

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

March 1, 2010

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

The first Council meeting for the month of March was called to order by Mayor Carla Nichols at 7:00 p.m. at Woodway Town Hall. Councilmembers present were Bill Anderson, Kent Saltonstall, Elizabeth Mitchell, and Mike Quinn. Councilmember Tom Whitson had an excused absence. Town Administrator Eric Faison; Ken Nilsen, PACE Engineers; and Public Works Director Terry Bryant were also present.

Mayor Nichols advised the Investment Policy was removed from agenda and will be included on a future agenda.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve the minutes of February 16, 2010. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried (3-0-1), Councilmember Anderson abstained.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve Claims Warrants #7278 through #7291 for the total amount of \$16,073.95. *Councilmember Quinn* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Anderson moved to approve Payroll Warrants #10101 through #10132 for the total amount of \$44,029.80. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

COUNCIL REPORTS: **Councilmember Mitchell** reported the Mayor of Bothell was the speaker at the Snohomish County Cities and Towns meeting. He described plans to redevelop Bothell's Main Street similar to Redmond Town Center. He also encouraged cities to establish reserves.

Councilmember Saltonstall reported former Councilmember Karen Steele, now a Brier Councilmember, visited his home on Sunday. He suggested the Town send a card to Brier Mayor Bob Colinas who was seriously injured in a fall from a tree.

MAYOR REPORT: **Mayor Nichols** reported she had an introductory meeting with County Prosecutor Mark Roe who was appointed after the former Prosecutor left the position. She referred to a letter from Woodway, Shoreline and Save Richmond Beach to Paramount outlining their concerns with development of Pt. Wells as an urban center. She planned to meet with Shoreline and Save Richmond Beach next week; if they are in general agreement on the issues, they plan to approach the Snohomish County Council to ask for designating a subcategory within the County's proposed code for Pt. Wells. This designation would address the differences of Pt. Wells vs. the other locations identified to become "urban centers."

Mayor Nichols reported the *Woodway Whisper* is being prepared and will be published mid-March. She invited Councilmembers to submit information for inclusion in the *Whisper*. She planned to include a reminder about signing up for the significant incident alert system as well as provide a summary of the community meetings. She reminded the Council of the retreat on Thursday, March 4. She referred to letters the Town has received from residents regarding the boundary hedge matter that the Council will be discussing next month.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT

Mr. Faison explained he had not prepared a monthly Town Administrator's Report due to illness and it will be included in next month's agenda.

Public Works Director Terry Bryant reported a resident on Woodway Park Road removed three trees and a review of the Town's records revealed no permit had been issued. He issued a notice and order and a fine of \$3,000 for the removal of the trees without a permit. The resident's son contacted him to explain a tree in the backyard fell and the tree company employees told her the other three trees were hazardous and needed to be removed. Mayor Nichols, Mr. Faison and he reached an agreement with the resident's son to allow removal of the three trees as routine maintenance with a 3:1 replacement and no fine.

The Council suggested including a reminder in the *Woodway Whisper* that the tree ordinance allows removal of hazardous trees with notification to the Town within seven days. A brief discussion followed regarding the tone of the letter sent to residents regarding tree ordinance violations and a suggestion that a phone call from Town staff precede the letter.

Mr. Faison relayed that in response to a concern expressed by a resident that the utility tax charged by Puget Sound Energy was actually 6.03% rather than 6%, staff prepared a description of how PSE calculated the tax.

Councilmember Saltonstall suggested since bluff stability was an ongoing issue in the Town, as part of the upcoming retreat, the Council should look at the landslide that occurred on the Teal property on Dogwood Lane. He offered to contact the Teals and it was agreed to begin the retreat at the Teal property at 4:30 p.m.

Councilmember Anderson inquired about the amount of the Woodway tax increase reflected on property tax statements. Mr. Faison explained voter approval of a levy lid lift increased Woodway's property tax from \$1.11 to \$1.92/\$1,000 of assessed value, the new levy rate has consolidated the former Emergency Medical Services levy and the general government levy.

Mayor Nichols relayed that topics for the retreat include input from the Council regarding Town Hall upgrades, policy discussion regarding fire service, whether the Council is interested in authorizing a study regarding annexation of Pt. Wells, policy direction on low income housing, the process for discussing boundary hedges and view protection, and bluff stability. She invited Councilmembers to add agenda items and/or request further information regarding these topics.

PRESENTATION – New Logo

Mayor Nichols explained staff suggested updating the Town's logo. They contacted residents Linda and Jim Wilmer, who own a full service advertising agency, and they volunteered to assist with updating the Town's logo at no cost to the Town.

Linda Wilmer explained they have been in business since 1993; branding is one of their specialties, primarily for upscale hotels and resorts. She described direction staff provided regarding updating the Town's logo to include trees, possibly a water element, and a logo that was classic and creative. They presented several ideas to Clerk Treasurer Joyce Bielefeld and Deputy Clerk Heidi Napolitano and four drafts logos were subsequently reviewed by Town Administrator Eric Faison, Mayor Nichols, Clerk Treasurer, and Deputy Clerk who narrowed the

logos to two. Wilmer circulated boards with several samples of the two logos on letterhead, business cards, street signs, etc.

