



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING MARCH 20, 2018

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

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

Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Deputy Mayor Salim Nice, and Councilmembers Bruce Bassett, Wendy Weiker (in attendance by phone from 5:30-6:00 pm; arrived in person at 6:30 pm), David Wisenteiner, and Benson Wong (arrived 5:10 pm) were present. Councilmember Tom Acker participated by phone for the Executive Session and was absent for the Regular Meeting.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wisenteiner to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

Passed 4-0

FOR: 4 (Bertlin, Nice, Bassett, Wisenteiner)

ABSENT: 3 (Acker, Weiker, Wong)

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Executive Session to discuss with legal counsel pending or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 60 minutes.

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

At 5:56 pm, Mayor Bertlin adjourned the Executive Session.

The Council recessed until 6:00 pm.

STUDY SESSION

AB 5407 First/Last Mile Solutions – Bicycle and Pedestrian Issues

Ross Freeman, Sustainability Manager, introduced his co-presenters, Malva Slachowitz with King County Metro, Andreas Piller with the City of Bellevue, and Sam Morando with LimeBike. Mr. Freeman presented information regarding the funding from the Settlement Agreement with Sound Transit for first/last mile solutions, traffic and safety enhancements, and Aubrey Davis Park Master Plan. He also spoke about how these are integrated into existing work such as the Transportation Improvement Program (TIP), the Pedestrian and Bicycle Facilities and north-south bike route wayfinding, as well as future infrastructure such as light rail and potential bikeshare hubs.

Malva Slachowitz with King County Metro presented information to the Council regarding the Bike & Walk Program which supports ridership and access mode share targets through: (1) equal investments in parking and bike/ped improvements; (2) innovative mobility partnerships; (3) prioritizing parking management; and (4) promoting transit-oriented development.

Andreas Piller with the City of Bellevue presented information about their Downtown Demonstration Bikeway and Bike Share Pilot Permit to build a more connected network of on-street and off-street bicycle facilities and expand the toolbox of options to increase safety with designs like protected bike lanes and to provide people in

Bellevue access to a bicycle when they want one, without having to worry about storage, security, and maintenance.

Sam Morando from LimeBike presented information about how their program is a solution for first and last mile transportation that is a more efficient, affordable and healthier transportation, complements existing transit options, reduces congestion and frees up parking, supports more vibrant local economies, and reduces pollution caused by short, inefficient local trips.

Mayor Bertlin noted that there is Council interest in the pilot program and requested additional information and another briefing regarding the details of how the bikes are moved on and off the Island, speeds on the bike paths, and specific terms and conditions of a contract.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Rotary Peace Poles Gift

Beth Baska from Mercer Island Rotary spoke to the Council regarding the gift of twelve Peace Poles to be installed throughout the City. Each pole reads "May Peace Prevail on Earth" in eight languages. The Peace Poles are monuments that represent that peace is what is tolerated, what is expected, and what will prevail. She provided a map proposed locations.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Julie Underwood reported on the following:

- Layout error in the "Get The Facts" mailer - Police Cost Per Capita and Parks Maintenance Cost Per Acre bar charts are in the wrong order
- Financial Challenges Community Meeting Telephone Town Hall – Tues., March 27, 7:00 pm
- VOICE/SVP Registration Opens – March 21
- Volunteer at a Restoration Event!
 - Sat., March 24, 9:00 am-3:00 pm at Gallagher Hill Open Space
 - Sun., March 25, 11:30 am-3:00 pm at Island Crest Park
- Egg Hunts – Sat., March 31, Mercerdale Park
 - Lil' Ones Egg Hunt, 4:00 pm – 1-3 year-old, 5:00 pm – 4-6 year-old
 - Flashlight Egg Hunt, 8:30 pm sharp!
- Upcoming "Successful Parenting" Forum on Stress & Teen Health – Tues., April 3, 7-8:30 pm, Mercer Island Community & Event Center
- 2018 Spring Recycling Event – Sat., April 7, 9:00 am-3:00 pm, Mercer Island Boat Launch
- Leap for Green Sustainability Fair – Sat., April 14, 10:00am - 2:00pm, Mercer Island Community & Event Center
- South Mercer Playfield Progress
- Island Crest Park North Field Celebrates Grand Re-Opening

APPEARANCES

Alex Zimmerman, President of Stand-Up America, spoke to the Council about attending City Council meetings in the Puget Sound region.

