

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

April 20, 2009

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

The second Council meeting for the month of April was called to order by Mayor Carla Nichols at 7:00 p.m. at Woodway Town Hall. Councilmembers present were Robert Schillberg, Bill Anderson, Kent Saltonstall, and Elizabeth Mitchell. Councilmember Mike Quinn had an excused absence. Town Administrator Eric Faison, Police Chief Doug Hansen; Public Works Director Terry Bryant and Clerk-Treasurer Joyce Bielefeld were also present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES: Following several clarifying amendments to the minutes, *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve the minutes of April 6, 2009 as amended. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve Claims Warrants #6847 through #6864 for the total amount of \$76,284.60. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

COUNCIL REPORTS: **Councilmember Schillberg** reported on his tour of the grounds of Rosary Heights. If Town purchased the property, he suggested consideration be given to retaining the existing groundskeeper who is familiar with property and structures.

Mayor Nichols reported approximately 55 people attended the Rosary Heights open house yesterday, representing 38 of the 470 households in Town. She relayed there were many favorable comments about the facility and grounds and several suggestions regarding how the property could be used. If there was a favorable response to the Town's purchase proposal, she requested permission to discuss continued employment with the groundskeeper. The Council agreed.

Councilmember Mitchell requested an excused absence from the June 1 meeting.

Councilmember Saltonstall reported the Next Generation Switch Project is being considered by the Snohomish County Emergency Radio System (SERS) Board. He explained there are currently four 800 MHZ trunk radios in the Puget Sound area; this project will provide software to connect those systems for interoperability as well as provide backup during system failure. There are federal funds available for this project via a \$3.4 million grant with a 20% co-pay provided by SERS users but only until June 9, 2009. He circulated a spreadsheet outlining the technical specifications of the system. Police Chief Hansen explained the goal was to improve communication during a disaster or a cross-county incident.

Councilmember Saltonstall circulated a Great Courses catalog, highlighting a series entitled the Art of Critical Decision Making, 24 thirty-minute lectures by university professors available on CD for \$50. Mayor Nichols advised there were funds available in the budget for Council training.

Councilmember Anderson reported he was approached during his walk today by a resident opposed to the purchase of Rosary Heights. He suggested staff develop estimates of the

purchase price, operation and maintenance costs, etc. so that a range of the costs could be provided to residents. Mayor Nichols relayed information provided at the neighborhood meetings estimated a levy of approximately \$0.50-0.60/\$1,000 of assessed valuation would provide enough funds to purchase the property. The increase in taxes would be needed to support the bond issue needed for the property acquisition. Mayor Nichols advised she has discussed with several residents about holding a fundraising event in Woodway to establish a maintenance fund for Rosary Heights. She anticipated a core group of 5-7 residents would advise the mayor and council on several issues: Should a 501c3 non-profit corporation be created to accept donations, and to sponsor and carry a park and community center.

MAYOR REPORT: Mayor Nichols invited a Councilmember to represent the Town at the Puget Sound Regional Council general assembly meeting at Seattle City Hall on April 30.

Mayor Nichols reported she met with Snohomish County Councilmembers Mike Cooper and Brian Sullivan and requested the Pt. Wells design guideline concepts that were provided to the Snohomish County Planning Commission be added to the Countywide planning policies as well as establishing an Interlocal Agreement between Woodway and Snohomish County. Both Councilmembers were supportive of these requests. Mr. Faison and she plan to meet with Snohomish County Councilmember John Koster and Dave Gossett on April 22.

Mayor Nichols reported on April 22 Councilmember Anderson, Mr. Faison and she were planning to meet with officials from Paramount of Washington, LLC. She anticipated the meeting would include discussion regarding Paramount's plans for the Pt. Wells site and she planned to provide them with Woodway's design guidelines.

Mayor Nichols reported a reception for retiring Port of Edmonds Executive Director Chris Keuss will be held at the Edmonds Yacht Club on Friday, May 15. Councilmember Anderson offered to attend to represent the Town.

Mayor Nichols reported Brightwater's Community Coordinator is working with residents on several items. She referred to an *Everett Herald* article regarding development of Pt. Wells.

She reported on the neighborhood meeting in Woodway Highlands on April 18. She had agreed to send out a monthly update on the four topics discussed at the neighborhood meetings to residents who provided their email addresses; the first update has been distributed and was included in the Council packet.

Mayor Nichols expressed her appreciation to Mr. Faison for attending the neighborhood meeting on Saturday and to Ms. Bielefeld for assisting at the Rosary Heights open house on Sunday. Councilmembers expressed their appreciation to staff, Mayor Nichols and the Sisters.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT: None

20 YEAR SERVICE PLAQUE – OFFICER TIM DREYER

Chief Hansen advised Officer Dreyer was unable to attend tonight's meeting as he was participating in SWAT training. He displayed the plaque that would be presented to Officer Dreyer in recognition of his 20 years of service, commenting Officer Dreyer was one of the most reliable officers and writes very thorough reports. Officer Dreyer has been with the Edmonds Police Department for 29 years and will soon be recognized for 20 years on SWAT team.

Mayor Nichols offered to write Officer Dreyer a letter of recognition on behalf of Council. The Council also requested recognition be scheduled at a future meeting or at the community fair.

FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL REPORT

Mayor Nichols reviewed budgeted and received revenues for the first quarter of 2009 for general taxes, fees & permits, intergovernmental, fines, investment interest, miscellaneous, and stormwater. She reviewed budgeted and actual expenditures for General Government. Clerk-Treasurer Joyce Bielefeld reported she had completed the annual report for 2008. A brief discussion ensued regarding delinquent stormwater utility billings.

Mayor Nichols reviewed budgeted and actual expenditures for Public Safety. A brief discussion followed regarding the timeline for renegotiating the fire service contract with Edmonds, delays in discussions regarding the formation of a Regional Fire Authority, and difficulty enforcing cell phone use while driving because it is a secondary offense.

Mayor Nichols reviewed budgeted and actual expenditures for Public Works and Lands. Public Works Director Terry Bryant reported the trees labeled by PSE with orange paint will be removed; the trees labeled with orange flags he has not yet approved their removal. If trees cause a hazard, he typically approves their removal; if there is no immediate danger he recommends pruning the trees away from the lines. He reported PSE has a 10 year trimming cycle; however, it has been 13-14 years since trimming was done in Woodway. He reported residents receive at least one \$20 gift certificate for each tree removed on private property toward the purchase of replacement trees and the Town receives at least one \$20 gift certificate for trees removed in the right-of-way.

Mayor Nichols reviewed budgeted and actual expenditures for Land Use & Planning, Building & Municipal Services, and Stormwater. Mayor Nichols advised effective June 1 the salaries of the Building Official and the Building Inspector had been reduced by 50% due to significantly reduced building activity.

POINT WELLS DESIGN STANDARDS

Mayor Nichols reported Planner Bill Trimm, Mr. Faison and she had further refined the Pt. Wells Design Standards. She explained Paramount wants to change the use of land from industrial to mixed use; and Snohomish County has proposed a new zoning district entitled Urban Center which would be the tool used to guide development at Pt. Wells.

Mayor Nichols explained the design standards were originally based upon work done by design professionals for University Place Town Center but extensive revisions were made to emphasize the uniqueness of Pt. Wells due to its proximity to Puget Sound. The design standards included lower building heights, a variety of housing types, and a pedestrian village with parking on the back and sides and little vehicular traffic.

ACTION: *Councilmember Schillberg* moved to approve the proposed Pt. Wells Urban Center Design Guidelines and Standards substantially in form. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion.

Mayor Nichols advised the design standards will be included in the Town's official testimony to the Snohomish County Planning Commission on April 28. Mr. Faison advised Woodway's

Comprehensive Plan needs to be amended to include the design standards in the Pt. Wells section.

Councilmember Mitchell raised a concern whether the council understood the individual concepts well enough to mandate them. She offered to submit proposed language to address the core value section of the report.

The motion carried unanimously.

ELECTION SCHEDULE

Mayor Nichols reported for the primary election the Town needed to submit a resolution by May 26.

The Council discussed whether to place two important issues on the same ballot. The first issue would replace the EMS levy with a levy to support both EMS and Town operations) and the second issue would be to support the purchase of Rosary Heights. Discussion continued regarding the ability to place an EMS levy on the general election ballot should an operations/EMS ballot measure on the primary election ballot fail, voting activity with mail-in ballots, election fees, and the filing deadline for Mayor and Council positions.

Councilmember Schillberg announced he did not plan to run for reelection. Mayor Nichols requested staff add to the Town's website the number of positions up for election in November (Mayor and four Councilmembers) and the deadline for filing which is June 1-5.

The Council tentatively agreed to place both issues on the primary election ballot. A final decision regarding issues to be placed on the ballot was added to the May 4 Council agenda. Mr. Faison advised the pro and con statements in the voters' pamphlet could contain information regarding the availability of grant funds for the purchase of Rosary Heights, etc.

OLYMPIC VIEW WATER DISTRICT – BACK FLOW PREVENTION DEVICES

Mayor Nichols summarized a memo from Town Attorney Way Tanaka in response to Council questions that the requirement for back flow prevention devices was a policy decision Olympic View Water District (OVWD) could legally make because it addressed a potential liability for the District. Mr. Tanaka is researching specifics regarding, 1) requirement that residents with a stream/pond on their property or other accessory water source install a back flow prevention device, and 2) there is no documentation OVWD has complied with the State requirement for coordination with municipalities.

In response to the Town's request for a joint meeting, OVWD offered to send two Commissioners to May 18 Council meeting. Mayor Nichols advised she would be on vacation at the time of the May 18 meeting.

The Council preferred to meet with OVWD representatives when Mayor Nichols returned in June. It was agreed to invite them to the second meeting in June scheduled for June 22. Topics to be discussed with OVWD include the requirement for coordination, whether back flow prevention devices would be required at Town Hall because it is not a single family residence, that residents with a pond/stream may be required to install a back flow prevention device, and jurisdiction over the Uniform Plumbing Code.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION – CHOICE OF SUBJECTS

Councilmember Mitchell inquired about the Planning Commission’s review of revisions to the Critical Areas Ordinance (CAO). Ms. Bielefeld responded the Planning Commission held a public hearing on April 15 and passed a resolution recommending changes to the CAO that will be presented to the Council at the next meeting. Mayor Nichols suggested Planner Bill Trimm conduct a workshop with the Council beginning at 6:00 p.m. prior to the May 4 Council meeting.

Mayor Nichols provided the business card for Allied Waste’s Operations Supervisor Owen Carton, previously a driver on the Woodway route, who wants to be responsive to Woodway’s concerns.

Mayor Nichols reported there were currently 21 homes for sale in Woodway.

ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING: *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:08 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.)