



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING APRIL 3, 2018

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Debbie Bertlin called the meeting to order at 5:00 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 (arrived 5:10 pm), Bruce Bassett, Wendy Weiker (arrived 5:02 pm), David Wisenteiner, and Benson Wong were present.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

Passed 5-0.

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

ABSENT: 2 (Acker, Weiker)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session to consider the selection of a site or the acquisition of real estate by lease or purchase when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of increased price pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b) and to consider the minimum price at which real estate will be offered for sale or lease when public knowledge regarding such consideration would cause a likelihood of decreased price. However, final action selling or leasing public property shall be taken in a meeting open to the public pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(c) for 30 minutes.

At 5:03 pm, Mayor Bertlin convened the Executive Session 30 minutes.

At 5:58 pm, Mayor Bertlin adjourned the Executive Session and the Regular Meeting reconvened.

STUDY SESSION

AB 5409: Code Compliance Program and Code Amendment

DSG Administrative Services Director Alison Van Gorp presented information to the Council regarding the City's code compliance program, including process, staffing, and operational challenges. She also explained the deficiencies in the existing code compliance regulations and an overview of the policy options the Planning Commission will be evaluating to:

1. Re-organize and consolidate code compliance-related regulations;
2. Clarify the code compliance process and penalties;
3. Simplify the regulations for readability and ease of use; and
4. Add regulatory tools to aid staff in effectively and efficiently gaining compliance.

Following discussion, the Council directed staff to review code compliance provisions from other jurisdictions and propose code amendments to consolidate, update, and strengthen the City's code compliance regulations and explore potential policy tools.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 5411: Earth Day & Leap for Green Proclamation

Sustainability Manager Ross Freeman spoke about Earth Day and the Mercer Island Leap for Green Fair. He introduced Mercer Island residents Yve Sharples, Elizabeth Hardisty, Dr. Jonathan Harrington, and Leap to receive the proclamation on behalf of the community.

Mayor Debbie Bertlin proclaimed April 22, 2018 as Earth Day in the City of Mercer Island encouraged all residents and businesses to become responsible stewards of the Island and the planet. She invited everyone to the annual Leap for Green Sustainability Fair, on Saturday, April 14, from 10:00am-2:00pm, at the Community and Event Center.

AB 5408: Sexual Assault Awareness Month Proclamation

City Manager Julie Underwood spoke about the goal Sexual Assault Awareness Month to raise public awareness about sexual violence and educate communities on how to prevent it. She introduced Lawton Penn, Vice President of King County Sexual Assault Resource Center's Board of Directors and Mercer Island resident to receive the proclamation on behalf of the community.

Mayor Debbie Bertlin proclaimed April 2018 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month in the City of Mercer Island and urged all advocates and communities across King County in taking action to prevent sexual violence by standing with survivors and committing to a safer future for all children, young people, adults, and families.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Julie Underwood presented information on the following items:

- **City's Financial Challenges Community Advisory Group Meeting** - The CAG had its last meeting on Mon., April 2, to finalize their recommendations and a majority (74%) supported a smaller levy + other revenues + operational effectiveness/cost control. Thank you to the CAG members!
- City receives \$100,000 from WSDOT to fund the development of the **Aubrey Davis Master Plan**
- City receives official **Notice of Completion** from the State's Department of Health in response to the September 2014 E. coli incident
- **2018 Spring Recycling Event** - Saturday, April 7, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Mercer Island Boat Launch, 3600 East Mercer Way
- **Volunteer at a Restoration Event!** Sat., April 7, 9:00 am-3:00 pm at Mercerdale Hillside Park
- **Leap for Green Sustainability Fair** – Sat, April 14, 10am-2 pm MICEC

APPEARANCES

Meg Lippert, 4052 94th Ave SE, spoke about the proposed 2018-2019 City Council goals.

Paul Shoemaker, 4546 Forest Ave SE, spoke on behalf of MICA. He supports goal #4 and supports the addition of arts and heritage into the Comprehensive Plan.

CONSENT AGENDA

Payables: \$871,210.93 (3/15/18) & \$377,790.23 (3/22/18)

Recommendation: Certify that the materials or services hereinbefore specified have been received and that all warrant numbers listed are approved for payment.

