Call to Order:
Mayor Robert Young called the December 6th Council Workshop to order at 5:41 p.m.

Roll Call:
Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Phil DeLeo, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Dave King, Councilmember Cheryle Noble, and Councilmember Jim Rackley. Councilmember Neil Johnson arrived while the meeting was in progress.

Staff members attending were Administrative Services Coordinator (ASC) Don Morrison, Finance Director John Weidenfeller, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Planning and Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Interim Police Chief Buster McGehee, Judge Jim Helbling, Planning Manager Steve Ladd, Senior Human Resources Analyst Jennifer Young, City Attorney Jim Dionne and City Clerk Harwood Edvalson.

Agenda Items:


   Mayor Young reopened the public hearing at 5:42 p.m. Councilmember King asked for clarification on the proposed budget for FY2006. Director Weidenfeller explained that the proposed budget for FY2006 has the same allocation to funds as the 2005 Budget as directed by the City Council. Mayor Young asked that those wishing to address the Council on the topic of the budget please come forward. There were none. Mayor Young closed the public hearing at 5:44 p.m.


   Councilmember Rackley moved to set the public hearing. Councilmember DeLeo seconded the motion.

   Motion approved 7 – 0.

3. Presentation: 192nd Corridor Study – Parametrix.

   Director Grigsby introduced Susan Graham, Division Manager with Parametrix. Ms. Graham used a series of poster boards to describe the alternatives studied for the 192nd Avenue East Corridor. She said the draft report recommends Alternative #1 which scored highest on an evaluation matrix used to rate six different criteria for each alternative. Ms. Graham responded to Council questions.
Director Grigsby explained that two different petitions were received—one from the Fennel Ridge Homeowners Association and the other from the Bonney Lake Manor Homeowners Association. He displayed a plot map of the properties represented by the petitions.

Keith Stanley, 10900 193rd Ave. E., President of the Bonney Lake Manor Homeowners Association, described the petition in support of Alternative #1. He spoke specifically in favor of connecting the cul-de-sac at the north end of 189th Ave. E. to the proposed 192nd Ave. E. Corridor. He said that homeowners in his neighborhood understood the connection to the cul-de-sac would be made when possible. He added that he believed the connection would reduce traffic safety issues at the intersection of 192nd Ave. E. and 109th St. E.

Kathleen Edman, 10705 189th Ave. E., President of the Fennel Ridge Homeowners Association, said she understood the traffic safety concern for the 109th St. E. intersection, but said the issues would be similar for the new intersection created by opening up the cul-de-sac on 189th Ave. E. She spoke in favor of only making a pedestrian pathway connection through the cul-de-sac, and said that preservation of the neighborhood is important to the homeowners in Fennel Ridge.

John McDonald, Fire Marshal, Eastside Fire and Rescue, said the Fire District favors increased access to neighborhoods. He said while the Fennel Ridge Neighborhood is overlapped for emergency response by two stations, the response time from the Headquarters Station on Old Sumner Buckley Highway would be reduced with the opening up of the cul-de-sac. He added that if the Council wanted to consider allowing a connection through an emergency access gate, then the gate should be controlled by an Opticom device.

The City Council discussed options with staff and representatives from the Fire District and homeowners associations.

At 6:38 p.m., Mayor Young declared a five minute break in the meeting. The meeting resumed at 6:48 p.m.

After the break, Director Grigsby asked if there were any more questions about the draft study. Councilmember Rackley asked if staff could investigate the possibility of selling the city-owned cul-de-sac property back to the homeowners association for their installation of an emergency access gate to the neighborhood. He also asked Ms. Edman to check their association by-laws to see if they actually had the ability to participate in such a transaction. Councilmember King suggested the sale would have to include the responsibility to the homeowners association to fully improve the access for emergency vehicles.

Director Grigsby explained that the next step in the consideration process for the 192nd Ave. Corridor is to go through the SEPA process. He said a final report would follow the SEPA process and then the Council could take action to approve the plan. Concluding comments included discussion of other alignment problems that will have to be evaluated and resolved at the WalMart end of the corridor. Ms. Graham pointed out that the projected cost for construction of the road is in line with the general cost for road construction in the area. Director Grigsby said one of his goals is to minimize the number of relocations necessitated by this project.

4. Open Discussion

New Public Works Staff. Director Grigsby introduced the new Public Works Department Staff—Andrew Fonda, Engineering Technician; Art Larson, Project Manager; and Doug Budzynski,
Utilities/Assistant City Engineer. Director Grigsby said the Engineering Division of the Department is at full strength.

Payment of DDJ Outside Regular Voucher Approval Process. Director Weidenfeller asked the Council to add an agenda item to approve the payment to DDJ for completed work on the Driftwood Point Water Main, Peaking Off Site Storage and E. Tapps Water Main Projects in the amount of $247,416.39. Director Grigsby explained that the contractor has three different projects going for the City, and for a small contractor, has tied-up a great deal of funds in the projects. He said they have asked the City to expedite its payment, and recommended supporting their request.

