

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, October 13, 2014

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

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

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to approve the minutes of September 2, 2014 as amended. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to approve Claims Checks #9218 and 9224 through #9252 including EFT's for the amount of \$54,224.95. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Anderson moved to approve Payroll Checks #9219 through #9223 including EFT's for the amount of \$53,963.84. *Councilmember Quinn* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: Margaret Evans, 24120 116th Ave, stated she attended the council meeting because she wanted to become more familiar and informed about issues in Woodway. She reported that she is a volunteer on the Deer Creek Park Task Force Committee.

Julianne Schlenger, 23633 Woodway Park Rd, introduced herself as a new resident and explained she is a ham radio volunteer for Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA).

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Anderson reported that the new ESCA director would like to meet with staff and a meeting has been scheduled for Wednesday, October 22 at 1 pm.

Councilmember Anderson reported on an article in the Edmonds Beacon regarding Fire District One presenting a retroactive invoice for a large dollar amount to the City of Edmonds and other cities.

Councilmember Saltonstall stated a resident had suggested the town install stop signs at the intersection of Wachusett Road and N. Deer Drive. He asked if there was a possibility of this being a three way stop. Town Administrator Faison stated that the town would have a traffic engineer to look at the possibility.

Councilmember Saltonstall reminded staff that the home occupation ordinance needs to be updated.

Councilmember Saltonstall announced that SNOCOM statistics are available and, thus far for 2014, calls for police service are up by 25%. He stated the statistics show the traffic stops for the year are down by one third, however the third quarter report shows the fines are increased. It was agreed that these statistics need to be discussed with the Police Chief. It will be added to a meeting agenda in early 2015.

Councilmember Mitchell stated that she attended the Snohomish County Cities dinner and they discussed what is happening in the jails and the fact that the jail population is higher than the number of employees required to staff them. She stated that a large proportion of the inmates are repeat offenders because of substance abuse and mental illness. She stated the discussion was focused on the need to create facilities to treat the repeat offenders and get help for them rather than putting them in jail or sending them to the emergency room, where they are not properly treated and become repeat offenders.

Councilmember Mitchell reported that she attended the joint meeting for bluff owners at the City of Edmonds. The meeting was focused on landslide mitigation and to raise awareness for the owners of bluff properties.

Councilmember Mitchell announced that she has a training DVD provided by Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) for elected leaders engaged in municipal planning. The Town needs to view the DVD by October 31 to complete the mandatory training.

Councilmember Whitson asked about extending the asphalt on a section of Woodway Park Road. Town Administrator Faison stated he would speak with the Public Works Director and the Town's Engineer.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nichols reported that the next scheduled meeting is next Monday, October 20, and Representative Jim McDermott will be attending the meeting to introduce himself and to learn about Woodway. She explained that in late August, one of the Representative's staff members had meet with her and Town Administrator Faison. As follow-up, the Congressman had requested to attend a Council Meeting.

Mayor Nichols stated the first meeting in November is Monday, November 3. She would like to attend the City of Edmonds Council meeting because they will be discussing the police services contract with Woodway. She requested Woodway's meeting be changed from November 3 to Tuesday, November 4. Council agreed to change the meeting date.

AUTHORIZE MAYOR TO SIGN ELEVATOR MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT:

Council discussed the elevator maintenance agreement and would like additional information. This item will be brought back to Council on an upcoming agenda.

3rd QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT:

Mayor Nichols presented the third quarter financial report for 2014. Mayor Nichols reported that the revenues and expenditures are on track with the budgeted amounts. She stated that many of the expenditures are annual and, thus, have already been paid in full for the year.

PRESENT PRELIMINARY 2014 BUDGET:

Mayor Nichols reviewed the preliminary 2015 budget and stated that the budget is in line with previous years and there have been no major increases. It was emphasized that the annual budget is built by reviewing each expenditure category to see if funding levels are appropriate. Expenditure levels are not just automatically carried over to the upcoming budget year. Revenues are determined by statutory limits of 1% on property taxes. The building department's revenues are based upon staff projections and knowledge of upcoming development activities within the Town. It was noted that the projected expenditures in 2015 will be higher than the revenues.

The primary changes for 2015 include a salary increase for staff positions, a new police vehicle, funds for Deer Creek trails and fencing, a new ATV and the purchase of several small tools for the Public Works department.

Mayor Nichols stated that she has a couple of other items that she would like to add to the expenditures for 2015. Council discussed her ideas, which included building a safety fence between the back parking lot and the retaining wall and expenses associated with a proposed party that would be held on the bridge. Council requested the amount of costs associated with these items.

Council discussed installing a cell tower as a revenue source. Town Administrator Faison stated he is currently researching if a cell tower would be advantageous to the Town.

Mayor Nichols said she will send a letter informing residents of the status of the proposed 2015 budget and encourage residents to attend the public hearings.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: Margaret Evans, 24120 116th Ave, stated watching the Council debate gives her insight to what is important to the community. She requested guidance on how the Town would meet the requirements of the County's grant funding and what plans are in place for the Town's future park lands. Councilmember Saltonstall remarked that the Town's overall goal is to preserve the urban forest lands that are within the boundaries of the Town.

Mayor Nichols stated the two goals for the Town's park lands are to increase access and passive recreation experiences for park visitors.

Ms. Evans stated it is important to plan based upon the original funding criteria that provided the town with the monies for the land purchase as well as Verdant Health

Commission's goals which are to promote health and well-being. She commented she would like to see the Town identify what they are trying to achieve in regards to Deer Creek Park.

Julianne Schlenger, 23633 Woodway Park Rd, thanked Councilmember Whitson for bringing up the road shoulder and the issue of safety for those individuals who walk on Woodway Park Road.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION-CHOICE OF SUBJECTS:

Councilmember Anderson commented about the contamination problem with the water supply in Mercer Island and requested information from Olympic View Water and Sewer on how our water is purified. He also requested information on how and when Olympic View notifies the residents if there is contamination or when something happens to the town's water supply.

Councilmembers' Mitchell and Saltonstall requested excused absences on Dec 1.

Councilmember Quinn announced that he would be resigning from his council position, effective immediately, because he has accepted a position with his company and will be relocating for up to three years.

Mayor Nichols expressed regret to lose the leadership and analytical skills that Councilmember Quinn had provided as an elected Town leader. She thanked Councilmember Quinn for his dedication and service to the Town.

EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Mayor Nichols recessed to Executive Session at 9:30 pm for approximately 15 minutes to discuss potential litigation.

Mayor Nichols reconvened the meeting at 9:40 pm.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

Joyce Bielefeld, Clerk Treasurer

Carla Nichols, Mayor

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