



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING SEPTEMBER 3, 2019

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## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL, 5:00 PM

Mayor Debbie Bertlin called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Deputy Mayor Salim Nice, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Bruce Bassett, Wendy Weiker (arrived 7:37 pm), David Wisenteiner and Benson Wong were present.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Wisenteiner; seconded by Wong to:

**Approve the agenda as presented.**

Passed: 6-0

FOR: 6 (Anderl, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Wisenteiner, and Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

## EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:01 pm, Mayor Bertlin convened the Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation with legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for approximately 60 minutes.

At 6:02 Mayor Bertlin adjourned the Executive Session and called the Regular Meeting to order.

## STUDY SESSION, 6:00 PM

### AB 5597: Preliminary Public Safety Planning for Light Rail

Police Chief Ed Holmes and Fire Chief Steve Heitman outlined the top five public safety concerns related to the Light Rail and provided information on how each area of focus would be addressed:

- Safety for Pedestrians and Bicyclists
- Safe and Efficient Vehicular Traffic Flow
- Individual / Personal Safety
- Timely Responses to Emergencies
- Minimize Negative Impacts on Parks, Town Center, and Neighborhoods.

In response to Council questions, both Chief Holmes and Chief Heitman explained that they would continue to assess resource availability and work with partner agencies in the development of safety plans.

Interim City Manager Jessi Bon responded to questions regarding the number of passengers that Sound Transit and Metro anticipate for light rail and buses. She explained that the numbers are still not certain at this time, but staff is continuing to seek clarification.

### AB 5606: Cougar Response Update

Police Services Commander Jeff Magnan briefly summarized the cougar sighting on the Island and the Police Department's response, outreach, and ongoing coordination with the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Sargent Kim Chandler and Brian Kertson with WDFW gave a detailed report and video presentation addressing several questions and concerns raised by the community, including:

- Cougars Living in Wildland-Urban/Residential Areas
- Cougar Territory

- Tracking Cougars with Dogs
- Cougar-Human Interaction
- Cougar Noises and Vocalizations
- Response to Potential Cougar Sightings
- Cougar Population
- What to Do If You Encounter a Cougar

In response to Council questions regarding whether the cougar was still on the Island, WDFW speculated that the cougar was gone and likely returned to where it originated.

## **SPECIAL BUSINESS, 7:30 PM**

### **AB 5603: Mayor's Day of Concern for the Hungry Proclamation No. 244**

Youth and Family Services Director Cindy Goodwin introduced Bob Kessler from the Friends of the Needy program at St. Monica's Church along with Bridget Olsen, Promotions and Community Manager, and Chenoa Philabaum, Community Relations Officer with New Seasons Market.

Mayor Bertlin presented the proclamation and proclaimed September 21, 2019 as Mayor's Day of Concern for the Hungry and encouraged all Islanders to join in support of the Emergency Feeding Program and the Island's local food pantry at Youth and Family Services to nourish those who are hungry.

### **AB 5604: Emergency Preparedness Month Proclamation No. 245**

Emergency Manager Jennifer Franklin introduced Emergency Volunteer Pat Hackett, who has volunteered with Emergency Management for over five years and helped lead Mercer Island Radio Operators and Map Your Neighborhood programs.

Mayor Bertlin presented the proclamation and proclaimed September 2019 as Emergency Preparedness Month in the City of Mercer Island and encouraged all Mercer Island residents to join the City of Mercer Island in making a commitment to be personally prepared for 7 to 14 days following a disaster.

## **CITY MANAGER REPORT**

Interim City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following:

- Youth and Family Services Annual Newsletter & 2018 Service Highlights
- 2019 East Mercer Way Resurfacing Project
- Tree Removal/I-90 Overpass
- Community Facility Zone Next Steps
- Recology Update:
  - Welcome packets
  - Private Road Waivers & Compost modification
  - Open House & Other Events
- Emergency Response & Disaster Preparedness Training
- Doo Wop & Daisies Senior Appreciation Event

## **APPEARANCES**

Michele Drov Dahl & Kirsten Corning, with the KCLS and the Mercer Island Library, provided a 2018 update on library activities, usage, and their partnership with the Mercer Island Arts Council.

Jon Hanlon, Mercer Island, expressed concern that the Sound Transit Study is intended to circumvent the settlement agreement.

