

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Monday, March 16, 2015**

**CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL**

Mayor Nichols called the second Council meeting for the month of March to order at 7:00 p.m. at Woodway Town Hall, 23920 113<sup>th</sup> Place West. Councilmembers William Anderson, Tom Howard, Elizabeth Mitchell, and Kent Saltonstall were present. Councilmember Tom Whitson had an excused absence. Town Administrator Eric Faison and Clerk Treasurer Joyce Bielefeld were also present.

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Councilmember Anderson* moved to approve the minutes of March 2, 2015 as amended. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:**

*Councilmember Mitchell* moved to approve Claims Checks #9434 through 9453 including EFT's for the amount of \$40,929.34. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilmember Saltonstall reported that he will be out of town and unable to attend the next SNOCOM meeting on Thursday, April 2. He asked Councilmember Howard to attend in his absence.

Councilmember Saltonstall distributed a report confirming that there was scientific evidence to support Woodway's dark skies ordinance.

Councilmember Anderson reported that a new interim director for ESCA has been hired.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Nichols announced the Town's newsletter will be ready for mailing next week.

Mayor Nichols reported on the cost of a new entrance sign for Woodway near the Reserve. She said that the weathered granite costs were \$450 for the rock and an additional \$700-\$1000 for the engraving. She commented that a Woodway resident may be able to do the engraving for less. Councilmember Mitchell expressed concern over the high cost and suggested that a wood sign would be more consistent with the other signs in Woodway. Mayor Nichols said that she would work with the Public Works Director to come up with a new plan.

Mayor Nichols shared that she held a meeting with staff and Councilmember Mitchell regarding the public gardens and the Town Hall front yard. She shared their idea of hiring a landscape consultant to make a plan that would include conservation issues.

She recommended that a landscape consultant make a site visit and recommend a cost effective plan before any money was spent to improve the front lawn area.

**ACTION:** *Councilmember Anderson* moved to authorize a budget of up to \$1,000 to hire a landscape consultant to plan a new front yard for Town Hall. *Councilmember Howard* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

#### **TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Town Administrator Eric Faison commented on the quarterly fire report from Shoreline Fire Department. The Mayor and Council discussed the report, noting the high response times and requested that the Fire Chief attend the next meeting if possible.

Town Administrator Faison reported that a maternity leave policy for the Town's personnel policy handbook was being developed as well as a request for budgeting a new staff member. These proposals would be brought to the next meeting for Council review.

#### **DISCUSSION OF NOOTKA ROAD:**

Lisa Bauer, 21919 Makah Road, distributed a time and mileage study that she, her husband, and neighbor Mike Jones put together. She shared that the mileage was consistent, but the timing was variable because of traffic, particularly at the intersection of SR104 and 226<sup>th</sup> St. as well as ferry traffic at SR 104 and Pine Street. Using the proposed new ingress at Nootka and Pine, there would be a potential time savings of only 30 to 60 seconds if there was no ferry traffic. The most constant route was from a green left-turn light at the intersection of Highway 104 and 226<sup>th</sup> Street S.W. She would like to see a comprehensive traffic study done and recommends that the intersection stay the same.

LeeAnn Cochran, 11400 Makah Road, stated there were many different routes to get into Woodway, including turning right on Pine Street and taking 3<sup>rd</sup> Avenue south onto Woodway Park Road.

Mike Jones, 11535 Makah Road, commented that when there was ferry traffic, the travel time could double.

LeeAnn Cochran, 11400 Makah Road, asked if there was an estimated cost to remove the barrier. Councilmember Anderson responded that he had spoken with the Public Works Director; and that the cost to remove the barrier would be nominal.

John Brock, 11401 Makah Road, commented that Nootka and Makah would be slower ways out of Woodway than Pine Street. He didn't think there would be much of an impact if Nootka were opened to two-way traffic. He would like to see all of Woodway's roads used in the most efficient way.

Mike Jones, 11535 Makah Road, commented that he didn't see any reason to hurry and that Woodway should wait for the building 10 project at Point Edwards to be completed before the road is evaluated for opening to two lane traffic.

Lisa Bauer, 21919 Makah Road, stated that there was only a couple of minutes difference between the longest and shortest commute times, which has not had a huge impact.

LeeAnn Cochran, 11400 Makah Road, stated that she would like to see the parking issue addressed. She is concerned that the Woodway Estates neighborhood would become a parking lot if Nootka were opened prior to the completion of the Building 10 project.

Councilmember Howard asked if there was a traffic study done when the egress restriction was put in place. Mayor Nichols responded that there was no study at the time of the initial discussion, but that traffic counts have been done since then.

Councilmember Anderson agreed that the new construction could lead to parking and traffic problems. He felt that reopening Nootka would likely be voted down prior to the completion of building 10 construction. He then shared his experiences with travel times to downtown Edmonds. Councilmember Anderson closed his statement by saying that closing a road would always have impacts on other roads and residents. There has been more traffic on other roads because Nootka was closed. He stated that the best thing to do would be to wait until the construction project was completed and then have another discussion.

Councilmember Howard agreed to wait until project has been completed.

Councilmember Mitchell agreed to wait because she felt that more people had concerns about opening the road before the project was completed.

Councilmember Saltonstall agreed that most residents who want to open Nootka Road to two-way traffic are agreeable to waiting until after the construction has been completed.

#### **DISCUSSION OF TWIN MAPLES STREET NAMES:**

Mayor Nichols reported that a letter was sent to 57 families who live in or own property in the Twin Maples neighborhood. The letter explained that two families had requested the street names be changed. She stated the majority of the responses the town received were opposed to the change.

The Council agreed that, since the majority of residents did not want new street names, the street names would remain unchanged. Mayor Nichols reported that she would circulate a letter to the residents reporting on the results of the survey and the Council's decision.

#### **DISCUSSION OF ESCA:**

Mayor Nichols shared a copy of the PowerPoint presentation that the Snohomish County Department of Emergency Management (DEM) presented to the Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA) Board. DEM is proposing the hiring of four staff

persons, incorporating the existing ESCA volunteer groups into the County's program and that individual cities' financial commitment will be approximately %50 less than if the ESCA organization continues. The Board will make a decision and discuss a resolution to dissolve the agency at their next meeting.

Mayor Nichols shared that, at this point, only Mukilteo has formally announced their intention to withdraw; many of the other member cities, including Edmonds and Lynnwood, have expressed interest in moving to DEM.

Mayor Nichols reminded the Council that DEM would like all of the current ESCA volunteers (ham radio operators, etc.) to come to DEM and continue their important work.

**ACTION:** *Councilmember Anderson* moved to allow Woodway to vote in favor of dissolution of ESCA. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:**

Mike Jones, 11535 Makah Road, asked if the overhead power lines on Pine Street would be removed and installed underground after the final phase of Point Edwards. Mayor Nichols agreed to research that request.

**GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION-CHOICE OF SUBJECTS:**

Mayor Nichols reported that Snohomish County PUD has identified 12 Woodway homeowners who need to have trees removed on their property; the property owners have been asked to submit an application for tree removal.

Councilmember Saltonstall asked for excused absences for both April meetings.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:23 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

**APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL**

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Joyce Bielefeld, Clerk Treasurer

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Carla Nichols, Mayor

(These minutes accurately reflect what was said at the Council Meeting. Publication does not vouch for the veracity of these statements.)