Discussion followed regarding the current logo that looks like a view walking down a Woodway road, phasing in the new logo as new letterhead and street signs are needed, a question why the logo needed to be changed, the dated appearance of the current logo, and the existing logo that looks like a seal rather than a logo.

The Council asked Ms. Wilmer to create a draft logo that:

- Incorporated the idea of walking down a path
- Use the graphic from the old logo without the circle

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION – CHOICE OF SUBJECTS

Councilmember Mitchell suggested the Town Fair include a recycling/composting demonstration. Mayor Nichols offered to discuss this with staff and the Fair chairperson. Mr. Bryant relayed Public Works currently creates compost that is used on flowerbeds throughout Town.

Councilmember Saltonstall reported SNOCOM asked its member jurisdictions to approve participation in the MyStateUSA community notification system. He explained this system allows residents in an area to be notified by phone of a large scale disaster. There is no cost to cities to join; SNOCOM will administer the program. If the system were activated, the city would be charged \$0.16 per call.

ACTION: *Councilmember Anderson* moved to amend the agenda to add a resolution of support of MyStateUSA. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

ACTION: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve a resolution supporting Woodway's participation in the community notification system, MyStateUSA. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

Councilmember Saltonstall requested the Town send a letter to SNOCOM with a copy of the resolution.

DISCUSSION ON WOODHAVEN STORMWATER

Mayor Nichols referred to a memo from PACE Engineers regarding Woodhaven Place drainage alternatives, explaining the Woodhaven Place drainage project was one of capital projects in the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan.

Ken Nilsen, PACE Engineers, explained in 2006 the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan identified three alternatives to address drainage on Woodhaven Place. The recommended alternative was to take drainage along on the east boundary of the Barto property and connect into drainage on 238th St. PACE developed a plan that was submitted to Snohomish County and discussions began with Mr. Barto and Paramount. This option required Mr. Barto granting an easement to the Town and permit approval from Snohomish County.

PACE considered another option that would discharge water to the southern ravine which also required an easement from Mr. Barto and approval from Paramount. Mr. Barto included as a condition of the easement that any future development of his property be allowed to utilize the

stormwater installation which was unacceptable to Paramount due to the increased amount of drainage.

PACE considered the second option in the Stormwater Comprehensive Plan, discharging water to the north ravine; however, that system is not adequately sized to accept additional water and the cost to cross private property and the cost of restoration were very high. Those options all require easements and/or agreement from Paramount and other private property owners, permits to cross BNSF tracks, shoreline permits and Snohomish County permits. He summarized all the scenarios that take water over bluff are complex and require permits.

The third alternative described in Stormwater Comprehensive Plan is a pump station. A stormwater pump station would be constructed at the bottom of the Woodhaven cul-de-sac that would pump the water up Woodhaven Place and discharge into the ditch on Woodway Park Road. The water would then flow in a northerly direction toward Deer Creek. That system was upgraded during the past year and has adequate capacity. He acknowledged although it was preferable to route stormwater via gravity, stormwater pump stations are not uncommon in areas where bluff stability is an issue.

If a pump station were installed, in the event of a power outage, the existing flow path (across the Hirst property) to the disbursement trench would be maintained as an emergency overflow until power was restored or the Town could utilize generator to operate the pump station. He summarized the goal was to take the water off the bluff, either via a pipe to bottom of the bluff or to pump it away from the bluff. The advantage of a pump is it would be located entirely on Town property. He advised a variance would be required to allow discharge from one basin to another.

Mr. Nilsen responded to Council questions regarding the size of the pumps to handle 500-600 gallons/minute, location of the pump station underground with two pumps, size of the above ground control panel, amount of water handled by a low impact solution, option to condemn property, pump station sound control, estimated cost of a pump station, availability of grant funding, insufficient revenue in the Stormwater Utility for this project until approximately 2013, and other funding sources.

Chris Hirst recalled residents attending the community meetings were opposed to a low impact solution due to the amount of surface water even on dry days; several residents have sump pumps. He described the current situation as a large volume of water goes through a pipe, through a couple of catch basins and into an old French drain at the northwest corner of their property where the water flows underground. During moderate rainfall, this overflows at the northeast corner, during heavy rains it overflows at both the northwest and southwest corners, and during very heavy rains it comes out everywhere. He would be satisfied with either a gravity solution or a pump station.

Discussion continued regarding bluff stability issues, previous discussions with Mr. Barto regarding an easement, condemnation as an option, cost of condemnation, alternatives in the 2006 Stormwater Plan, and pros and cons of a pump station. Mayor Nichols encouraged the Council to provide direction to staff to allow them to pursue grants, etc.

ACTION: *Councilmember Quinn* moved to move forward with Alternative 3, to continue to investigate the movement of water uphill from Woodhaven via a pump station. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried (3-1), Councilmember Anderson opposed. Councilmember Anderson acknowledged something needed to be done, but he did not like the pump station solution.

Mr. Nilsen relayed that the Public Works Trust Fund is taking applications for 2012.

INVESTMENT POLICY

This item was postponed to a future meeting.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING: *Councilmember Mitchell* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Quinn* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:06 p.m.

Respectfully Submitted,

APPROVED BY THE TOWN COUNCIL

Joyce Bielefeld, Clerk Treasurer

Carla A. Nichols, Mayor

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