



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

SPECIAL MEETING

JULY 24, 2018

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Debbie Bertlin called the meeting to order at 6:01 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Deputy Mayor Salim Nice, and Councilmembers Tom Acker, Bruce Bassett, Wendy Weiker (arrived 6:09 pm), David Wisenteiner, and Benson Wong were present.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Wisenteiner; seconded by Wong to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 7 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 5454: 2018 Flash Family Inspiration Award

Youth and Family Services Director Cindy Goodwin spoke about the history of the Flash Family Inspiration Award. Mayor Debbie Bertlin spoke about Marcia Zervis and her nomination that was supported by members of the community who walk with her at the weekly Solemates outings or join her in numerous volunteer efforts. She noted that Marcia donates her time and effort with no expectation for recognition, but rather, to contribute to the benefit of the whole. Her leadership and optimism reflect the qualities the Flash Family Inspiration Award seeks to recognize.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Julie Underwood presented information on the following items:

- **Sound Transit Update:**
 - **Rail Station & Track:** Headhouse Construction 77th Ave, Headhouse Construction 80th Ave, Prepare for concrete slab (Nov. – Dec.)
 - **Park & Ride:** 77th Ave Transit Integration and Bus Turnaround, Park & Ride Lighting Retrofit Project, Pedestrian and Cyclist Improvements at Park & Ride frontage
 - **Miscellaneous:** Mercer Island Boat Launch, Traffic closures, Construction noise exemption notice mailed (start date TBD)
- **Puget Sound Sumi Artists Exhibit:** Mercer Gallery at MICEC, Artist Reception July 26, 6:30 - 8 pm
- **MICA Community Visioning Session:** Sat. July 28, 9:30 – 11:00am, MICEC
- **Seafair Weekend:** August 2-5. **I-90 Closure Schedule:** Thurs., Aug. 2, 9:45 am - 12:15 pm; 1:00-2:45 pm, Fri., Sat., and Sun. Aug. 3 -5, 12:55-2:45 pm
- **West Mercer Way Mural Update:** Painting begins Aug. 6
- **Comprehensive Plan Updates - We Want Your Feedback:** Public Hearings: Aug. 29, 6 pm at City Hall, Sept. 5, 6 pm at City Hall. Online Outreach, Aug. 15. Email / Written Public Comment submit now through Sept. 5

APPEARANCES

There were no appearances.

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5458: City's Financial Challenges: Levy Lid Lift Ordinance (2nd Reading & Adoption)

City Manager Julie Underwood presented a proposed ordinance to place a six-year levy lid lift on the November 6, 2018 General Election ballot for second reading and adoption. She spoke about the six-year forecast (2019-2024) and the key revenue assumptions involved in the forecast. She stated that after the July 17 meeting, staff revised Levy Lid Lift structure, incorporated Council's input regarding adding code compliance, ROW/median maintenance, and making clear park maintenance vs. capital and adjusted down the levy lid lift rate and annual growth factor.

The Council asked questions about and discussed the following:

- Efficiencies and cost reductions versus the use of one-time monies and reserve balances
- Capital levy needs
- Timing of the fiscal sustainability plan
- Moving the levy to the Special Election in February 2019
- Setting the Contingency Fund target
- Pro and Con committee and spokespersons appointments

City Attorney Kari Sand spoke about the state laws that City officials and staff will be required to adhere to if the ordinance is adopted and she reviewed campaign do's and don'ts.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Adopt Ordinance No. 18-07, providing for the submission on the November 7, 2018 General Election ballot, a proposition authorizing the City to lift the levy limit established in RCW 84.55.010 to sustain current service levels for Public Safety, Youth, Family, & Senior Services, and Parks & Recreation.

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Acker to:

**Amend the previous motion as follows:
Consider this levy for August 2019.**

Motion to Amend Failed 2-5

FOR: 2 (Acker, Weiker)

AGAINST: 5 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Wisenteiner, Wong)

Main Motion Passed 5-2

FOR: 5 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Wisenteiner, Wong)

AGAINST: 2 (Acker, Weiker)

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Appoint the pro and con committee members as recommended:

Pro Committee: Leslie Meagley, Alan Merkle, and John Stewart

Con Committee: Lisa Anderl, Mike Cero, and Heather Cartwright

Passed 7-0

FOR: 7 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

OTHER BUSINESS

Planning Schedule

City Manager Underwood reviewed the August 7 meeting agenda, National Night Out is from 5:00-6:00 pm at City Hall with the Regular Meeting starting at 6:00 pm.

Councilmember Bassett asked about the knotweed ordinance. City Manager Underwood responded that staff would prepare a work plan for addressing the issue and possible legislation.

Councilmember Absences

Councilmembers Wisenteiner, Bertlin, and Wong will be absent August 7 and Councilmember Weiker needs to leave by 8:00 pm.

ADJOURNMENT

The Special Meeting adjourned at 7:53 pm.

Attest:

Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

Allison Spietz, Acting City Clerk