

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

June 5, 2018
6:00 P.M.



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MINUTES

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:** Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Randy McKibbin, Councilmember Terry Carter, Councilmember Justin Evans, Councilmember Michelle Surdez, Councilmember James Rackley, Councilmember Dan Swatman, and Councilmember Tom Watson.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator John Vodopich, Police Chief Dana Powers, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, Finance Director Cherie Gibson, Planning and Building Supervisor Jason Sullivan, Human Resources Manager Jenna Richardson, Executive Assistant/Management Analyst Leslie Harris and Assistant City Attorney Jon Collins.

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. **Open Council Discussion:**

Light Pole, Street Striping and Families Coalition. Councilmember Tom Watson reported that Puget Sound Energy had repaired a leaning light pole near Ken Simmons Park. He also commended the Public Works Division on the night-time street striping project. Finally, Councilmember Watson reported on his meeting with the Sumner Drug Free Coalition. He said that motivational speaker, Monte Stiles, was in attendance and offered several suggestions to the coalition on how to cope with the loss of their grant revenue.

Welcome for City Administrator. Councilmember Justin Evans welcomed City Administrator John Vodopich in his new role as City Administrator.

B. **Review of Council Minutes:** May 15, 2018 Workshop and May 22, 2018 Council Meeting.

Councilmember Watson presented minor corrections to the minutes. The Council consensus was to move them forward for action at the next Council meeting.

C. **Discussion:** Solid Waste Rates – DM Disposal

City Administrator John Vodopich reviewed for the Council that DM Disposal has requested an 8.3% increase in rates to cover their increased expenses in handling recyclables. He said this equates to an increase in the standard residential rate of \$2.13/mo. He added that in consultation with the City Attorney's Office, it has been determined that a resolution of the Council is required to approve the rate increase.

Councilmember Watson suggested the Council make the increase in two stages, such as half now and the other half in September. Councilmember Rackley and Councilmember Surdez felt the citizens want to know how much the increase will be and move forward with it, not stretch it out over a six-month period with multiple increases. Councilmember Swatman suggested that the City should hold DM to their contract, and while the contract allows them to ask for increases, the City does not have to grant them. He said the 8% increase seems steep. Councilmember Evans said any delay will further increase DM's operating deficit. Councilmember Swatman responded that the City has not seen their financial statements and has no way of knowing if DM has made up for their loss in some other operating revenue. Mayor Johnson pointed out that the request is to cover unforeseen expenses, not for the purchase of expensive equipment.

Josh Metcalf, Operating Manager of Murrey's Disposal said the request simply covers their losses and includes no excess. He noted that Puyallup, Sumner and Milton have all recently approved similar requests for increase. He noted that the percentage increase seems small, but the actual dollars to the monthly bill are not great because the rate for the service is already relatively low. Councilmember Rackley asked about joint efforts to educate the public and change the approach to recyclables, expensive packaging, etc. Mr. Metcalf said Murrey's is willing to engage with the City, County and other partners to help address the issues. Councilmember Swatman asked if the City's utility tax would be compounded on top of the DM rate increase. A financial manager for Murrey's spoke from the audience and said the rate increase was calculated in such a way as to avoid the potential compounding effect of the City's utility tax. There was Council consensus to place the item for action on the next Council agenda under Full Council Issues.

D. **Discussion:** AB18-44 – Ordinance D18-44 – Updating City Planning And Engineering Fees.

Planning and Building Supervisor Jason Sullivan reviewed with Council the process, structure and purpose for the proposed fee increases. He said the rates have not increased since 2007. Councilmember Swatman introduced the topic of whether or not planning and development fees should be used to incentivize development in the City. Councilmember Evans queried whether there is a perceived value to being in Bonney Lake. He suggested there is a value and urged the Council to capture possible businesses to provide a better service to our

citizens. Deputy Mayor McKibbin suggested the Council look at other development locations surrounding Bonney Lake, including Tehaleh, to make sure Bonney Lake remains competitive.

Councilmember Watson said the Council should move forward with the fee increases and then see what the impacts are, noting they can be revised again as needed. Councilmember Carter asked how the City will know what the true impacts are. Will the City be able to tell if a developer chose not to develop in Bonney Lake because of the increased fees? Councilmember Surdez said she believes businesses will want to be here in Bonney Lake. Without Council objection, Mayor Johnson said the item will be brought forward to the next Council meeting for action under Full Council Issues.


E. Discussion: AB18-61 – Resolution 2663 – Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU) Between The City Of Bonney Lake And The AFSCME Local #120 Union.

Human Resources Manager Jenna Richardson explained how the represented employees have not been able to use their Short-Term Disability Plan through the United Employees Benefit Trust as had originally been envisioned due to the plan requirements. She said the union shop steward did some research and found an alternative plan that will provide union members with the type of benefit they are seeking. Deputy Mayor McKibbin asked why this MOU was not part of the recent labor negotiation. Manager Richardson explained the time to do the research and work out the details for the change did not fall within the timeline of the negotiations for the labor agreement. She noted there will be some minor staff time involved with the changeover and open enrollment periods in the future, but the cost should not be great. After asking for Council direction, Mayor Johnson set this item for the Consent Agenda on the next Council meeting agenda.

IV. EXECUTIVE/CLOSED SESSION: None.

V. ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:52 p.m. Mayor Johnson adjourned the Council Workshop by common consent of the Council.



Harwood Edvalson, City Clerk



Neil Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Items presented to Council at the June 5, 2018 Workshop: None.

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.