CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

December 4, 2012
5:30 P.M.

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. Website: www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us

Location: Bonney Lake Justice Center, 9002 Main Street East, Bonney Lake, Washington.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman called the workshop to order at 5:31 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:
Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson called the roll. Elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Randy McKibbin, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Jim Rackley, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember Katrina Minton-Davis, and Councilmember Tom Watson. Mayor Johnson was not in attendance.

III. Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Community Development Director John Vodopich, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Police Chief Dana Powers, Court Administrator Kathy Seymour, Assistant City Attorney Kathleen Haggard, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, and Administrative Specialist II Renee Cameron.

Councilmember Watson moved to excuse Councilmember Minton-Davis from the October 30, 2012, Special Joint Council/Park Board Meeting and the November 27, 2012 Council Meeting. Councilmember Lewis seconded.

Motion to excuse Councilmember Minton-Davis approved 7-0.

IV. AGENDA ITEMS:


Deputy Mayor Swatman opened the public hearing at 5:32 p.m. Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Edvalson said there were no speakers signed up to speak for the public hearing. The public hearing was closed at 5:33 p.m.

B. Review of Draft Minutes: November 20th Workshop, and November 27th Meeting.

The November 20, 2012 Council Workshop, and the November 27, 2012 Council Meeting minutes were forwarded to the December 11, 2012 Council Meeting for action, with minor corrections noted by Councilmember Lewis.

C. Council Open Discussion.

Gas Leak on Main Street: Chief of Police Powers provided a response to Councilmember Watson’s request for information regarding the gas leak which occurred at the construction site on Main Street on November 28th. Chief Powers said Puget Sound Energy was contacted,
responded, shut down the gas line and the incident was issued an all clear very quickly. She said during the incident officers responded, SR 410 was shut down, and evacuations occurred at the Justice Center and the children and employees at KinderCare were taken to the Library. She said that social media, via Facebook and Twitter, provided important notification and information quickly to law enforcement, citizens, residents and businesses. Public Works Director Grigsby also provided information regarding the occurrence.

D. Discussion: AB12-110 – Resolution 2258 – Stating the Council’s Intent to Call for a Special Election for a Metropolitan Park District.

Deputy Mayor Swatman said last month, the Park Board passed a motion requesting a Metropolitan Park District (MPD) proposition be placed on the April 2013 ballot. He said there are three options for a proposed resolution for a future MPD election: A) setting an April 2013 date; B) setting a late 2013/early 2014 date that will be determined later; and C) does not set a specific date at this time and which would be determined later.

Councilmember Lewis said he does not like Option C and he would like to see action taken with either Option A or B. Councilmember Rackley said he would like to see the Park Board’s Work Plan and said he thinks that Option A to have it on the ballot in April 2013 is too soon. Deputy Mayor Swatman said it’s not a matter of whether it is on the ballot, but when, and the $25,000 cost to have an election is the same whenever it is placed on the ballot. Councilmember Rackley said he supports the concept he just wants to know that it is done right. Councilmember Watson said he would like to see it on the ballot in the spring, and thinks it would be in the City’s best interest to move forward with Option A. Councilmember Lewis said he thinks putting it on the April 2013 ballot is too soon, however, he thinks the MPD is the right proposal. He said if the MPD is put on the ballot and it does not pass, he said at least it would help to make the voters familiar with the issue and give it good publicity for future consideration. Councilmember Rackley said his only objection to Option A is it only gives the City four (4) months to educate the voters regarding the MPD. Councilmember Watson said if Council chooses to move forward with a April 2013 election then he thinks it will bring voters out to ask more questions. Councilmember Minton-Davis said one of the City’s biggest needs is parks and would prefer an April vote when more voters are out and about thinking about using parks, whether in 2013 or 2014. She said she believes the Council needs to be unanimous in wanting to form a MPD.

Councilmember McKibbin said he wants to know what Council’s role is to move forward with a Park Plan if the MPD fails. Councilmember Lewis said with the City’s population growing it is important to support and encourage park growth. Councilmember Hamilton said if a November election occurred he thinks it would be a good time for consideration because of the rain that voters will be thinking about the usage of indoor recreation facilities, however, he doesn’t think waiting to until 2014 is the right thing to do. He said he is concerned about educating the voters about what the MPD is and what it does, and about the cost associated with forming a MPD. He said he supports putting it on the April 2013 ballot to see what the voters say. Councilmember Lewis said he does not like the idea of an election in November when there are other issues and elections occurring. He would like to see it on the April ballot when it is an exclusive issue. Councilmember Minton-Davis said she thinks the voters need to have information in front of them as to what the MPD means to them and what they can expect if the MPD is approved. Councilmember Lewis said it is important that the Council all be on the same page and there needs to be talking points and information established to educate the voters who will support a MPD.
Deputy Mayor Swatman said there is sufficient consensus to move a resolution forward to the December 11th meeting for Option A to place the MPD on the April 2013 ballot.


Deputy Mayor Swatman congratulated the Councilmembers who have worked and met with staff in preparing for adopting the 2013-2014 Biennial Budget.

City Administrator Morrison said it is Administration’s intent to highlight one or two points on each portion of the budget. He provided a breakdown on the travel and training legislative budget for the Councilmembers. Councilmember Lewis asked about the election data, costs and the amount the State passes on to the City. City Administrator said there are a lot of variables depending on what is on the ballot and the per capita costs.

Council and staff briefly discussed the Legislative, Judicial, Executive, Finance and the Legal budgets and determined that they were making good progress on their budget questions and could adjourn the workshop and continue their budget discussions during a Special Council Meeting scheduled for 5:30 p.m. on December 11th.


Deputy Mayor Swatman said the Council has informally discussed extended meeting hours on December 11th to discuss the 2013-2014 Biennial Budget. In contrast to the Council’s regular practice of cancelling the final two meetings of the year, there has been discussion regarding holding the December 18th Workshop in anticipation of adoption of the next biennial budget on that date if they are unable to adopt the budget on December 11th. Also, the first workshop of 2013 will fall on New Year’s Day, therefore it will be cancelled. The first Council meeting for 2013 will be held on January 8, 2013. Councilmember Rackley said he will be unavailable on December 18th if a workshop is held. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the Committee Chairs will need to cancel any of their Committee meetings, if necessary.

Council consensus was to hold a Special Council Meeting for December 11th at 5:30 p.m. to discuss the budget. The regular Council Meeting will still be held at 7:00 p.m. on December 11th.

IV. ADJOURNMENT:

At 7:13 p.m., Councilmember Rackley moved to adjourn the Council Workshop. Councilmember Lewis seconded the motion.

Motion to adjourn approved 7-0.

Harwood Edvalson, MMC
City Clerk

Neil Johnson, Jr.
Mayor

Items presented to Council for the December 4th Workshop:

- Jaime Trejo - Letter to Brian Beckley regarding the Park Board vote.