

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES
Monday, October 19, 2015

CALL TO ORDER, FLAG SALUTE, ROLL CALL

Mayor Nichols called the 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, Tom Howard, Tom Whitson, Kent Saltonstall, and Elizabeth Mitchell were present. Administrative Assistant/Permit Technician, Austen Wilcox, was present.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Councilmember Saltonstall moved to approve the minutes of October 5, 2015 as amended. Councilmember Mitchell seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF VOUCHERS:

Councilmember Anderson moved to approve Claims Checks #10960 through #10965 for the amount of \$4,336.32. *Councilmember Whitson* seconded the motion. Councilmember Saltonstall abstained due to wanting additional explanation regarding the Town's water bill. The motion carried.

Mayor Nichols will research the Town's most recent water bill and report back to the Council.

Mayor Nichols will ask Town Administrator Eric Faison to research a new phone/internet/business service package as an alternative to our existing package.

COUNCIL REPORTS:

Councilmember Whitson reported on two recent news articles- A study researching solutions for the poisonous urban ground water runoff that is killing fish. He reported a solution called "soil filtration though a simple soil based system" has been found. Secondly, he reported on an article in the Washington Park Arboretum Bulletin about reducing carbon footprint and how communities and cities are handling it.

Councilmember Mitchell reported she attended the Policy Advisory Board for Snohomish County as the representative for cities with populations less than 3000.

Councilmember Mitchell reported she attended the recent Washington Cities Insurance Authority (WCIA) board meeting that was focused on cyber hacking. The Town will have a choice of what subject areas they would like WCIA to audit: parks, volunteers, or the Town's vehicle fleet. Mayor Nichols indicated that she would confer with staff to select the subject for the Town's annual audit.

Councilmember Saltonstall reported SNOCOM has a new director, Terry Peterson. Mr. Peterson has been with SNOCOM for about ten years. Councilmember Saltonstall reported the New World software goes live on October 27, 2015, and it will allow for improved operations between SNOCOM and SNOPAC.

Regarding the discussion to review both SNOCOM and SNOPAC to determine the efficiency of consolidation, Councilmember Saltonstall observed that the New World project represents a significant consolidation of these two communication centers due to this new common computer interface. While the discussion was supportive of the efforts to evaluate a possible consolidation, it was agreed that a great deal more information is needed and that the SNOCOM Board should go slowly in its analyses.

Mayor Nichols included additional talking points in relation to SNOCOM consolidation. The SNOCOM board is not opposed to studying consolidation but it will be too hasty to complete by January 2016. The SNOCOM Board wants to go much slower and not be pushed.

Mayor Nichols reported the City of Lynnwood is considering joining Fire District One. If they do, the region may revisit the concept of a Regional Fire Authority (RFA).

Councilmember Anderson reported that he and Mayor Nichols attended the Architectural Review Board meeting for Building 10 at Point Edwards, City of Edmonds. The revised application includes a building that has been downsized by 20 units and the Pine Street parking has been increased by about 15 spaces with the building parking lot capped at 50 parking stalls with appropriate landscape buffers between the parking lot and home sites in Woodway. Both the Town of Woodway and the Home Owner's Association of Point Edwards agree that the proposed design elements are consistent with the legal settlement agreed to with the developer. There will be additional areas to review as part of the permit application process.

Councilmember Anderson attended a meeting for the Snohomish County Department of Emergency (DEM) Advisory Board that will be replacing Emergency Services Coordinating Agency (ESCA). Among the things they are considering are satellite offices and Brier's City Hall might be an appropriate site. Staff from DEM would like to come to each city to discuss planning and emergency services.

AUDIENCE COMMENTS: None

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Nichols delivered a Snohomish County economic forecast contributed by a former Woodway Councilman who thought it would be beneficial for the Council to review.

Mayor Nichols attended the monthly dinner and presentation for cities and towns which introduced the new director of Association of Washington Cities (AWC). Legislative priorities for the next legislative session were reviewed.

Mayor Nichols included a technical community planning article around climate change and how community groups can get organized. A professor from the University of Washington has a grant to share the workshop with municipalities. Mayor Nichols

envisions Council members, Planning Commissioners and the neighborhood emergency coordinators as appropriate attendees. Council members were asked as to whether they felt this workshop would be appropriate for Woodway. Council members suggested getting additional input from selected residents who may want to attend.

TOWN ADMINISTRATOR’S REPORT:

Mayor Nichols spoke on behalf of Town Administrator, Eric Faison, and stated that the Public Works Director has attempted to inspect the bluff on the northwest section of the Estates neighborhood to determine the possible extent of illegal tree activity but could not access a vantage point. Other means of access are being researched.

Mayor Nichols reported on a recent letter from Olympic View addressing the potential effects of “crumb rubber” being utilized on playing fields in Edmonds.

DEER CREEK PARK:

The Town put \$45,000 in the 2015 budget for Deer Creek contingent upon the Town receiving a grant to cover the costs of trail design and installation. The Town did not receive a grant from Verdant Foundation and it will be late 2016 before another grant cycle is available. Mayor Nichols would like to install a gate at the top of Deer Creek Park for general safety purposes. Mayor Nichols asked Public Works Director, Terry Bryant, to gather bids for an automated gate with timer controls with the bids ranging from \$16,000 - \$23,000. Since the park is not yet open to the public, Councilmembers questioned whether an automated gate with a timer was necessary. Councilmember Mitchell suggested a utilitarian livestock gate as an alternative.

Council members pursued a proposal to begin developing the park by first installing the safety gate and to explore what it would take to create a connecting trail between Woodway Park Road and South Deer Drive. It was agreed to approve a total budget of \$5,000 for both the installation of a gate and the clearing of a walking path through the lower, northern end of Deer Creek Park.

ANNEXATION OF THE UPPER BLUFF:

This item was tabled until a future Council meeting.

GENERAL COUNCIL DISCUSSION-CHOICE OF SUBJECTS:

Councilmember Anderson suggested that we research the use of solar panels for Town Hall. Several residents have installed them on their private residences.

Councilmember Anderson stated there is a sign that reads “Enter Woodway on 3rd Avenue” located on the eastern side of Pine Street (near the entrance to Pt. Edwards) and suggested that it’s not very useful as many don’t know where 3rd Avenue is located.

Councilmember Howard stated there is a “bike path” sign located at the four way stop at the Eagle/Totem Pole Lanes and asked if it is new. Mayor Nichols explained that it is referencing the long standing bike route that travels between King County and Edmonds.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Mitchell moved to adjourn the meeting. *Councilmember Whitson* seconded the motion. The motion carried unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

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.)