on the review of the courts. He said that they are currently involved in developing a set of best practices for Washington courts. Councilmember King said that if the Council would never look at another way to deliver court services, and would never consider the potential for participation with a satellite court rather than a municipal court, then there was no need for the evaluation. But if there was a chance that a different service model might be considered in ten or more years, then a consultant is needed. Councilmember Rackley noted his opinion that the changes proposed by the consultant in the current administrative practices would probably not result in more savings than the cost for the consultant. Mayor Young said the item was pulled from further discussion this evening.

Mayor Young declared a five-minute recess.

Councilmember DeLeo asked if Godfather’s Pizza had been thanked for providing pizza at the Allan Yorke Park cleanup. ASC Reber said a thank you note had been sent.

Councilmember Johnson asked about the process for the budget workshop on Saturday, Nov. 8th. Director Weidenfeller said an agenda would be sent out. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked what the City would do with streets recently cluttered by storms. Director Boettcher said that Best Parking Lots would be called in for street sweeping.


Councilmember Rackley said that the Council had expressed interest in looking at a salary commission. He said that with the adoption of the commission, salary discussion would no longer be in the hands of the Council. Deputy Mayor Swatman said that he liked the idea of the public being involved in setting the pay of the Council. He added, however, that he was against pay increases and therefore would not support the creation of a commission that could increase the Council’s monthly pay. Councilmember Johnson said he favored taking the potential for a decision out of the hands of the Council. He clarified that once adopted, the salary commission would deal with all future changes in Council compensation. Councilmember Noble said she did not like it on the state level when the elected officials give themselves raises, but not give raises to the teachers as approved by the electorate. She felt it would be good to get it out of the hands
of the Council. Councilmember King said he agreed that Council should not spend much time on this issue when there are more important issues at hand. He said that if this action would take it out of the Council’s hands, he would prefer that over having to discuss this issue again in a couple of years and determine if the Council then deserved a pay raise. Councilmember DeLeo said that the public can vote the Council in or out if they are dissatisfied with the Council’s performance. He was concerned that this could potentially add to the opportunity for greater election costs if the commission chose to put it on the ballot. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he was concerned about the objectivity of a commission recommended by the Mayor and confirmed by the Council.

Mayor Young asked for a straw vote. Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmembers DeLeo and Noble said no.

7. 2004 Phase I Major Comp Plan Update.

Director Leedy said that the item had been placed on the agenda to keep the issue in the forefront of the Councilmember’s minds. He reminded them that there would be a public hearing on the item at the next Council meeting. Responding to Deputy Mayor Swatman’s question about the school impact fees, Director Leedy said it would be part of the Phase II process in 2004. He added that Phase I was anticipated to be adopted by the end of 2003.

8. AB03-272 - UGA Amendments.

Mayor Young said that the County Planning Department and Planning Commission had reviewed and turned down a number of City-proposed amendments to the urban growth area. He said the County Council appeared willing to approve the proposed amendments. He added that there was discussion on a number of items. He said that the preservation of Fennel Creek was one of the items where the City response was that it was very interested in preserving the environment of the creek. The second issue was that the City consider looking at the areas below the City, such as the CUGA (County Urban Growth Area). Mayor Young said the City was willing to discuss the issue if the County was willing to assist in some way with the initial costs required to serve that area.

Councilmember Johnson said that through his observations of the County Planning and Environmental Committee there was distrust for the City of Bonney Lake. He felt it must be important for the County Council to be willing to proceed with these discussions and approvals. Councilmember King said he felt the City should not accept the County’s assertion that the City needs the annexation of the CUGA to provide for more residential capacity. He noted that the area is already built-out, and would provide no additional capacity to the City. He said it was unfair that the County look to the City to correct land-use and development problems created under County policies. Councilmember Rackley said that urban densities deserve an urban identity. He urged consideration now when the County may be willing to pay, rather than at some future time when the City may be forced to accept this area without assistance.

Councilmember DeLeo asked Director Leedy what happened to proposed area number nine. Director Leedy said that it was a Bonney Lake submittal, but a Sumner School District application. Mayor Young said that Director Leedy would be meeting with the County tomorrow and would bring back information for the Council.

There were no corrections offered by the City Council for the minutes of these two meetings.

Mayor Young asked the Council’s indulgence to hear a brief report from Deputy Mayor Swatman about the Lake Tapps Task Force meeting. Deputy Mayor Swatman noted that all the major participants were at the meeting. He said that there was basically no progress after four years. He said that based on the various economic demands of the State Department of Fisheries and the National Marine Fisheries and various other interests, the project was no longer economically feasible for Puget Sound Energy. He said the non-economic solution supported by Cascade Water Alliance was blocked until next year. In the meantime, he said he did not know what would happen as the permit to divert water into Lake Tapps expires on January 15. He added that there was an effort to get an extension, but the success of that is unknown. He predicted the potential for a difficult water year in 2004.

10. There was no executive session.

11. Adjournment

   Mayor Young adjourned the workshop with the common consent of the Council at 9:49 p.m.

Harwood T. Edvalson, City Clerk  Robert Young, Mayor