



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING NOVEMBER 7, 2016

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Bruce Bassett called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Bruce Bassett, Deputy Mayor Debbie Bertlin and Councilmembers Dan Grausz, Wendy Weiker, Dave Wisenteiner, and Benson Wong were present. Councilmember Sanderson was absent.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Bertlin to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Grausz, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Sanderson)

APPEARANCES

There were no appearances.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Payables: \$553,246.12 (10/20/16), \$278,253.52 (10/27/16), & 211,481.48 (11/03/16)

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

Payroll: \$766,426.10 (10/28/16)

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

Minutes: September 30, 2016 Revised Micro-Planning Session Minutes, October 13, 2016 Special Joint Meeting with MISD Board Minutes, October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes, October 18, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes, October 25, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes, and November 1, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes.

Recommendation: Adopt September 30, 2016 Revised Micro-Planning Session Minutes, October 13, 2016 Special Joint Meeting with MISD Board Minutes, October 17, 2016 Regular Meeting Minutes, October 18, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes, October 25, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes, and November 1, 2016 Special Meeting Minutes as written.

AB 5226 Resolution for Port of Seattle Grant for Wayfinding Signs

Recommendation: Adopt Resolution No. 1520 authorizing the City Manager to apply for grant funding from the Port of Seattle Economic Development Partnership Program.

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Grausz, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Sanderson)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5227 City Manager Employment Contract with Julie Underwood

Human Resources Director Kryss Segle presented a resolution authorizing the appointment of Julie Underwood as City Manager of the City of Mercer Island. She spoke about Ms. Underwood's career, leadership qualities, qualifications, and experience.

Councilmembers thanked Director Segle for her work during the recruitment process and the Leadership Team for their diligence in vetting candidates. They expressed their support of Ms. Underwood and look forward to her arrival in January.

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Wisenteiner to:

Adopt Resolution No.1521, authorizing the Mayor to execute an employment agreement with Julie Underwood for Mercer Island City Manager effective January 2017.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Grausz, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Sanderson)

AB 5228 I-90 Loss of Mobility Negotiations Status Report and I-90/East Link Local Traffic Impacts Analysis and I-90 Access Alternative Solutions

Assistant City Manager Kirsten Taylor provided historical information about the Mercer Island residents' access to the center roadway express lanes on I-90 for the past 40 years. She explained that as part of the East Link Light Rail project, Mercer Island was provided mitigation from the "loss of mobility" associated with the closure of the center roadway, which included continued access by Mercer Island Single Occupancy Vehicles (SOVs) to the new R8A (sometimes termed HOV) lanes in the outer roadway. She noted that an August 2016 letter from the Federal Highway Authority states that SOV traffic in these planned HOV lanes would be illegal. She stated that the City sent a response letter strongly disagreeing with the FHWA decision and cited all the agreements and pledges Mercer Island relied upon until that time. In addition, the City hired transportation engineering experts (KPG) to analyze the impacts of the FHWA decision.

Michael Lapham from KPG, presented the traffic analysis showing that impacts on local Mercer Island traffic, based on the FHWA decision when the center roadway closes in June 2017 and when East Link becomes operational after 2023, would be significant.

Interim City Manager Pam Bissonnette explained that in light of the FHWA's decision, staff began meeting with Sound Transit, WSDOT, and FHWA staff regarding alternative operational configurations of I-90. She stated that the alternatives are being analyzed and the results will be made available when concluded. She further noted that the decisions on which alternatives are viable and acceptable will be based on a number of factors including but not limited to compliance with federal and state laws; accordance with historic agreements; benefits to regional and local traffic; time to implement; and ability to sufficiently mitigate any adverse impacts.

Assistant City Manager Taylor reviewed the City's I-90 access goals for and spoke about upcoming public outreach.

Mayor Bassett noted that this information would be repeated at the community-wide meeting on Wednesday, November 9 from 6:30pm-8:30pm (7:00 pm presentation of KPG Traffic Impact Study and I-90 Vehicle Access Alternatives) at the Mercer Island Community and Event Center.

AB 5225 Public Hearing: 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget Review: Capital Improvement Program

Finance Director Chip Corder presented the agenda for the review of the Capital Improvement Program for the 2017-2018 Biennial Budget.

The Mayor opened the public hearing at 7:14 pm.

Geoff Spelman, 4250 90th Ave SE, asked the Council to increase the City's contribution to the ARCH Housing Trust Fund for affordable housing.

Mark Clausen, 6107 SE 32nd Street, requested that the Council fully fund 1) pedestrian and bike improvements; 2) the study of the Aubrey Davis Park pathway; and (3) the continuation of paving shoulders on East and West Mercer Ways.

