

City of

COUNCIL WORKSHOP

October 19, 2004

MINUTES



The City of Bonney Lake's Mission is to protect the community's livable identity and scenic beauty through responsible growth planning and by providing accountable, accessible and efficient local government services.

"Where Dreams Can Soar"

Roll Call

Mayor Robert Young called the workshop to order at 5:32 p.m.

Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Neil Johnson, Councilmember Dave King, Councilmember Cheryle Noble and Councilmember Jim Rackley. Councilmember Phil DeLeo was absent.

Staff members attending were Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) Don Morrison, Finance Director John Weidenfeller, Planning and Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Public Works Director Daniel Grigsby, Judge James Helbling, Court Administrator Kathy Seymour, Building Official Jerry Hight, City Attorney Jim Dionne and City Clerk Harwood Edvalson. Planning Manager Steve Ladd joined the meeting in progress.

Agenda Items

1. Open Discussion

Water Resource Committee. Councilmember Hamilton asked if the Water Resource Committee would soon be reporting to the full Council. Deputy Mayor Swatman responded that the Committee would have a report for the next Council workshop.

Property Across From Public Safety Building. Councilmember Rackley asked about progress on the property across from the Public Safety Building. Public Works Director Grigsby said that clearing had begun and will continue as weather permits. Planning and Community Development Director Leedy said that a realtor had been contacted to make inquiries about the remaining parcel.

Cleared Property On 214th. Councilmember Hamilton asked if the developers were finished with their work on the cleared property on 214th. He expressed concern for the stability of the bare soil. Director Leedy responded that they had not finished and would be hydroseeding the soil to help protect from the winter rains.

Cascadia Discussions. Councilmember King noted that in the recent Cascadia presentation, representatives of Cascadia and the County had indicated there would be continuing dialogue with the City on transportation issues. He asked if those meetings had taken place. Director Grigsby said that they had recently met with Cascadia, where a development timeline was presented. He reported that work on the development would begin in 2006 with the first phase of 150 homes and an elementary school to begin in 2007. He said the 198/200th impacts were discussed. He added that the planned connections between the junior high and high school are still out in the future. Director Grigsby said that the County, Falling Waters and Cascadia are continuing discussions on a solution to the Rhodes Lake Road Corridor.

Opening of 192nd Street. Councilmember King asked when the Council might expect 192nd to be connected with Old Buckley Sumner Highway. Director Leedy responded that the traffic warrants indicate the traffic signal at that intersection should be installed in about five years. However, he added, the County controls the intersection and determined that the signal should be put in place immediately. Director Leedy said projections are that the road will be open, at least to right turn in and out, in the November time frame for Christmas shopping. Deputy Mayor Swatman questioned the right in – right out limitation. Director Leedy said he would provide Council a full report on the issue.

2. Interview: AB04- 63 – Donna Peterson – Nominee for Salary Commission.

Mayor Young introduced Ms. Peterson. Councilmember Noble asked how Ms. Peterson became aware of the openings on the Commission. Ms. Peterson responded that Mayor Young had contacted her. She said she was aware that his salary really amounted to one that is below minimum wage. She added that the Mayor deserves to be properly paid in such a rapidly growing city. She explained that she had been a placement counselor, and also observed that if you pay people well, you get good people.

Deputy Mayor Swatman expressed his opinion that the Council should be the ones to review salaries, not an un-elected body. He said he would stick to this opinion. Councilmember King said that the Deputy Mayor had previously provided a chart showing that salaries for mayor and council in the region span a considerable range and are undoubtedly reflective of local conditions and opinions. He said this is one reason an independent body should look at the wages. He added that, in this manner, the City Council won't be voting on its own pay increase. Ms. Peterson asked a few questions, and expressed appreciation for having the opportunity to be heard.

3. Review of Minutes: October 5 Council Workshop, October 8 Special Council Workshop, October 12 Regular Council Meeting.

Deputy Mayor Swatman noted that City Clerk Edvalson had distributed a memo correcting an omission in the draft minutes for the October 12th meeting. There were no other corrections or comments offered by the Council.

Mayor Young noted that Kathy McVay had not yet arrived. Deputy Mayor Swatman suggested that her presentation be worked into the agenda at her arrival. Councilmember King asked if she would still be holding the meeting in Sumner the following night. Deputy Mayor Swatman confirmed that she would.

