



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES

REGULAR MEETING

OCTOBER 19, 2015

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Bruce Bassett called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm in the Council Chambers of City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington.

Councilmembers Debbie Bertlin, Jane Brahm, Mike Cero, Terry Pottmeyer, Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Dan Grausz, and Mayor Bruce Bassett were present.

SPECIAL BUSINESS

Recognition of Let's Move Campaign Partners

Councilmember Debbie Bertlin recognized many of the community partners who supported the City of Mercer Island in receiving 5 gold medals for the Let's Move campaign as follows:

- Mercer Island Food Revolution
- Mercer Island Library
- My Mercer Island
- Stroum Jewish Community Center
- The Fresh Start Gal
- Mary Wayte Pool
- Mercer Island Pediatrics
- Mercer Island Preschool Association
- Mercer Island School District
- Mercer Island Boys & Girls Club

APPEARANCES

John MacPherson, 4503 90th Ave SE, expressed his concern about the impact of the proposed MICA at Mercedale Park. He spoke about the measurements of the building and takes issue with no parking being allotted in the plans. He asked the Council for an advisory vote on the issue.

Ben Pariser, 3861 80th Ave SE, MICA Board Member, spoke about the concerted effort to spread misinformation about MICA. He noted that construction will not begin until MICA raises 100% of the construction costs and that they will secure parking prior to construction.

Kristine Crothers and daughter Elena, 4805 84th Ave SE, YTN Board Member, voiced support for MICA as the future home of YTN. She noted that there is no other location for YTN on Mercer Island. She believes that MICA will build community and that the Council and citizens should support the use of public space for arts, just like the public spaces for sports.

Robin Parkinson, 3870 83rd Ave SE, has three kids in theater at YTN and it is like their second home. She noted that the school district does not properly support the arts, so YTN is a treasure on Mercer Island.

Virl Hill, 8316 SE 57th Street, spoke about the misstatements of facts regarding MICA. He spoke about the size of the building and footprint. He stated that parking is a known issue and MICA is working on a solution.

Al Lippert, 4052 94th Ave SE, spoke about pickle ball at the MICEC. He noted that it is more expensive for non-residents to play pickle ball on Mercer Island. He feels the pickle ball community is treated strongly by staff when their session time is up. He requested that the pickle ball group be able to finish games or start early if

there is no one else using the gym.

Manny Cawaling, Executive Director of YTN, read a letter from the Russian Chamber Music Foundation of Seattle supporting MICA and the proposed location at the former Recycling Center.

Sue Sherwood, 7444 West Mercer Way, spoke about the quality of the school district being a reason people have moved to Mercer Island. She believes that MICA has the potential to change the cultural landscape of the community, creating arts education and enrichment for both young and old.

Robert Thorpe, 5800 West Mercer Way, commended the Planning Commission and Design Commission members who have worked through so many issues regarding the town center visioning during the joint commission meeting. He also expressed frustration with those that spoke negatively during the meetings.

Ira Appelman, 4436 Ferncroft Road, thinks the Council is terrified of an advisory vote for MICA. He does not think that Mercer Island is being properly represented in regards to transportation and the Council is losing a strong voice for Mercer Island because they are too focused on making Mercer Island not look elitist. He believes the Council is working for regional leaders, not Mercer Islanders.

John Gordon Hill, 8914 SE 56th Street, President of MICA, thanked the Council for doing a tough job in trying to decide what is best for the Mercer Island community. He spoke about the site for MICA and thanked the Council for supporting it.

Paramita Mukherjee, 8116 SE 73rd St, stated that as a YTN parent she is having a hard time explaining to her 6 year old son that YTN soon may not exist on Mercer Island.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Payables: \$1,406,621.26 (10/01/15), \$159,932.01 (10/08/15), & \$526,232.75 (10/14/15)

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

Payroll: \$744,987.67 (10/16/15)

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

It was moved by Brahm; seconded by Wong to:

Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.

Passed 7-0

FOR: 7 (Bassett, Bertlin, Brahm, Cero, Grausz, Wong, Pottmeyer)

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5122 I-90 Loss of Mobility Negotiations Status Report

City Manager Noel Treat introduced Eric Beckman from Sound Transit who provided information about the response they received during the Listening Tour. He noted that he will be giving this same presentation to the Sound Transit Board later this week. He spoke about the process to get to resolution on each of the issues. He noted that he will report back to the City Council and Sound Transit Board with next steps, to whom the action is assigned, and a definitive schedule.

