

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

May 16, 2006

**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"*

Audio  
Time  
Stamp ↓

**Call to Order:**

Mayor Neil Johnson called the May 16<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop to order at 5:31 p.m.

**Roll Call:**

Also in attendance were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember David Bowen, Councilmember Phil DeLeo, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Dave King, Councilmember Cheryle Noble and Councilmember Jim Rackley.

[Staff members attending were City Administrator Don Morrison, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Planning and Community Development Director Bob Leedy, Chief Financial Officer Beth Anne Wroe, Interim Police Chief Buster McGehee, City Attorney Jim Dionne, Administrative Services Director / City Clerk Harwood Edvalson and Planning Manager Steve Ladd.]

**Agenda Items:**

5:31:32

1. Presentation: Domestic Violence Program at Good Samaritan – Ardith DeRaad and Sylvia Riley.

Councilmember Noble introduced the two guests. She indicated that she will be giving her Council discretionary funds to support this program at Good Samaritan. She added that she hopes the Council or City will contribute \$5,000 toward the program. Ms. DeRaad, representing the Pierce County Commission Against Domestic Violence, referenced a news article in the Seattle Times on May 16<sup>th</sup> titled, "Studies find epidemic of domestic violence." She discussed some of the current and long-term impacts of domestic violence. Sylvia Riley, the Program Director at Good Samaritan, reviewed statistics about domestic violence and the estimated impacts on the national and Puget Sound economies. She described the program at Good Samaritan.

Councilmember Rackley asked how the program is funded. Ms. Riley responded that most of the funding comes from the United Way. She said the City of Tacoma has also contributed, and matching funds have come from the Health Department. She noted that Bonney Lake and Fife are no longer making contributions as they have in the past. Councilmember Hamilton asked if there is any statistical correlation regarding those who have received counseling and are exposed to greater violence. Ms. Riley replied there is a 75% increase in the risk of homicide when a victim leaves a situation of domestic violence. Councilmember DeLeo asked what the Council can do about domestic violence. Ms. Riley responded that financial support of the program would be wonderful. But more importantly she urged help in raising awareness, and of encouraging a community of zero tolerance for domestic violence behavior. Mayor Johnson urged Ms. DeRaad to submit a formal request for funding to City Administrator Morrison.

5:56:23

2. Presentation: WSU Demonstration Forest – Forest Conditions and Future – Representatives of WSU, Washington Department of Natural Resources and Consultants.

Director Leedy said as soon as the City became aware of major activity planned in the Demonstration Forest, Planning Manager Ladd was tasked with contacting the key individuals in the proposed activities. Planning Manager Ladd introduced the following: Mel Taylor and Peter Volk – WSU Real Estate; Pat Boyes and Vicky McCarley – 4-H Program; Ken Russell – tree pathologist; Terry Meisenheimer, Jerry Johnson and Lisa Spahr from the Department of Natural Resources – Enumclaw Office; Dennis Tompkins – City Arborist; Wally Costello and Allison Moss – Quadrant. He thanked them all for coming and invited them to address the Council.

Mr. Taylor, Executive Director of Real Estate Operations and External Affairs for the Business Affairs Office at Washington State University, said the decision was made two years ago to sell the forest and use the proceeds to expand the 4-H Program and other projects identified by the University. He referenced a new plan from Quadrant for use of the property, and added that the University is excited about the plan. He said the University has determined that it will no longer use the Demonstration Forest for its programs. He explained that the forest will remain closed until such time it is sold and developed. He spoke in support of an agreement between the City and Quadrant for implementation of the latest plan.

Councilmember Hamilton asked about the removal of diseased trees from the property. Mr. Taylor confirmed that there is a plan to remove about 900 trees from the property, but said there is no plan to replant. Councilmember Noble asked about the other projects the sale of the property will fund for the University. Mr. Taylor said the proceeds will be used to fund 5 new challenge courses. He added the remainder will go into an endowment fund where its uses will be determined by the University President and the Board of Regents.

