

CITY OF LAKE STEVENS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, June 18, 2019
Lake Stevens Fire Station 82 Conference Room
9811 Chapel Hill Road, Lake Stevens

- CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. by Council President Gary Petershagen
- ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Councilmembers Kim Daughtry, Gary Petershagen, Todd Welch, Raichel McDaniel and Marcus Tageant
- ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: Mayor John Spencer, Councilmembers Kurt Hilt and Brett Gailey
- STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: City Administrator Gene Brazel, Finance Director Barb Stevens, Community Development Director Russ Wright, Human Resources Director Teri Smith, City Clerk Kathy Pugh
- OTHERS:
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Council President Petershagen called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Fence Code Update: Community Development Director Wright reviewed the Planning Commission recommendations following a public hearing. He commented there are a lot of code compliance issues with fences due to how long the current regulations have been in place. Some of the goals in amending the code are to ensure privacy and security while at the same time protecting pedestrian safety, simplifying the regulations and locating the fence regulations in one place. Director Wright reviewed the various identified concerns of property owners and the Planning Commission's recommended changes including fence heights and fence design. Proposed fences over seven feet would require a permit. Director Wright then responded to Councilmembers' questions.

Turning to tall walls being created as part of new development and impacting lot size, Director Wright reviewed the Planning Commission recommendations for walls in setbacks, side yards and on back property lines. The recommendations include that there should be no impairment to the sight view for safety purposes. Director Wright reviewed some of the recommendations for walls including terracing, landscaping and height. Director Wright responded to Councilmembers' questions and discussion ensued regarding wall height and how the impact of walls can be softened. Following discussion there was consensus to remove the height limit and provide that walls over twelve feet in height will meet engineering standards.

SE Island Annexation Referendum Petition: Director Wright updated that a referendum petition was received following approval of the SE Island Annexation. The petition was validated by Snohomish County Elections. Director Wright reviewed the process and requested direction as to how Council wishes to proceed. There was consensus to take the necessary steps to place the SE Island Annexation on the November 12th ballot.

Critical Areas and Buildable Lands: Director Wright reminded of the previous critical areas briefings and reviewed the buildable lands status including both commercial and residential

capacities. Director Wright noted the city is meeting its growth targets and may exceed those targets. He commented the Buildable Lands report does show a deficit for jobs, based on the consultant's methodology; this will change as the city moves into the formal buildable lands study being conducted by Snohomish County. He next reviewed how the new critical areas regulations are impacted by the buildable lands. Discussion ensued regarding buildable lands, critical areas and capacity for growth, and Director Wright then reviewed the next steps for moving forward.

Joint Federal Lobbying Services with Monroe: City Administrator Brazel reminded this was previously discussed and added there has been a lot of discussion with Monroe, Sultan and Gold Bar to jointly lobby for federal funding to improve U.S. 2 from the Trestle all the way to the end of Gold Bar; Monroe is interested in teaming with Lake Stevens. Administrator Brazel said the city's lobbyist, Doug Levy, assisted in lobbying for federal funds last year and is interested in assisting again this year; this is a cost-efficient approach, versus retaining a federal lobbyist as was done previously. As far as a joint lobbying effort with Monroe and other cities Mr. Levy does not want to commit to that unless it is very similar to what he did for Lake Stevens last year. Administrator Brazel said that if the Council wants to join with Monroe and other cities, this would provide a substantial group providing one voice supporting improvements to the U.S. 2 corridor. Discussion ensued, and Council supported inviting additional cities to join with Lake Stevens and utilize Mr. Levy's services to guide the lobbying efforts in Washington, D.C.

There being no further business the meeting was adjourned at 7:50 p.m.



John Spencer, Mayor



~~Kathy Pugh, City Clerk~~
Adri Crim, Deputy City Clerk