Mayor Young reminded Council that the meeting would be a special meeting on Thursday, October 21st at 5:30 p.m. to receive public input on the proposed community center. He added that he had received positive input from some of the Councilmembers and is prepared to start the proposed budget presentations as part of tonight's meeting.

Councilmember King said that on Thursday, October 21st there is another meeting of the Pierce County Regional Council. He said he must attend another meeting, and Mayor Young will be attending the PCRC meeting on the City's behalf. Mayor Young said that Director Leedy will also be attending. Councilmember King said that it is apparent the County is intent on going ahead with many of its land planning proposals. He said the PCRC will have to make some quick recommendations to impact the County's process.

4. Presentation: 2005 Proposed Budget (Part I)

Mayor Young started the budget presentation with an overview of how the Council's identified priorities have been addressed. The City Council asked questions and raised concerns about economic development, the proposed broadband wireless utility, Police Department positions and a sidewalk program. There was general consensus to continue the presentation and discussion after hearing from Ms. McVay.

With Council consent, Mayor Young declared a five minute break at 6:18 p.m. The meeting was reconvened at 6:28 p.m.

5. Fluoride Alternatives – Kathy McVay, Vice Chair – Tacoma/Pierce County Health Board.

Mayor Young introduced Kathy McVay, of the Tacoma/Pierce County Board of Health. He also introduced Federico Cruz-Uribe, MD, the Board's Director of Health. Ms. McVay explained that the Board of Health continues to feel that there is an oral health crisis in the County, particularly for youth and senior populations. She said the Board is willing to discuss alternatives to mandated fluoridation of water, but that there is insufficient funding to create programs within the cities. Deputy Mayor Swatman thanked Ms. McVay and Dr. Cruz for coming to the Council workshop. He noted that the City's water district extends beyond the City limits and suggested that any appropriate program to deal with oral health should extend across the whole district's boundaries. He said the Board representative should have the keys to what might work and what is available. He added that he felt the City could more appropriately spend its funds on programs rather than attorneys' fees. Ms. McVay said she is not an expert on the possible programs, but said the City's input would be invaluable to determine what might work for its residents.

Councilmember Rackley asked if the Board feels that topical application of fluoride is more effective than fluoridating the water. Dr. Cruz said they were not advocating one over the other. He described how fluoride and sealants can be used to help protect children from dental caries. Councilmember Hamilton said he feels that most of the programs should be addressed through the school district. Councilmember Johnson said he feels it comes down to families and what they should be doing. He agreed, however, that the City may be able to help and asked how many in the City's water district would be impacted. Dr. Cruz agreed to provide the information the Board has compiled on the needs within the City's water district boundaries. Dr. Cruz added that many of the families have insurance through state programs, but finding a dentist who will accept the state insurance programs is very difficult.

Ms. McVay described the County's smile-mobile program where, for an \$800/day match, dental sealants can be applied in a mobile clinic. Councilmember Hamilton said he liked the idea of a mobile clinic working with the schools. He expressed concern, however, that the program would take on a life of its own and become continually more expensive until it becomes a huge burden. Mayor Young estimated that with a \$.25 surcharge on the water bills, the district could generate approximately \$2500 per month toward an oral health program.

Councilmember Johnson asked how the parents can be educated to make sure their children are receiving appropriate care for their teeth. Ms. McVay suggested that if many of the affected children can be helped through the program, then the next generation of parents will be educated. Councilmember King asked about the cost of a topical application program. Dr.

Cruz said the sealants are pennies per application, but added that the labor involved is the expensive part. Councilmember King agreed that the school districts seem to be the best venue for contacting the children. He noted that within the city's water district there are four different school districts. He mentioned prior discussion of a voucher system for topical applications. Dr. Cruz said that type of service delivery could work if there is some kind of institutional support from churches or service agencies. He said there is still difficulty finding dentists who will see a patient only for topical applications.

Mayor Young asked about the Board's local meeting on Wednesday night. Dr. Cruz said there will be staff and Boardmembers at the meeting. He said that four of five cities will be represented, and that water districts have been invited to participate as well. Several Bonney Lake Councilmembers indicated their intent to attend the meeting.

6. Continued Budget Presentation--

Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmembers Johnson and Rackley expressed a desire to have department presentations rather than a PowerPoint presentation and overview. Mayor Young said that it was his intention to have departments make presentations after his general overview. He asked ASC Morrison to summarize the legislative or City Council 2004 highlights and 2005 goals. ASC Morrison led the legislative overview.