City Manager Treat noted that staff has started discussions with Sound Transit about I-90 issues, but that WSDOT has not yet been engaged in the discussions. He is hopeful that by November they will be part of the conversations. He also provided a final version of the Guiding Principles for approaching negotiations.

AB 5119 2014 Mercer Island Dashboard Report

Finance Director Chip Corder presented the 2014 Dashboard Report, the City's performance measurement model. He noted that the model is comprised of 35 "dashboard" indicators, which are organized around the City's 6

priorities of government and broken down into functional areas within each priority of government:

1. Community Safety & Security: 8 indicators
2. Effective & Efficient Public Service Delivery & Community Sustainability: 14 indicators
3. Reliable Public Infrastructure: 4 indicators
4. Attractive Neighborhoods & Business Districts: 3 indicators
5. Recreational, Cultural, Health & Educational Opportunities: 5 indicators
6. Public Communication & Community Involvement: 1 indicator

City Manager Treat noted that he and the Finance Director will be reviewing the metrics in the Dashboard Report to determine if there is different information to collect that is more relevant to the daily management of the City. He will provide an update at the Planning Session in January.

AB 5121 Organizational Performance Audit Proposal

City Manager Noel Treat and Finance Director Chip Corder presented their recommendation to hire a local government consultant to conduct (1) a high level assessment of the City's leanness and total operating cost relative to other "full service" cities in the Seattle metro area and (2) a "selective" performance audit of the Maintenance Department. He suggested having two Councilmembers directly involved in detailing the scope of work, selecting the consultant by mid-November, and completing the high level assessment by early January 2016 and the Maintenance Department audit by the end of March 2016.

The Council provided comments about the proposal for the high level assessment and the performance audit and discussed using "full service" cities for comparison.

Mayor Bassett suggested that the high level assessment be put on hold and have staff and two Councilmembers work on the scope and objectives of the Maintenance Department performance audit. City Manager Treat noted that the appropriation can be made once the Council has reviewed the proposal. Councilmembers Jane Brahm, Mike Cero, Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Dan Grausz and Mayor Bassett volunteered to be part of the process. Mayor Bassett will choose the two members and inform them of such.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

There were no absences.

Planning Schedule

City Manager Treat reminded the Council that the agenda items are not listed in order on the Planning Schedule and that the agenda order is determined by staff before compiling the packet. He also noted that the City is working with MICA on a draft lease which will be presented to the Council on November 16 along with information on an advisory vote and what it involves.

Councilmember Jane Brahm suggested setting the date for the 2016 Planning Session.

Board Appointments

There were no appointments.

Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Brahm spoke about the upcoming Sister City Student Exchange reception at City Hall on October 26; former City Attorney Ron Dickenson's passing; Mercer Island Food Revolution's community dinner, PSRC Transportation Policy board meeting regarding the pilot permit parking program; Parks & Rec Subcommittee meeting; and Advanced Transportation Technologies conference.

Councilmember Pottmeyer spoke about the great ideas coming out of the Parks & Rec subcommittee meeting, but that there are funding issues for parks. She suggested reinstating a parks foundation.

Deputy Mayor Grausz spoke about the first Joint Commission meeting on the Town Center Visioning and Development Code Update. He expressed concern about the Planning Commission being overloaded with their current work plan and workload. He suggested that the Planning Commission's review of the impact fees be light and have the Council vet the larger policy issues. City Manager Treat responded that there is a plan to get the impact fees done in a timely manner following current protocol.

Councilmember Bertlin spoke about the Parks & Rec subcommittee meeting; need for a status update of the Mercer Island Library renovation project; Utility Board's review of the Enatai sewer project; and Advanced

Transportation Technologies conferences.

Councilmember Wong spoke about the Mercer Island Library renovation project and the open house for the new law firm on the Island.

Mayor Bassett spoke about the K4C (King County-Cities Climate Collaborative) meeting; AWC's CityVision article about Mercer Island sustainability efforts, coal strip analyzation response; and civic engagement letters from high school students.

ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:51 pm.

Bruce Bassett, Mayor

Attest:

Allison Spietz, City Clerk