



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES SPECIAL MEETING JANUARY 23, 2018

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Debbie Bertlin called the meeting to order at 6:00 pm in the City Hall Council Chambers, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Mayor Debbie Bertlin, Deputy Mayor Salim Nice, and Councilmembers Tom Acker, Bruce Bassett, Wendy Weiker (arrived at 7:02pm), David Wisenteiner, and Benson Wong were present.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Bassett; seconded by Wisenteiner to:

Approve the agenda as presented.

Passed 6-0

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

ABSENT: 1 (Weiker)

STUDY SESSION

AB 5376 King County Metro - Discuss Last/First Mile Solutions & Opportunities

Assistant City Manager Kirsten Taylor introduced King County Transit Market Development Supervisor Carol Cooper, and Innovative Mobility and Transit Manager Jean Paul Velez. Ms. Cooper spoke about some of the shared mobility options that King County Metro is exploring to improve mobility in the region. She reviewed King County Metro's Innovative Mobility Action Agenda. Mr. Velez spoke about some of the mobility challenges the region is facing.

Councilmember Wong asked what the City of Mercer Island can do to get on King County Metro's radar for a potential shared mobility pilot. Mr. Velez noted that the City would need to communicate what level of participation they would like to have in possible pilot projects.

The Council took a recess and resumed at 7:07 pm.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

AB 5378 US Dept of Energy SolSmart Award

Sustainability and Communications Manager Ross Freeman introduced Spark NW Executive Director Jennifer Grove. Executive Director Grove commended the City of Mercer Island for being 1 of 2 cities in the state for achieving the Gold level of the SolSmart Award. She also noted that the City of Mercer Island is one of only 174 communities nationally to have received this distinction.

Councilmember Bassett commended Sustainability and Communications Manager Ross Freeman as well as Planning Manager Evan Maxim and the Mercer Island School District for their work towards achieving the SolSmart Award.

Mayor Bertlin spoke about an edition of the Association of Washington Cities' City Vision Magazine titled "Change Agents – On the Front Lines of Climate Mitigation and Adaptation." She presented Councilmember Bassett with a plaque commemorating his history of work on renewable energy, energy efficiency, and sustainability in general.

Girl Scouts Gold Award Recognition

Mayor Bertlin introduced Girl Scout Kari Anderson, who is the first recipient of the Girl Scouts Gold Award on Mercer Island within the last 10 years. MISD Executive Director Jennifer Wright spoke about the history of Kari's project and welcomed Kari to speak. Girl Scout Gold Award recipient Kari Anderson spoke about her project: "Pretty Pressure – How Media and Other Factors Affect Expectations."

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Julie Underwood spoke about the following topics:

- Miller Hall Partnership received American Institute of Architect's Award for design of Fire Station 92
- Digital resources available at public library
- Regional Affordable Housing Task Force, Tuesday, January 30, 6:00 - 8:30 pm, New Holly Gathering Hall, 7054 32nd Ave. S, Seattle
- Transportation Improvement Program Input begins on January 22, 2018
- City Financial Challenges Community Meeting – Monday, January 29, 6:30-8:30 pm, Council Chambers
- CAG Meeting, Monday, February 5, 6:00 – 9:00 pm, MICEC
- YFS Breakfast, Wed, February 7, 7:00 - 8:30 am, MICEC
- Volunteer restoration event opportunities
- Reminder to vote in the Special Election on February 13, 2018

APPEARANCES

Lakeridge Elementary School students spoke to the Council about safety and health concerns with restaurants using Styrofoam to go containers. They presented a petition and asked the Council to ban Styrofoam to go containers on Mercer Island.

Meg Lippert, 4052 94th Ave SE, expressed concern with the City scheduling a study session with MICA representatives, and asked the Council to include representatives of the Concerned Citizens for Mercer Island Parks if any of the MICA plans still include siting MICA inside Mercerdale Park. She spoke about increased volunteer preservation of native garden in Mercerdale Park.

Ira Appelman, 9039 E Shorewood Drive, spoke about City Financial Challenges and the assembly of the Community Advisory Group. He asked the Council to suspend the Community Advisory Group until it's clear whether the State Legislature will act to remove the 1% Levy Lid Limit.