CONSENT CALENDAR

AB 5402: Interlocal Agreement with King County Fire Departments for Automatic Aid was pulled from the Consent Calendar and moved to the first item of Regular Business.

Payables: \$121,402.01 (3/1/2018) & \$477,336.87 (3/8/2018)

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

Payroll: \$846,296.89 (3/2/2018)

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

It was moved by Wisenteiner; seconded by Bassett to:

Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Acker)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5402 Interlocal Agreement with King County Fire Departments for Automatic Aid

Councilmember Bassett asked the Fire Chief to explain why this interlocal matters. Chief Heitman responded that the City will receive more mutual aid assistance from Seattle without delay.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Authorize the City Manager to sign the Martin Luther King County Interlocal Agreement for Automatic Aid.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Acker)

AB 5406 First/Last Mile Solutions – Lyft and Uber Pilot Project

Assistant City Manager Kirsten Taylor presented information to the Council regarding the proposed RideShare pilot project with Lyft and Uber for providing first/last mile solutions due to capacity issues at the Park and Ride. She reviewed the pilot program details and noted that the primary goal for the project is to gather data about residents' interest and willingness to try alternative mobility solutions and options. She also presented the results of the transportation survey from June 2017 about residents' experiences following the first week of the I-90 Center Roadway closure.

Jackson Taylor from Uber and Todd Kelsay from Lyft presented information about how the pilot project would work within each of their apps.

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wong to:

Direct the City Manager to enter into agreements with Lyft and Uber for \$10,000 each to provide first/last mile solutions rides between the Sound Transit Mercer Island Park & Ride and a location on Mercer Island for a six month rideshare pilot project.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Acker)

AB 5403 STAR Communities Framework Discussion

Ross Freeman, Sustainability Manager presented information to the Council regarding the STAR Community Rating System, which is a voluntary, menu-based certification program designed for communities to evaluate their progress against a set of 49 standardized sustainability objectives. He spoke about the STAR rating system Goal Areas of Built Environment, Climate & Energy, Economy & Jobs, Education, Arts & Community, Equity & Empowerment, Health & Safety, and Natural Systems.

Mr. Freeman explained a course of action for the next 12-18 months for the City to follow to begin using the STAR system, by establishing a baseline, performing a gap analysis and response, gathering data, pursuing certification, integrating metrics and best practices into other planning and policy making. Richard Gelb, Performance Management Lead from King County Department of Natural Resources and Alison VanGorp, DSG Administrative Services Manager spoke about their experiences in implementing STAR in King County and the City of Seattle.

The Council concurred with the proposed action plan and requested quarterly or biannual check-ins. Staff will return with an update once the gap analysis is complete.

AB 5391 Groveland Beach Park Repairs - Authorization to Bid

Natural Resources Manager Alaine Sommargren provided background information about the Groveland Beach Park Repairs project. She spoke about the project elements of repairing the substructure and removing the wave skirting on large dock, installing a wave attenuation system, removing the small dock and pilings, enhancing the shoreline north of the concrete bulkhead, and installing a lake water irrigation intake. She detailed the construction costs estimate and the project timeline.

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Bassett to:

Authorize the City Manager to solicit and receive bids for the construction of the Groveland Beach Park Repairs Project.

Passed 6-0

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

ABSENT: 1 (Acker)

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

Councilmember Acker's absence was excused.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Julie Underwood added an Executive Session on April 3. She will look for dates for a joint Planning Commission and City Council Meeting. She stated that she would be attending the next school board meeting to present on City's financial challenges. She noted that the joint meeting with MISD may be moved.

Board Appointments

There were no appointments.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Wong spoke about the high school walkout. He also commended MI Rotary for a great half marathon event.

Councilmember Bassett spoke about the community connection shuttle and van pool performance.

Mayor Bertlin noted that the King County Council endorsed the student-led march, March for Our Lives.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 10:17 pm.

Attest:

Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

Allison Spietz, City Clerk