

**TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES**  
**Monday, July 6, 2015**

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

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

**PRESENTATION: CASS TURNBULL, PROFESSIONAL GARDENER, CERTIFIED ARBORIST, AND AUTHOR OF “GUIDE TO PRUNING”**

Cass Turnbull gave a presentation on the damage that can be caused by topping trees. She explained how tree topping destroys the crown and natural beauty of the tree, also causing the trees to grow small, weak branches (water sprouts) much faster. She stated that every time a tree is topped, more small branches or sprouts grow back quickly and the tree needs maintenance more often. She explained that conifers do not water sprout, however the next two lower limbs, under the cut, will start to wing up. She explained that trees absorb water, especially conifers, helping to stabilize a steep slope. She recommended selective removal of the trees versus cutting off the top. Several residents asked questions about certain types of tree trimming and Ms. Turnbull responded to all questions. The complete presentation can be viewed at [www.PlantAmnesty.org](http://www.PlantAmnesty.org).

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:**

*Councilmember Howard* moved to approve the minutes of June 15, 2015.

*Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

*Councilmember Anderson* moved to approve the minutes of June 29, 2015.

*Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:**

*Councilmember Mitchell* moved to approve Claims Checks #9578 through 9600 including EFT's for the amount of \$130,739.84. The amount includes the quarterly payment for fire services. *Councilmember Howard* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

*Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve Payroll Checks #9573 through 9577 including EFT's for the amount of \$56,306.00. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None.

**COUNCIL REPORTS:**

Councilmember Howard reported a tool was found next to his backdoor and he turned it into the Woodway Police Department because it looked like a burglary tool.

Councilmember Mitchell reported she had to call 911 on July 3<sup>rd</sup> because of a fire in her yard caused by fireworks. She speculated that a passing vehicle tossed fireworks onto her property, causing a fire that destroyed extensive vegetation. Discussion followed regarding policies whereby a 911 call for fire services also entails coordination with the Town's police officers.

Councilmember Saltonstall reported Snohomish County Emergency Radio System (SERS) assessment for Woodway will decrease by \$207 in 2016. The assessment is based on population, area size, and Emergency 911 call frequency. Woodway's call frequency has diminished slightly over the past two years.

Councilmember Anderson reported that Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA) will be holding a multi-state damage assessment exercise on June 8, 2016.

**MAYOR'S REPORT:**

Mayor Nichols distributed a copy of a letter from a Woodway resident about concerns about perceived disruption caused by the City of Edmonds' 5K run within the Town's boundaries.

Mayor Nichols reminded the Council of the Special Council Meeting at 4 pm on Friday, July 17. She referred Council to a letter submitted by resident Dan Brady regarding the draft Annexation and Development Agreement.

Mayor Nichols asked if Councilmembers are available to attend a Public Hearing on proposed amendments to the Urban Residential Zoning ordinance which is scheduled for July 30 at 6 pm. Councilmember Tom Whitson has another commitment and may not be available but all other Councilmembers would be available.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:**

Town Administrator Eric Faison provided a brief update on state budget issues that may affect the Town's budget.

**R-14.5 CODE AMENDMENT:**

The current building height limit is 25 feet for 1/3 acre lots. Staff proposes a change to R-14.5 zoning, allowing property owners who agree to restrict their development to the bulk regulations of the Town's R-43 zone, to be eligible for building height limit of 30 feet as provided by that zone.

**ACTION:** *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved, pursuant to WMC 14.44.020, to direct the Planning Commission to hold a public hearing and provide a recommendation to Council on a proposed amendment of the R-14.5 zone. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None.

**GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION-CHOICE OF SUBJECTS:** None.

**EXECUTIVE SESSION:**

Mayor Nichols called the Executive Session to order at 8:23 pm for approximately 25 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

Mayor Nichols reconvened the meeting at 8:48 pm.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

*Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:48 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.)