

**SPECIAL CITY  
COUNCIL MEETING—  
BUDGET RETREAT**

**July 31, 2018  
6:00 P.M.**

**MINUTES**

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**Location:** Dave & Busters, 1101 Outlet Collection Drive Southwest, Auburn, Washington.

**I. CALL TO ORDER** – Deputy Mayor Randy McKibbin called the Meeting to order at 4:00 p.m.

- A. Attendance: Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson noted the attendance. 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. Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. joined the meeting in progress.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator John Vodopich, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, Police Chief Bryan Jeter, Chief Financial Officer Cherie Gibson and Executive Assistant/Management Analyst Leslie Harris.

**II. AGENDA ITEMS:**

- A. Introduction of Agenda and Overview of Budget Document.

Deputy Mayor McKibbin gave an introduction to the retreat and explained the deliberative process used to select the topics. City Administrator Vodopich spoke briefly of the anticipated budget process going forward including decision cards, workshops and the preliminary budget. Chief Financial Officer Gibson reviewed the budget book and its sections. Mayor Johnson said the purpose of the retreat is to give the administration an understanding of the relative importance of the topics discussed and to indicate priorities in the preparation of the preliminary budget.

- B. Passports. The Council and Mayor Johnson discussed briefly whether the City should continue to provide US Passport services. Councilmember Rackley felt continuing to provide the service to residents enhances the quality of life in Bonney Lake. Councilmember Evans questioned why other cities appear to be dropping the service and urged that Bonney Lake carefully consider the impacts of continuing to provide the service. Mayor Johnson said the administration would present a recommendation in future workshops.

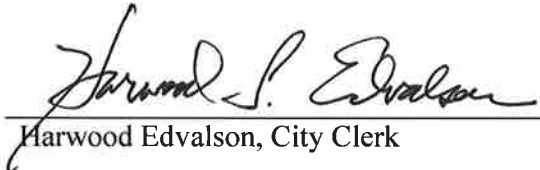
- C. Emergency Preparedness. Director Edvalson reviewed briefly with Council the memo on the City's state of emergency preparedness he had submitted to the budget retreat agenda packet. He responded to questions about the City's current plans and a proposed solution to enter into an Interlocal Agreement with East Pierce Fire & Rescue and the other cities and town in the fire district for a joint emergency management planner/analyst. There was general consensus that the Council Public Safety Committee would further explore the administration's proposal and report back to the Council at a budget workshop.
- D. Surplus Land. The City Council discussed the current disposition of the Reed property on Barkubein Road and the Compass Pointe/Smith properties on SR410. The Council consensus was to move forward with preparations to declare the Reed property as surplus and offer it for sale. There was some discussion regarding preserving a portion of the property or an access easement for a future Flume Trail to Buckley. The Council was also generally in agreement that the Compass Pointe/Smith properties would be sold if the right development opportunities and conditions presented themselves.
- E. ERR Fund. City Administrator Vodopich explained briefly how the fund operates for the replacement of City vehicles. Mayor Johnson noted that Chief Jeter has requested that the police patrol fleet move to all-wheel drive vehicles. Councilmember Evans noted that the planned obsolescence of the Motorola radios would require the replacement of both mobile and hand-held radios for the department adding to the short-term increase in cost for all police vehicles. With the retirement of Motor Officer Sainati, the Council was introduced to the discussion between Mayor Johnson and Chief Jeter regarding the continuance of having a motorcycle officer. Mayor Johnson said a decision would be forthcoming in the administration's preliminary budget.
- F. Pool. Mayor Johnson reported an upcoming meeting with the school district superintendent on the topic of a joint use pool between the school district and the City of Bonney Lake. He said the meeting would discuss a possible feasibility study. He said the latest proposal is to use a Myrtha temporary pool until a permanent facility can be funded and developed. He added there is more discussion to come and he will report back to the Ad Hoc committee on those discussions.
- G. Break/Dinner. The City Council took a break and then began dinner at 5:20 p.m.
- H. FTE Chart: City Administrator Vodopich displayed the 2017-2018 FTE Chart showing the authorized positions for the current biennial budget. He said an update for the new biennium would be proposed based on administrative recommendations in the preliminary budget. Councilmember Carter questioned the utility of using two assistant chiefs in the current police department organization. Mayor Johnson responded that Chief Jeter is considering the department's organizational structure and the administration's proposal would be part of the preliminary budget and FTE chart. Councilmember Watson asked

about staffing for parks, streets and storm water maintenance. Mayor Johnson responded the administration is considering its proposed staffing for the coming biennium.

- I. Community Events. General pleasure with the City's community events was expressed by the City Council. The issue of how to handle the proceeds/benefits from sponsorships was discussed. Deputy Mayor McKibbin said the Finance Committee would further discuss the issue and recommend a resolution.
- J. Public Safety Issues. The City Council discussed the increasing jail budget and alternatives such as partnering with Pierce County for the use of their unused jail cells, construction of a central Pierce jail facility in a joint effort between cities in the area, and the greater use of video arraignments. Employee security concerns were also discussed with Councilmembers Evans and Carter proposing improvements to the Justice & Municipal Center, the police parking yard, etc. The Public Safety Committee was designated as the appropriate place to further hear these concerns and work with the administration on budget proposals.
- K. Other. Councilmember Rackley asked about water rates and complaints from utility customers. City Administrator Vodopich said the Council may have the opportunity to be provided additional information in a workshop in August to further consider water rates. Councilmember Watson asked about parks. Mayor Johnson spoke about potential improvements for Fennel Creek, Allan Yorke Park, the creation of picnic areas and possible use of storm water ponds for seasonal picnic areas.

**III. ADJOURNMENT:**

**At 6:43 p.m. the Special Council Meeting was adjourned by Mayor Johnson with the common consent of the City Council.**

  
Harwood Edvalson, City Clerk

  
Neil Johnson, Jr., Mayor

Items submitted at the July 31, 2018 Special Council Meeting: None.