Robin Russell, 7549 SE 29th St, spoke about proposal by Concerned Citizens for Mercer Island Parks to have the Open Space Conservancy Trust consider adding additional parks and open spaces under the jurisdiction of the Trust. She noted that the Trust Board voted to include this proposal on its 2018 work plan.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Payables: \$1,075,161.16 (01/11/2018)

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

Payroll: \$815,937.41 (12/08/2017) & \$827,869.53 (12/22/2017)

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

Minutes: January 9, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes & January 16, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes

Recommendation: Adopt the January 9, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes & January 16, 2018 Special Meeting Minutes as written.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Wisenteiner to:
Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.
Passed 7-0
FOR: 7 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5372 1% for Art Project: Town Center Banners Replacement Project

Special Events and Cultural Arts Coordinator Kai Fulginiti presented a brief history regarding the Arts Council's recommendation for updating the artistic banners in the Town Center. She introduced Rene Stratton, Vice-Chair of the Mercer Island Arts Council. Ms. Stratton noted that the Arts Council is recommending to increase the size of the banners and decreasing the number of poles which will hold the banners.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Wisenteiner to:
Authorize staff and the Arts Council to proceed with the Town Center banner replacement project and appropriate \$26,500 from the 1% for Art in Public Places Fund for the design, production, and installation of banners and banner hardware.
Passed 7-0
FOR: 7 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

AB 5377 Sustainability Program Update

Sustainability and Communications Manager Ross Freeman presented a Sustainability Program update, reviewing progress and achievements in the following areas:

- Carbon Footprint Tracking System
- Community Involvement
- STAR Community Rating System
- Sustainability Task Force Recommendations
- Policy Measures and Regional Partnerships
- Greenhouse Gas Emissions Status
- Interactive Building Performance Software

Mayor Bertlin noted that discussion regarding STAR Community Rating System framework is scheduled during the upcoming Planning Session.

AB 5380 City Manager 2017 Performance Review

Human Resources Director Kryss Segle presented a brief overview of the performance evaluation process for City Manager Julie Underwood's first year with Mercer Island. Members of the Council commended Julie on a job well done during a very difficult year.

It was moved by Wong; seconded by Wisenteiner to:
Approve a lump sum performance award in the amount of 4% of her annual base salary for City Manager Julie Underwood per her employment contract and based upon her 2017 performance evaluation.
Passed 7-0
FOR: 7 (Acker, Bassett, Bertlin, Nice, Weiker, Wisenteiner, Wong)

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

Councilmember Acker will be absent on February 6.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Julie Underwood noted the following changes to the Planning Schedule.

- Executive Session on February 6 from 5:00-6:00 pm.

- Lyft Pilot Proposal on February 20.
- Code Compliance Study Session on March 6 from 6:00-7:00 pm.

Board Appointments

There were no appointments.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Wong noted that at the SCA Public Issues Committee meeting on January 10, there was a discussion regarding voting rights act in the State of Washington. He attended Exit Conference from the State Auditor's Office and noted that the City received a clean audit for 2016.

Councilmember Weiker noted that the King County Conservation District is a 5 year planning cycle in the next year, so this is a good time to keep an eye out for partnership opportunities. The Emergency Management Advisory Committee has begun their 2018 plan. She noted that Seattle Mayor Jenny Durkan will be speaking at the SCA Networking event on February 28, 2018.

Councilmember Bassett noted that he attended a SCA networking dinner last week where King County Executive Dow Constantine was a guest speaker. He will attend the AWC City Action days with Mayor Bertlin, Councilmember Weiker, and City Manager Underwood.

Councilmember Wisenteiner attended the OSCT meeting and noted that the OSCT considering adding additional open space to the trust. He also spoke about the recent Utility Board meeting.

Mayor Bertlin attended the ETP meeting. She reminded the Council to complete their ranking sheet regarding City Council liaison assignments. She noted that the Board and Commissions selection process will be added to the work plan for the upcoming Planning Session.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 9:46 pm.

Attest:

Debbie Bertlin, Mayor

Ellie Hooman, Deputy City Clerk