Payroll: \$829,200.95 (3/16/18)

Recommendation: Certify that the materials or services specified have been received and that all fund warrants are approved for payment.

AB 5405: EMW 5400-6000 Block Water System Improvements Project Bid Award

Recommendation: Award the EMW 5400-6000 Water System Improvements project to B & B Utilities in the amount of \$1,283,570.75. Set the project budget to \$1,895,870, with a budget reallocation of \$509,870 from the SE 22nd Street/SE 22nd Place Water System Improvements project (within the Water Fund) and direct the City Manager to execute the construction contract.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.

Passed 7-0.

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5410: Acquisition and Lease Purchase Financing of One Pierce Enforcer Pumper Ordinance (1st Reading)

Finance Director Chip Corder presented an ordinance authorizing the City Manager to execute the documents to acquire a pumper fire truck from Pierce Manufacturing. Fire Chief Steve Heitman explained that the current truck will be auctioned off and the proceeds will go back into the fire apparatus replacement fund.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Suspend City Council Rules of Procedure 6.3 requiring a second reading of an ordinance.

Passed 7-0.

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

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Weiker to:

Adopt Ordinance No. 18-02, which authorizes the purchase and lease financing of one Enforcer Pumper fire truck.

Passed 7-0.

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

AB 5410: Adoption of 2018-2019 City Council Goals and Work Plan

City Manager Underwood reviewed the revised 2018-2019 City Council Goals and Work Plan to the Council for adoption.

The Council made the following amendments:

- Ensure that the language “identify strategies designed to attract, retain, and sustain the business community” is included in Goal 7
- Change the title of Goal 3 to “Deepen the City’s Commitment to Sustainability and Livability”
- Remove Goal 6, 1(f) Fireworks Ordinance amendments

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Wong to:

Adopt the 2018-2019 City Council Goals and Work Plan as amended.

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Acker to:

Amend the main motion to add:

Goal 7. Create Policies that Support an Accessible and Healthy Business Ecosystem on Mercer Island

In order to make the City a more sustainable and livable community, it is essential that it has thriving businesses that meet the needs of Island residents.

Action Items:

1. **Support local businesses by working closely with the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce to evaluate and address parking in the Town Center.**
2. **Review the permitting process for commercial development/tenant improvements to ensure that best practices are used.**
3. **Develop a strategic planning process with the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce and community to identify possible actions to improve the business environment, including,**

- but not limited to, exploring the applicability of an Economic Gardening program and National Main Street program relative to Mercer Island.
4. Hold regular sessions with Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce to discuss potential actions that generation opportunities for business growth and expansion.
 5. Conduct periodic business environment surveys to identify current conditions and actions.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Bertlin to:

Amend the previous motion to:

Strike 3-5 above and add a new #3 that reads "Staff to meet with Chamber and businesses with intent to bring a proposed plan to the Mini-Planning Session."

Failed 1-7.

FOR: 1 (Bassett)

AGAINST: 6 (Acker, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Acker to:

Amend the previous motion to:

- **Amend #3 to read: "Develop a strategic planning process with the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce and community to identify possible actions to improve the business environment."**
- **Delete #4 and #5.**

Passed 6-1.

FOR: 6 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wong)

AGAINST: 1 (Wisenteiner)

It was moved by Wisenteiner; seconded by Weiker to:

Amend the previous motion to:

Include additional action steps of:

4. **Reevaluate investment in the Chamber of Commerce.**
5. **Create an economic development plan.**

Passed 1-7.

FOR: 1 (Wisenteiner)

AGAINST: 2 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wong)

Motion to Amend Passed 7-0.

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

Main Motion as Amended Passed 7-0.

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

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

Councilmembers Acker and Weiker will be absent June 26.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Underwood added an Executive Sessions to the April 17 and May 1 agendas.

Board Appointments

There were no appointments.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Bassett spoke about the upcoming Go Green conference, letters from high school students for civics class, and SCA dinner.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting was adjourned at 9:15 pm.

Attest:

Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

Allison Spietz, City Clerk