

## CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

September 19, 2017  
6:00 P.M.

### DRAFT MINUTES



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

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. called the workshop to order at 6:00 p.m.

**II. ROLL CALL:** Deputy City Clerk Susan Haigh called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Randy McKibbin, Councilmember Justin Evans, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember James Rackley, Councilmember Dan Swatman, and Councilmember Tom Watson.

**Mayor Johnson noted that Councilmember Katrina Minton-Davis resigned effective 4:59 p.m. earlier in the evening.**

Councilmember Swatman and Mayor Johnson expressed their appreciation for ex-Councilmember Minton-Davis' service to the City Council. City Administrator Morrison suggested the Council recognize her at a future Council Meeting.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Chief Financial Officer Cherie Gibson, Police Chief Dana Powers, Public Services Director John Vodopich, Assistant Public Works Director Ryan \_\_\_\_, City Attorney Kathleen Haggard, Deputy City Clerk Susan Haigh.

### **III. AGENDA ITEMS:**

**A. Discussion:** Utility Rates (Ordinance D17-99 Water Rates and Ordinance D17-100 Sewer Rates)

City Administrator Morrison reviewed the past recommendations by FCS Group and Council concerns. Staff have worked with FCSG and RH2 and presented an option to reduce the Capital Improvements Projects (CIP) list and recommend raising both water rates and sewer rates at 4% per year for the next four years. He said this proposal delays or defers several projects. Director Vodopich explained the process to review and revise the CIP with input from staff.

Councilmember Lewis said the lower, flat increases should be more palatable to ratepayers as compared with the original proposal for a 9% increase in the first year. He said he would also support a 5% increase each year.

City Administrator Morrison said RH2 also calculated the increase needed to provide sewer service to Cedarview, and they suggest an additional 1/2 percent to the rate increase.

Evans: are we kicking down or stretching? Morrison: delaying water projects, stretching funds for sewer projects.

Councilmember Watson said when they voted against increases in 2012 he did not realize how significant the impacts would be, and spoke in support of the 4% increase. City Administrator Morrison said the proposed increases simply bring rates up to what they were before rates were decreased in 2012.

Councilmember Rackley spoke in favor of increasing water and sewer rates by 4.5%. Deputy Mayor McKibbin confirmed that the additional 1/2 percent would fund the design of sewer service for the Cedarview neighborhood. Councilmember Watson said he would support 4% for water and 4.5% increase for sewer.

Mayor Johnson asked for Council consensus to move this forward. City Administrator Morrison said based on Council comments he would revise the draft ordinance to show a 4.5% increase for sewer and maintain the 4% increase in water each year for 5 years. The revised draft ordinances were forwarded to the September 26, 2017 Meeting for action.

City Administrator Morrison said the City Attorney made minor revisions to the adjustment language which will also be reflected in the revised draft.

Councilmember Lewis said he will not attend the next two meetings but he supports approval of both ordinances.

**B. Review of Draft Minutes:** September 5, 2017 Workshop and September 12, 2017 Meeting.

The minutes were forwarded to the September 26, 2017 Meeting for action with minor corrections.

**C. Council Open Discussion:**

Beautify Bonney Lake: Councilmember Evans said over 500 people attended Beautify Bonney Lake on September 16, 2017. They had great participation and weather, and finished a lot of projects thanks to the hard-working volunteers. Councilmember Watson thanked Public Works staff for helping prepare tools and supplies to get everything ready for the event, and everything to help clean up. Mayor Johnson said this is the biggest event in Pierce County and deserves praise.

Communities for Families: Councilmember Watson said he attended the CFF meeting on September 7, 2017 and Don Morrison and David Wells presented information on events and activities in the City of Bonney Lake.

Public Safety: Councilmember Watson said the Council received another email from a resident who is concerned about transients at city buildings. Chief Powers said they are working with members of the community, checking on safety at the

building, and working with the City attorney. She said the individual has mental health issues and there has not yet been evidence of any crime at the City building. They have reached out to an outreach group that is working to find a placement for one individual. City Attorney Haggard explained the situation and the lack of a crime being committed. She said city councils are limited in setting laws against loitering or homelessness. Chief Powers confirmed he has been trespassed from private properties elsewhere in the City but he cannot be trespassed from a public building unless a crime has been committed.

Dispatch Services: Councilmember Swatman said some adult care facilities call dispatch for services including lifting patients. He asked if Public Safety committee could review city regulations on nursing home and other care facilities.

Councilmember Swatman asked about issues with dispatch referring calls to the State Patrol instead of local agencies when calls are made near state highways. He said he wants to speak with someone at the agency. Chief Powers said she is working to get a contact person for the Council.

Councilmember Lewis said he was involved in a motor vehicle accident last week and he had a good experience and quick response.

**D. Discussion: Process to Select Councilmembers for Vacant Positions.**

City Administrator Morrison explained state and local regulations to fill vacancies on the City Council. He recommended the City advertise for Councilmember Minton-Davis' vacant position, followed by interviews during an open public session. The Council's rules state candidates must reside inside the City limits. The appointee would serve the remainder of her term, through December 2019.

Councilmembers discussed posting the vacancy on the City's employment website and posting a notice in the official newspaper, with a deadline in the next couple of weeks. City Administrator Morrison said staff will work on preparing the announcement and online application as soon as possible.

**IV. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION: None.**

**V. ADJOURNMENT:**

**At 6:52 p.m. the Workshop was adjourned by common consent of the Council.**

**Motion to adjourn approved 6 – 0.**

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Harwood Edvalson, MMC  
City Clerk

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Neil Johnson, Jr.  
Mayor

Items presented to Council at the September 19, 2017 Workshop:

- Name – *Title of Item* – Bonney Lake Citizen.
- Name – *Title of Item* – Name of Organization.

*Note: Unless otherwise indicated, all documents submitted at City Council meetings and workshops are on file with the City Clerk. For detailed information on agenda items, please view the corresponding Agenda Packets, which are posted on the city website and on file with the City Clerk.*