## CONSENT CALENDAR

### **Payables: \$908,439.76 (08/15/2019) & \$1,081,936.67 (08/22/2019)**

**Recommendation:** Certify that the materials or services hereinbefore specified have been received and that all warrant numbers listed are approved for payment.

### **Payroll: \$970,575.56 (08/30/2019)**

**Recommendation:** Certify that the materials or services specified have been received and that all fund warrants are approved for payment.

### **Minutes: August 20, 2019 Regular Meeting & August 28, 2019 Special Meeting**

**Recommendation:** Approve the August 20, 2019 Regular Meeting minutes and August 28, 2019 Special Meeting minutes as written.

### **AB 5599: Public Display of Fireworks Permit Approval at a Private Residence**

**Recommendation:** Approve Western Display Fireworks' application for a Public Display of Fireworks Permit at a private residence on September 20, 2019, pursuant to MICC 8.35.020(C).

### **AB 5602: Interlocal Agreement for Inmate Housing with South Correctional Entity (SCORE)**

**Recommendation:** Authorize the City Manager to sign the Interlocal Agreement for Inmate Housing between the City of Mercer Island and the South Correctional Entity (SCORE).

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

**Approve the Consent Calendar as presented.**

Passed: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, and Wong)

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### **AB 5605: Second Quarter 2019 Financial Status Report & 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments**

Assistant City Manager/Finance Director Chip Corder reviewed a presentation with City Council summarizing the Second Quarter 2019 Financial Status Report and 2019 Budget Adjustment, reviewing the following:

- General Fund (revenues, general sales tax, utility tax, licenses, expenditures by department);
- Utility Fund (water, sewer, stormwater);
- All Other Funds
- Real Estate Excise Tax; and
- 2019-2020 Budget Adjustments (previously approved and new requests).

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Bassett to:

**Suspend City Council Rules of Procedure 6.3 requiring a second reading of an ordinance.**

Passed: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, and Wong)

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Bassett to:

**Adopt Ordinance No. 19-12, amending the 2019-2020 Budget.**

Passed: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, and Wong)

### **AB 5598: Short-Term Parking Project Update**

Interim Recreation Manager Zach Houvener reviewed a presentation with City Council to provide a project update on the short-term paid parking pilot project proposed for the BP/ARCO Property and the adjacent east end of the Sunset Highway cul-de-sac. He outlined steps taken since the June 4 City Council meeting, explaining that staff identified the permit requirements for the project, which would increase the projects costs by approximately \$7,500. He also noted that an additional three months was needed to implement the project. Interim Manager Houvener also explained that the BP/ARCO site would require a Conditional Use Permit and private enforcement.

Council debated both sites and provided staff direction accordingly:

1. Move forward with implementation of the paid parking technology at the Mercer Island boat launch with a "go live" date of January 1, 2020 where the cost of operation is captured in the fee.
2. Staff will return with an update for City Council on October 7 with an outline of available opportunities cul-de-sac to cul-de-sac and seek final confirmation on whether to proceed with the pilot project at the BP/ARCO site.

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Planning Schedule**

Interim City Manager Jess Bon reviewed the following items with Council:

- The October 1 Regular Meeting was canceled and rescheduled for October 7 as a Special Meeting.
- Staff are working to develop the Planning Schedule through 2019 and into the first part of 2020, while also trying to keep the schedule limited to one meeting in December.

### **Board Appointments**

Mayor Bertlin reported that there were two open board positions; one with the Design Commission and the other with the Open Space Conservancy Trust Board of Directors, noting that applications are available online or by contacting the City Clerk. The deadline to apply is September 18 and we hope to have both positions filled by the October 7 Council Meeting.

### **Councilmember Absences**

Councilmember Wisenteiner reported he would be absent at the September 17 Regular Meeting.

### **Councilmember Reports**

Councilmember Weiker reminded Council that the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce was hosting "ArtUncorked" on Friday, September 6.

Mayor Bertlin reported that the first home football game on the Island was scheduled for Friday, September 6.

## **EXECUTIVE SESSION**

At 9:41 pm, Mayor Bertlin convened the Executive Session to discuss pending or potential litigation with legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for approximately 60 minutes. No action was to be taken.

At 10:00 pm, Mayor Bertlin adjourned the Executive Session.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:02 pm.

Attest:

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Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

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Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk