

# TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

July 19, 2010

## CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

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

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES:** Following minor amendments, *Councilmember Saltonstall* moved to approve the minutes of July 6, 2010 as amended. *Councilmember Anderson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:** *Councilmember Anderson* moved to approve Claims Warrants #7423 through #7438 for the total amount of \$11,773.45. *Councilmember Mitchell* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS:** None

**COUNCIL REPORTS:** **Councilmember Anderson** inquired about a resident's letter expressing concern with cell service in the Town. Town Administrator Eric Faison reported he contacted the resident and encouraged him to contact his cell phone service provider. Mr. Faison also planned to research Medina's installation of their own towers that are then leased to providers.

**Councilmember Saltonstall** reported the two fledgling eagles are flying to adjacent trees. He anticipated they would leave the nest in August.

**Councilmember Mitchell** reported the Snohomish County Tomorrow meeting that Mayor Nichols and she attended included discussion regarding a leadership program for Snohomish County and an introduction of KING 5's consumer advocate, Jesse Jones.

**MAYOR REPORT:** **Mayor Nichols** reported a postcard will be mailed to residents in early August reminding them of the August 14 Community Fair. Councilmembers will have an opportunity to sign up at the next Council meeting for BBQ shifts. She reported a resident approached her about organizing a fun run/walk the morning of the Fair. The resident will coordinate the event with Police Chief Hansen and volunteers will assist with road monitoring.

Mayor Nichols announced her plans to meet with Snohomish County Councilmembers to discuss the draft Interlocal Agreement between Shoreline, Woodway and Snohomish County regarding development at Pt. Wells. The Council packet contains excerpts from the draft Finding of No Significance from the Washington State Department of Transportation for the Pacific Northwest Rail Corridor.

**TOWN ADMINISTRATOR'S REPORT:** Mr. Faison reported the Town received its 60 day notice from Snohomish County regarding their plans to move forward with an Interlocal Agreement. All residents received a postcard announcing a public meeting to be held by the developers of Pt. Wells; two public meetings are required before the developer can file a permit

application. Mayor Nichols explained the first meeting will be an open house format with stations regarding topography, site cleanup, etc. and an opportunity for attendees to provide input. The next meeting on September 23 may include presentation of preliminary concepts.

Clerk/Treasurer Joyce Bielefeld reported she purchased a one year CD for the Town from North County Bank at a rate of 1.32%.

## **PRESENTATION – STEVENS/SWEDISH AFFILIATION**

Michael Carter, President and CEO, Stevens Hospital, described Stevens Hospital's and Swedish's similar missions. When he joined Stevens four years ago, it had a great location and a wonderful medical staff, yet had financial difficulties and a poor reputation in the community. He provided statistics regarding Stevens Hospital, explaining there have been many positive results during the past four years including a net profit of \$15.4 million in 2009 and happier employees. Stevens recognized its cash reserves could not be increased enough to fund the hospital's future or improve its reputation without some type of affiliation. The Strategic Plan developed by the Stevens Board of Commissioners in 2009 also identified the need for affiliation.

Cal Knight, President and Chief Operating Officer, Swedish, provided statistics about Swedish, the largest, most comprehensive medical system in the Seattle area. Swedish's regional growth strategy includes bringing care closer to the patient via its ambulatory and community hospital strategies, reducing costs and providing value through greater efficiency and reduction of waste, and the tertiary facilities in Seattle continuing to serve as regional referral centers. He described the EPIC network, an electronic records/online service for receiving lab results, emailing doctors, participating in preventative care, making appointments and making payments. The affiliation will allow Swedish to bring this system to Stevens at a greatly reduced cost. Mr. Knight described the new Swedish ER & outpatient center under construction in Mill Creek.

Mr. Carter described how the affiliation will work. Under the current structure Stevens Hospital, additional Stevens's services are operated by Snohomish County Public Hospital District #2. The three Swedish campuses, Swedish physician division and additional Swedish services are operated by Swedish Health Services. Under the proposed structure via affiliation and an operating lease, the Public Hospital District #2 will continue to own the hospital and lease the hospital operations to Swedish on a 30-year term and beginning September 1, 2010 (if State regulatory approval is received) Stevens Hospital will be operated by Swedish Health Services as a private hospital and renamed Swedish Edmonds. The Hospital District will continue to exist under a new name and receive an initial cash reserve of \$20 million, lease payments of \$7.2 million/year from Swedish as well as \$2 million/year via the voter approved Operations and Maintenance levy.

Dr. Bruce Williams, Public Health Hospital District #2 Commissioner, explained an element of the agreement was ensuring the proposed structure would serve the community's interest. The lease agreement includes reserve clauses that prevent the migration of important community based services such as the birth center, medical health and orthopedic services. The Health District will focus on new services to improve the health and well being of the community such as health education, community recreation opportunities, etc.

Mr. Carter, Mr. Knight and Dr. Williams responded to questions regarding separate medical staffs/employees in each facility, the expectation that more doctors would seek privileges at Swedish Edmonds, patients' electronic access to their medical records when traveling via Swedish's EPIC's system, new technologies coming to Swedish Edmonds, the length of the agreement between Swedish and the Hospital District, and services the Hospital District will provide. Mayor Nichols invited Swedish to participate in the Town's Community Fair.

## **PRESENTATION – FIRE DISTRICT 1 (FD1)**

FD1 Chief Ed Widdis reviewed the cost of service model for providing service to a geographical area of four square miles, the approximate area served by one fire station. He described FD1's consideration of the fire benefit charge for all users. The highest users of fire/emergency medical services (EMS), commercial and multi-family, would pay more. This would be a new funding approach that would require a public vote. He also described the transport fee FD1 has charged since 1982.

Chief Widdis reviewed the cost of service model for providing service to Esperance, Woodway, and Edmonds. All of the costs are based on what it takes to man a fire station and then the costs are adjusted according to the jurisdiction. He described the calculation of Woodway's rate based on labor costs, station locations and response time.

During and following his presentation, Chief Widdis responded to questions regarding the Medical Director that oversees Fire District 1 EMS personnel, fire station staffing, differences between an Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) and a paramedic, typically lower call volume in more affluent areas, the transport fee, advantages of combining Fire Departments, and FD1's plans to partner with the Hospital District #2.

## **USE OF WOODWAY RESERVE**

Mayor Nichols recalled in May the Council informally discussed establishing operating policies for the central area of the Reserve. She distributed draft Operating Policies for the Reserve that could be used to open the Reserve during a trial period August 1 through September 30, 2010.

Councilmembers discussed the use of volunteers to open and close the Reserve, whether to continue prohibiting domestic animals in the Reserve, the environmental value in different areas of the Reserve, and support for increasing public access to the central Reserve.

It was agreed to add this item to the agenda of the next Council meeting.

**AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None**

## **GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION – Council Choice of Topics**

Mayor Nichols advised the next Council meeting agenda would include discussion regarding the regulation of roosters.

Public Works Director Terry Bryant reported that due to concern Snohomish County has had with the quality of the work done by their paving contractor, paving in the Town will not occur until those concerns are addressed.

Councilmember Saltonstall thanked Mayor Nichols and staff for arranging the presentations from Stevens/Swedish and Fire District 1, finding them both very informative.

**ADJOURNMENT OF PUBLIC MEETING:** *Councilmember Mitchell* moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Saltonstall* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 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.)