Deputy Mayor Swatman observed there are many uses the property can be used for within its current Public Facilities zoning. Mr. Taylor said the University has partnered with Quadrant and Weyerhaeuser to determine the use of the property. Deputy Mayor Swatman responded that the Council wants a plan that's acceptable to the public. Councilmember King asked how much money will be earned from the logging of the downed and diseased trees. A response was given from the audience of approximately \$400,000. Councilmember King asked about the University's plan for securing the property from criminal action if it intends to close the forest and have no further programmatic presence there. Mr. Taylor said the University will be happy to work with the Police Department to provide access. He said for liability reasons, the University will likely have to develop their own security plan. Councilmember King observed that the City of Bonney Lake is unlikely to provide a gratis security program with the forest no longer open to public use.

Councilmember DeLeo asked where other challenge courses will be located. Pat Boyes responded that a few locations are being explored with the City of Tacoma, Pierce College and other park districts and junior colleges in Thurston County. She explained that the challenge course in the demonstration forest has trees which are in a diseased condition.

Responding to further questions about the health of the forest, Tree Pathologist Ken Russell, explained that the laminated root rot is the scourge of Douglas Fir forests. He said this is not the first time he has seen such an infestation. He observed that the root rot has probably been present in the forest for 40 years. He said once a tree has the symptoms of the root rot, there is no known way of saving the tree. He said the fungus is particularly virulent and can remain dormant in the soil for 75 years. He concluded that the proper harvesting and preventive clearing of the infected areas will still leave a fine forest. He suggested the replanting of cleared areas with other species of trees. He said the clearing of diseased trees will not completely solve the problem. He added

that continued checking will be required in the years to come.

There were additional questions and answers of the various representatives. Terry Meisenheimer of the Department of Natural Resources explained that under the current permitting system, the City is the lead agency on the review of the proposed activity within the forest. Pat Boyes recognized Vicki McCarley and Brian Grant for their valiant efforts to protect young people who were using the challenge course when the last windstorm struck the forest. Dennis Tompkins noted there is root rot in some of the Douglas Firs in front of City Hall and recommended removal of the diseased trees. He added his hope that Quadrant will preserve the healthiest parts of the Demonstration Forest.

Responding to Councilmember Rackley's request, Mayor Johnson called for a ten minute break. The break started at 7:10 p.m. and concluded at 7:24 p.m.

7:24:28

3. Executive Session

**Deputy Mayor Swatman moved that the Meeting Agenda be modified to insert an executive session at this time to discuss potential litigation. Councilmember Noble seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved 7 – 0.**

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(i), Mayor Johnson declared the start of the executive session to discuss potential litigation. He said the session would last 15 minutes. It started at 7:25 p.m. At 7:40 p.m., the session was extended five minutes. The executive session adjourned at 7:48 p.m.

7:49:22

4. Presentation: Non-Motorized Transportation Plan Update – The Transpo Group.

Director Grigsby introduced Andy Mortensen of the Transpo Group. Mr. Mortensen apologized for missing the last scheduled discussion of this topic. He discussed with the Council projected pictures of sidewalks and streetscapes in Seattle known as the Sea Streets Program. Mr. Mortensen explained how the projects incorporated traffic calming techniques and bio-filtered swales to treat storm water runoff. He responded to Council questions. Due to the high anticipated costs and technical difficulties of pursuing a streetscape similar to Seattle's demonstration sections, Mr. Mortensen recommended the City use its existing standard street design standards for its sidewalk and street improvement projects. He said the final draft plan will discuss funding options and provide two or three options to treat the different situations which will be encountered on Bonney Lake's streets. He added it will also include the ranking matrix used to establish a priority of projects. Mr. Mortensen said the specific design will be handled on a case-by-case basis as the City begins to address plan specific projects.

Councilmember Rackley informed the Council of a personal commitment that required his presence at 9:00 p.m., and left the meeting.