Councilmember Johnson asked if the Council had received copies of the Request for Proposals for the Finance Department review. ASC Morrison responded that he had distributed copies to all of the Councilmembers. In review, he noted that there were no funds budgeted for Ascent Park Gateway in 2005. Councilmember Johnson complained that many hours had been spent on designs and discussion regarding the Ascent Park Gateway. He expressed concern that after all that planning, there are no funds included in the budget. ASC Morrison observed that this is the Mayor's proposed budget and that the Council can deliberate and adjust the budget as they see fit. ASC Morrison completed his review and invited Judge Helbling to discuss the Judicial budget.

Judge Helbling reviewed some of the Municipal Court's accomplishments. He noted that traffic court had been increased to twice per month. He expressed appreciation to Chief Jeter for providing excellent security for the Court. Judge Helbling expressed concern that the Court would not be able to meet some of its performance goals without additional staff. He said there have been times when cases have been dismissed because the existing staff can't meet the mandatory deadlines. Councilmember Johnson asked if it was an increasing problem. Judge Helbling responded, yes. He added that the full-time position budgeted in 2004 had been filled on a part-time basis, and that the hours for the part-time position had also been reduced. Mayor Young explained that the employee had been given so many hours that the City would be required to pay retirement for the employee, so the hours were cut back. He said when a study of the department shows that a full-time employee is needed, then one will be hired. He added that ASC Morrison has been directed to conduct a staffing study of the Municipal Court. When asked how long it would be before he completed his study, ASC Morrison explained that a full study of the Court to meet future changes could take up to 200 hrs. He said that adding this to his regular duties may require some months. He added that the essential points could be completed in a few weeks. Mayor Young reminded Council that it had been proposed the Court be studied by a consultant last year. He said the Council declined to have the study conducted. He noted that before being hired by the City, ASC Morrison had been proposed as the consultant to conduct the review. A majority of Council members present expressed a desire to hire another full-time employee in the courts. There was discussion around whether or

not to reprogram the funding for the position to another program until the Mayor indicates a need to fill the court position. Judge Helbling noted that the Court Administrator had accumulated a great deal of vacation, but was unable to take it without hindering the court operations. Councilmember Hamilton asked if the position analysis could be completed before the budget is done. Mayor Young agreed to have sufficient information available on the position before the budget process is concluded.

Mayor Young invited Chief Jeter to review the Police Department budget. Chief Jeter covered the Law Enforcement Highlights and Goals for the Police Department, as well as those for Animal Control Services. He noted that funds from the drug fund are programmed to support the wireless utility. He said this will expand connectivity for the officers and reduce overall department expenses. He noted that the City of Spokane has also used drug fund monies for this purpose. Councilmember Johnson asked how many officers are budgeted for next year. Chief Jeter responded that there are 24 budgeted with one current vacancy. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked if it is the Mayor's intent to fill the position. Mayor Young responded, yes. Councilmember King said he is looking forward to the completed organizational review of the Police Department. Councilmember Morrison said he will be in contact with the consultants and let the Council know the anticipated date of completion for the study. Mayor Young said it is the goal to finish before the completion of the budget deliberations.

Councilmember King asked that the Council take another five minute break in their meeting. Mayor Young called a five minute recess at 8:01 p.m. The meeting reconvened at 8:15 p.m.

Councilmember Johnson moved to table the remainder of the agenda to the next workshop. Councilmember Rackley seconded the motion.

**Motion approved 5 – 1.
Councilmember King voted no.**

7. Executive Session

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110 (1)(g) and (i), Mayor Young announced an executive session for the Council to deal with potential litigation and employee performance. He said the session would last five minutes. It commenced at 8:10 p.m. and was continued for five minutes at 8:17 p.m. It was again extended for three minutes at 8:23 p.m. and concluded at 8:30 p.m.

8. Adjournment

With common consent of the Council, Mayor Young adjourned the workshop at 8:31 p.m.

Documents submitted at the Council Workshop of October 5, 2004:

- *City of Bonney Lake – 2005 Proposed Budget – Opening Remarks, Legislative, Judicial, Police, Animal Control, Drug Fund* – John Weidenfeller, Finance Director.

Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk

Robert Young, Mayor