Councilmembers questioned the lag time in the City process to meet these requests for payment. Director Weidenfeller replied that the check should have been expedited in the last check cycle.

Councilmember King moved to amend the agenda and bring the request for payment forward for Council action. Councilmember Rackley seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6 – 1; Deputy Mayor Swatman voted no.

Councilmember King moved to authorize the payment to DDJ outside the regular voucher process in the amount of $247,416.39. Councilmember Rackley seconded the motion.

Councilmember Johnson noted that the request for payment is barely 30 days old. Director Grigsby replied that the contractor has asked for expedited payment and based on their performance, again, recommended approval of their request. Councilmember DeLeo said that although he dislikes action items on the Workshop agenda, he recognizes the special circumstances of this request and recommended approval. Councilmember Hamilton concurred.

Motion approved 7 – 0.

Ordinance 1168. Director Weidenfeller said that he had sent out to Council the previous night the additional information for Ordinance 1168. He explained the ordinance is a housekeeping ordinance to consolidate the budget amendment actions either already taken or anticipated next week by the Council. He added that the ordinance is needed to meet state audit standards for documentation. Councilmember DeLeo asked about the Cumulative Reserve Fund. Mayor Young suggested the discussion should occur a little later in the evening’s agenda.

Ordering Police Vehicles. Councilmember DeLeo asked about the police vehicle purchase discussed by the Finance Committee and mentioned at the last Council meeting. Director Grigsby explained that a meeting would soon take place between the Police Chief and manager of the Equipment Repair and Replacement Fund to review the replacement policy and vehicles to be replaced next year. Councilmember DeLeo expressed concern that the City will miss the opportunity to participate in the state bid for police vehicles. Director Grigsby said he would inquire whether the City would be penalized for pulling out of the bid later if an order were placed now and cancelled at some later date.

Code Enforcement Issues. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he had received no feedback on code enforcement issues such as the buffer at Cedarview Plaza and a couple of abandoned homes he had previously mentioned. Director Leedy said the Planning staff are working on the buffer
issue. He explained that the 206th St. property was going to have a demolition contract awarded, when the owner’s appeared and asked for time to clear up the confusion with their own attorney and hire their own contractor to do the work. Director Leedy said he would see that the Deputy Mayor received follow-up on these issues.

Home Depot Traffic Signal. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked for confirmation that the City’s position continues to be that the new Home Depot will not open until there is a signalized intersection on 214th. Both Director Leedy and Director Grigsby confirmed that is the position of the City and the County.

Nuisance Vehicles. Councilmember Rackley asked if there is an update on the abatement of nuisance vehicles on 198th. Interim Chief McGehee said he will have more information on Wednesday after speaking with the City Attorney’s Office.

Temporary Increase in Salary of Administrative Services Coordinator. Councilmember Rackley asked if the Council would support a temporary increase in January to compensate ASC Morrison for the recent loss of wages. Councilmember DeLeo advised consulting the City Attorney to determine if the action would be legal.

Moriarty House Preservation. Councilmember Hamilton said he has been working with the Historical Society who continues to express interest in using the Moriarty House as a museum. He asked if the Public Works Department would investigate the cost to turn the heat back on in the house. Mayor Young said staff will investigate the cost and report back to the Council.

Restaurant MDNS. Councilmember DeLeo asked if the restaurant which is the subject of a recent Mitigated Determination of Non-significance in the Eastown area will be constructed with a frontage road. Director Leedy said the Eastown Plan has not yet been adopted, but said the proposal fits with the anticipated scheme for the area.

Parking Behind Cedarview Plaza. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the buffer behind Cedarview Plaza has been encroached upon with the addition of a gravel parking lot. Director Leedy said he will follow-up.

Abandoned Building on Old Sumner Buckley Highway. Councilmember King asked for a report on how the abandoned building next to the Bonney Lake Auto Parts Store will be secured or abated. Mayor Young replied that a report will be forthcoming.

Cell Tower – Flag Pole. Councilmember DeLeo asked for a report on the cell tower-flag pole. Director Leedy said the tattered flag had been removed and that staff was waiting for a return call about the installation of a new flag. Councilmember DeLeo asked if it is still technically a flag pole if the owners elect not to raise a new flag. Director Leedy responded, no.

Council Ward Re-districting. Councilmember King asked if an agreement had been signed to conduct re-districting of the City’s Wards based on recent annexations. Deputy Mayor Swatman reminded Council that another annexation is in the works for another 900 people. Councilmember DeLeo said the Council had decided to wait until after the election to decide about a survey for redistricting. Director Leedy said an official census would have to be done, but may not address all the imbalances. He said he believes that redistricting must be based on the Decennial Federal Census. Councilmember King said the Council may need to consider other methods to address the changing populations in wards.
Christmas Tree Lights. Councilmember Rackley asked when the Christmas Tree frame at Ascent Park would be erected. Director Grigsby said it will be erected on Wednesday when the flags are lowered to half-staff in remembrance of Pearl Harbor Day.