Susan Glick-Burrell, 8211 SE 65th Street, asked the Council to fund closing the gap in the fence at Island Crest Park.

At 7:21 pm, the Mayor continued the public hearing to the November 21 Council Meeting.

Deputy Finance Director Francie Lake presented a revised 2017-2022 REET forecast and reviewed the Council-directed changes and staff changes to the 2017-2018 CIP preview. Public Works Director Jason Kintner spoke about notable Public Works projects in the CIP. Deputy Director Lake also reviewed partially funded and unfunded projects in the 2017-2022 CIP. She also provided information to the Council on outstanding bonds for City parks and buildings.

Director Corder reviewed CIP Budget Policy Issues of deficits in the Street, Capital Improvement and Technology & Equipment Funds. He noted that direction is needed from the Council on the following items:

- Changes to 2017-2018 Preliminary CIP
- Changes to 2019-2022 Preliminary CIP
- The Council's preferred approach to addressing the projected deficits in:
 - Street Fund (2020-2022) (*Staff recommendation: Increase vehicle license fee in 2019*)
 - Capital Improvement Fund (2019-2021) (*Staff recommendation: Increase vehicle license fee in 2019 & redirect \$175K/yr in REET from Street Fund*)
 - Technology & Equipment Fund (2019-2022) (*Staff recommendation: Transfer up to \$200K of 2017 GF surplus, if any, and add \$50K/yr to operating levy lid lift*)

Following discussion, the Council decided to wait until spring 2017 to make a decision regarding supplemental funding for the Street, Capital Improvement and Technology & Equipment Funds at the conclusion of the public engagement process regarding capital funding needs.

Director Corder asked if there is interest from a majority of the Council to have staff further review the Council questions addressed in the November 1st memo to Council on:

- Development revenue estimates/cost recovery targets
- Fire Marshal overtime
- Public outreach costs
- Sustainability program cost breakdown
- Code enforcement
- ROW tree assessment (service package)
- Youth Development Coordinator (service package)

Following discussion and debate, the Council directed staff to:

- Review DSG cost recovery analysis provided in the 11/1 memo to Council for 2015-2018.
- Review fire permit-revenues and fire marshal overtime for 2016-2018 based on the revised development revenue estimates for DSG.
- Hold off on spending the \$40,000 budgeted in 2018 (Public Outreach on DSG Projects Service Package) until the Council takes a comprehensive look at public communication/outreach/engagement at the February 2017 Planning Session.
- Delete the Communications Assistant (0.5 FTE) and Youth Development Coordinator (0.5 FTE) Service Packages from the 2017-2018 budget.
- Continue discussion of identifying ways that the City can increase organizational efficiency and effectiveness (February 2017 Planning Session topic).
- Explore the Code Enforcement staffing topic in greater detail at the February 2017 Planning Session (after a split 3-3 vote on increasing Code Enforcement staffing by 0.5 FTE in 2017).
- Keep the ROW Tree Assessment and Helpdesk Technician Service Packages in the 2017-2018 budget.
- Increase the City's affordable housing contribution to \$64k in 2017 and to \$96K in 2018.

At 10:00 pm, it was moved by Wisenteiner; seconded by Weiker to:

Extend the meeting for 30 additional minutes.

Passed 6-0
FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Grausz, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)
ABSENT: 1 (Sanderson)

Director Corder reviewed the agenda for the review of the 2017-2018 Preliminary Budget at the November 21 Council Meeting.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

Councilmember Sanderson's absence was excused.

Councilmember Grausz will be absent from the January 3 and January 17 meetings.

Planning Schedule

There were no changes to the Planning Schedule.

Board Appointments

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Wong to:

Affirm the appointment of Marie Bender to Position #5 (expiring May 2017) on the Open Space Conservancy Trust.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Grausz, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Sanderson)

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Wong spoke about the Public Safety Subcommittee meeting and the Boys & Girls Club Annual Breakfast.

Councilmember Weiker spoke about the Sound Transit Light Rail Station Design meeting.

Deputy Mayor Bertlin spoke about the Diversity & Inclusion Subcommittee meeting.

Councilmember Grausz spoke about the Planning Commission Meeting regarding Residential Development Standards.

Councilmember Wisenteiner complimented Alison Van Gorp on Residential Development Code public meeting and encouraged staff to be further involved in the process.

Mayor Bassett asked for the Council's approval to sign a letter of support for Model Toxics Control Act reform and funding. The Council agreed. He also asked that it be added to the City's 2017 Legislative Agenda.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:34 pm.

Bruce Bassett, Mayor

Attest:

Allison Spietz, City Clerk