

CITY OF LAKE STEVENS
CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP MEETING MINUTES
Tuesday, September 3, 2019
Lake Stevens Fire Station 82 Conference Room
9811 Chapel Hill Road, Lake Stevens

CALL TO ORDER: 7:00 p.m. by Mayor John Spencer

ELECTED OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mayor John Spencer and Councilmembers Kim Daughtry, Kurt Hilt, Gary Petershagen, Todd Welch, Rauchel McDaniel, Marcus Tageant and Brett Gailey

ELECTED OFFICIALS ABSENT: None

STAFF MEMBERS PRESENT: City Administrator Gene Brazel, Finance Director Barb Stevens, Community Development Director Russ Wright, Public Works Director Eric Durpos, Interim Human Resources Director Julie Good, City Clerk Kathy Pugh, Police Chief John Dyer, Parks Planning and Development Coordinator Jill Meis

OTHERS:

Mayor Spencer called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m. and turned the meeting over to Council President Petershagen.

Catherine Creek Park Lease Renewal: Parks Planning and Development Coordinator Jill Meis said the City has leased Catherine Creek Park from the Lake Stevens School District for many years. The original lease in 1973 was for 25 years and since that time the lease has been renewed twice in ten-year increments. The current lease renewal expires December 31, 2019 and Coordinator Meis requested direction from Council as to renewing the lease under the same terms and conditions.

Following discussion as to how the park is used, the high level of use it receives, parking and maintenance considerations, Council supported renewing the lease for another ten years.

Village Way Property Surplus: Public Works Director Durpos reviewed the piece of property in question is a small parcel located adjacent to Village Way where the road is being built into the shopping center. Director Durpos said the section of property proposed is not needed for the road or for construction purposes and is encumbered by a utility easement. The property was appraised at \$70,000, and staff proposes to surplus the property; this was included as part of the original project budget. Director Durpos added the adjoining property owner is interested in purchasing the property.

Discussion ensued as to whether the property would be suitable for parking, including as an overflow for the Park & Ride, or as additional parking available for use by customers of the new businesses that are coming in, with Councilmembers expressing a concern that there is already

not enough parking in the area. Mayor Spencer summarized that Staff will explore various parking options and bring them back to Council for consideration.

WATV Ordinance Follow Up re Citizen Request to Amend to Allow ATV's: Police Chief Dyer said this is being brought forward for discussion following a citizen comment at a recent Council meeting requesting the WATV ordinance approved in December 2018 be amended to also allow ATV's. Chief Dyer reminded ATV's were discussed and Council at the time did not wish to include them in the ordinance.

Discussion ensued as to the difference between ATV's and quads, safety features and equipment and general safety of ATV's versus WATV's. Also discussed was whether other cities already allow ATV's. Following discussion there was consensus to make no changes to the WATV ordinance at this time.

Boards & Commissions: City Clerk Kathy Pugh said these topics are being brought forward for Council direction.

Library Board: Clerk Pugh said the Library Board has vacancies and they are difficult to fill. The City Code provides that board members are residents of the City or the Urban Growth Area, and the Library boundaries are contiguous with the Lake Stevens School district. The proposal is to amend Lake Stevens Municipal Code 2.60 to include that Library Board members may be residents of the Lake Stevens School District, and Council supported this proposal.

Civil Service Commission: Clerk Pugh said that LSMC 2.68 provides that appointments to the Civil Service Commission expire on July 1 of each year; staff proposes amending the code so appointments expire on December 31, the same as other board and commission appointments. Additionally, if Council agrees, Staff's recommendation is that the current Civil Service Commission appointments be extended to December 31, of the year in which their term expires. Council agreed with this recommendation.

Board and Commission Recognition: Clerk Pugh said that in 2001 Council approved a policy for an annual volunteer recognition for board and commission members in the form of a dinner. At some point, the practice was stopped. Clerk Pugh said the recognition was started again in approximately 2015 and the last two years has consisted of a reception on the fifth Tuesday of October. She noted attendance is not consistent and requested Council input on recognizing volunteers.

Discussion ensued and there was general agreement that partnering with the Rotary or Chamber when they do their recognition might be a good solution. Clerk Pugh will reach out to Jim Haugen to see if this is possible.

Upcoming Proposed Marijuana Legislation: Mayor Spencer said the City's lobbyist, Doug Levy provided information that the Liquor Control Board (LCB) is working on legislation focused on encouraging women and minorities owned businesses to enter into the business of growing or retailing marijuana. The LCB is considering a number of amendments but are primarily looking at changes to encourage more medical marijuana growing and distribution. Mr. Levy requested input and the Mayor said he responded the city would be opposed to anything that would take away local control. He added the state should look harder at providing capital to get women and minorities into business.

Discussion ensued with Councilmember Tageant commenting the state should look at giving some of the monies from this industry back to cities or give cities the ability to go outside the Urban Growth Area for minority owned businesses.

Mayor Spencer said there will be lots of time to provide input, and he will prepare a letter focusing on the issue of local control.

Councilmember Petershagen commented on the Seattle Times article regarding traffic on Highway 9.

Councilmember Hilt provided a brief update on the status of the Snohomish Health District.

Councilmember McDaniel commented on the road sign change at 20th Street NE and 114th. For 114th the designation has been changed to "Avenue" and she has been contacted by residents requesting the signage for 114th be changed back to "Drive." In particular she is concerned for senior residents who require emergency services from time to time.

Director Wright responded staff is looking into this and it will take some time to sort out.

Mayor Spencer suggested putting the sign back up the way it was, completing the research and then talking to residents.

In response to Councilmember Gailey's question regarding Wyatt Park, Director Wright said Snohomish County drafted an interlocal agreement (ILA) that was more of a maintenance agreement and a lease to the city. The city is tweaking the agreement so that it is a property transfer agreement and not a maintenance agreement. This new agreement is under review and Director Wright anticipated it will be brought back to Council in October.

Mayor Spencer briefly reviewed the history of the proposed Wyatt Park transfer to the city, including that he and city staff have met with County Executive Dave Somers, Parks and Recreation Director Tom Teigen, and Chief of Staff Lacey Harper.

Discussion ensued with Chief Dyer commenting the police officers have made a presence this summer, but this is really the county's jurisdiction, and Councilmember McDaniel suggesting that perhaps the media could be used to leverage a campaign.

Responding to Councilmember McDaniel's question, Chief Dyer said a 9/11 commemoration is planned at Lake Stevens Fire Station 81 at 10:00 on that date.

There being no further business, Council President Petershagen adjourned the meeting at 8:01 p.m.



John Spencer, Mayor



Kathy Pugh, City Clerk