8:55:04

4. Council Open Discussion.

Planned Absences. Councilmember King informed the Council of his planned absences. He said he will be out of town for the May 23<sup>rd</sup> Council meeting due to his employment. He added he will be out of town for the meeting of June 27<sup>th</sup> on family matters. Finally, he said he will not be in attendance at the Thursday, May 18<sup>th</sup> Special Council Meeting because it conflicts with the Pierce County Regional Council meeting, which he will be attending as the City's representative.

Informational Breakfast - July. Councilmember DeLeo asked if the Council would like to plan another community informational breakfast similar to the one held the past two years. There was a majority consensus to hold such a breakfast during the month of July. The location was discussed. Councilmember DeLeo suggested the fire station bays. Councilmember Hamilton suggested the high school.

Fifth Tuesday Meeting. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked the Council if they would like to use the upcoming fifth Tuesday, May 30<sup>th</sup> as an opportunity for a joint meeting with the Planning Commission. He asked Planning Commissioner Jacobsen in the audience if she was aware of any business over which the two groups should meet. She responded that the Commission's current business is the review of the proposed Comprehensive Plan Amendments related to utilities.

Proposal to Reschedule and/or Cancel Meetings. Deputy Mayor Swatman noted that the regular workshop scheduled for July 4<sup>th</sup> falls on the Independence Day Holiday. He asked if the Council would support rescheduling that meeting to Saturday, July 8<sup>th</sup>, to follow the planned special meeting for emergency management training. He asked as well if the Council would like to cancel the August 1<sup>st</sup> workshop to allow participation in the National Night Out observances. Deputy Mayor Swatman also proposed that venue for the June 13<sup>th</sup>, or a following Council meeting be changed to the Bonney Lake High School to allow for displays of planned projects in the area. There was general Council consensus in support of the proposed changes. Councilmember DeLeo said the Public Safety Committee has finalized its proposed limited-parking ordinance for the high school area. He observed it would be a good discussion point for that meeting with the residents in the high school area in attendance.

Selection of Police Cars. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked if the Public Safety Committee intended to discuss the type of police cars purchased by the administration. He expressed concern that the most recent purchases of Dodge Chargers may be giving the public an impression of extravagance. Interim Chief McGehee noted the City's traditional vehicle, the Ford Crown Victoria, will be discontinued next year. He added that the Chargers were purchased through the state bid. He said the department may have been required to wait several months or into 2007 to obtain vehicles had the City not purchased when it did. Chief McGehee said that although the Charger is five to seven hundred dollars more than the Crown Victoria, it is a better police car and gets better gas mileage. Councilmembers discussed the issue. Mayor Johnson said he feels the decision was appropriately justified by Chief McGehee. He said the Police Chief will provide additional information to the City Council.

9:18:47

5. Review of Minutes from April 27<sup>th</sup> Special Council Meeting, April 29<sup>th</sup> Special Council Meeting, May 2<sup>nd</sup> City Council Workshop and May 9<sup>th</sup> City Council Meeting.

There were no corrections requested by Councilmembers.

6. Adjournment

**At 9:20 p.m., Deputy Mayor Swatman moved to adjourn the meeting. Councilmember Noble seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved 6 – 0.**

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Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC  
City Clerk

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Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr.

Documents submitted for/at the Council Workshop of May 16, 2006:

- Good Samaritan Domestic Violence Program – *News Article: Studies find epidemic of domestic violence* – Ardith DeRaad, Pierce County Commission Against Domestic Violence.
- City of Bonney Lake – *Domestic Violence Statistics* – Cheryle Noble, Councilmember.
- The Transpo Group, *Alternative Street & Sidewalk Design*, Andy Mortensen, Project Engineer.
- City of Bonney Lake, *Department Reports for May 16<sup>th</sup> Council Workshop* –
  - Woody Edvalson, Administrative Services Director
  - Dan Grigsby, Public Works Director
  - Gary Leaf, Community Services Director
  - Bob Leedy, Director of Planning and Community Development
  - Buster McGehee, Police Chief