Council-sponsored Community Dinner. Councilmember DeLeo asked the Council if they are still interested in hosting a community dinner on December 26th. General support was expressed from the Council. Councilmember DeLeo agreed that he will continue to make needed arrangements.

5. Review of Minutes: November 15, 2005 City Council Workshop and November 22, 2005 City Council Meeting.

Councilmember Noble asked that on Page 6 of the November 22nd meeting minutes, the guest identified at the Public Safety is Mr. Luther, not “Lucca.” She also noted that Councilmember King should be noted as the one who reported on the recent Pierce County Regional Meeting, also on Page 6. Councilmember Hamilton noted that on Page 10 for Resolution 1408, he should have been included in those voting yes, and Councilmember King included with those voting no.


Director Leedy reminded Council that the Planning Commission recommendations had been presented at the last Council meeting with a recommendation that they be adopted. He recommended that Council take action on at least the two items amending the Park and Transportation Elements of the Comprehensive Plan. He said the others were not as urgent and could be considered early next year. After brief Council discussion, there was a majority consensus to bring forward all the recommendations to the Council for action at the next Council meeting. Councilmember Johnson asked that the items be considered individually by Council at the meeting. Councilmember King praised the work of the Planning Commission and staff on these proposed amendments. Deputy Mayor Swatman and Councilmember Noble agreed with the sentiments.


Director Weidenfeller explained that this is a housekeeping document intended to incorporate all the Council-directed changes in the FY2005 Budget. Council asked questions about the Cumulative Reserve Fund and the Fund for Local Improvement Districts 11 and 12. Deputy Mayor Swatman suggested that the Finance Committee look at the proposed ordinance one more time and bring it forward as an action item on the next Council meeting agenda. Director Weidenfeller said he will research the answers to the Council’s questions and report back.


Councilmember Rackley said this ordinance appears to get the City into the next year and rolls over the projected expenditures as directed. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the Council anticipates that the new mayor will review the budget and, with his new administration, recommend appropriate changes. Councilmember King asked that Mayor Young tell the Council what the budget was when he first took office. Mayor Young responded that the total budget was about $15 million.

Mayor Young said this ordinance provides for a 3.7% increase, while keeping the level of benefits the same. Director Grigsby said he had been nominated by the exempt employees to speak on their behalf. He reviewed the points justifying the proposed increase from a letter he distributed to the Council. He said the 3.7% increase was justified based on the increase in the cost-of-living as calculated by the consumer price index. He noted that keeping pace with inflation would help the City attract and retain qualified employees. He asked that the Council take action at the next Council meeting because the Council could not make the increase retroactive to the start of the year if they chose to wait until a Council meeting in January.

The City Council discussed the proposal from the exempt employees. The continuing validity of a merit increase salary system was questioned. The Council urged the new mayor to look at the compensation system and propose appropriate changes in 2006. There was a majority consensus to have the ordinance modified to grant a 3% increase in January with the expectation that exempt compensation will be reviewed again in January 2006.

10. Discussion: AB05-263 – Resolution 1501 – Interlocal Agreement with the City of Sumner for Animal Control Services.

Interim Chief McGehee explained a language change resulting from the recent Public Safety Committee meeting. He said that a requirement for at least 20 hours per week of patrolling/enforcement was inserted into the agreement’s language. Deputy Mayor Swatman said he appreciates the work done on the agreement, but would prefer to see the City do its own animal control. Councilmember King said the additional language will provide a tool for measuring performance. He urged the City to be diligent in its monitoring of the agreement. Mayor Young said the agreement will be presented for Council action at the next Council meeting.

11. Discussion: AB05-306 – Resolution 1513 – Abatement of Property on 188th St.

Mayor Young said this is an issue on which Code Enforcement and Planning have worked on. He added that he has personally met with neighbors in the area, and the proposed action is a step forward. There was general consensus expressed that this proposal is appreciated. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked that the Council receive more timely information. Councilmember King asked for any available photographs. Mayor Young said they will be forwarded.


Mayor Young explained that this is the standard motion to allow payment of claims and payroll when the Council cancels its last two meetings of the year. He said it will be moved forward to the next meeting.

13. Executive Session: Mayor Young announced that following a five minute break, the City Council will adjourn to executive session to consider real estate sales and lease (RCW 42.30.110(c)) and guild negotiation issues (RCW 42.30.140(4)(a)). He said the duration will be 40 minutes. The executive session started at 8:40 p.m. and concluded at 9:49 p.m.

7. Adjournment

At 9:50 p.m., Deputy Mayor Swatman moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Noble seconded the motion.
Motion approved 7 – 0.

Documents submitted for/at the Council Workshop of December 6, 2005:

- City of Bonney Lake – Parametrix Draft 192nd Ave. E. Corridor Study – Dan Grigsby, Public Works Director.
- City of Bonney Lake – Request authorization to pay DDJ – John Weidenfeller, Finance Director.
- City of Bonney Lake – Interlocal Agreement with Sumner for Animal Control (Revised) – “Buster” McGehee, Interim Police Chief.