



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR MEETING MARCH 17, 2014

## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Bruce Bassett called the Regular 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, Tana Senn, Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Dan Grausz Mayor and Bruce Bassett were present.

## APPEARANCES

There were no appearances.

## MINUTES

### Study Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2014

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Brahm to:

**Adopt the Study Session and Regular Meeting Minutes of March 3, 2014 as written.**

Passed 7-0

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

## CONSENT CALENDAR

Councilmember Cero requested removal of the Payables Reports and AB 4935: Resolution Sponsoring NORCOM's Request to Join the Association of Washington Cities Employee Benefit Trust from the Consent Calendar. Mayor Bassett moved them to the first items of Regular Business.

### Payroll: \$680,390.65 (03/07/14)

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

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Brahm to:

**Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.**

Passed 7-0

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

## REGULAR BUSINESS

### Payables: \$238,697.03 (02/27/14) & \$941,918.23 (03/06/14)

Councilmember Cero asked questions about the Police car DVR replacement system and about recouping the cost of the new electric vehicle charging station at City Hall by charging a fee to cover the entire unit.

Mayor Bassett asked about the voter registration costs paid to King County.

It was moved by Cero; seconded by Brahm to:

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

Passed 7-0

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

#### **AB 4935 Resolution Sponsoring NORCOM's Request to Join the Association of Washington Cities Employee Benefit Trust**

Councilmember Wong suggested adding an additional whereas statement to provide clarification that Mercer Island sponsoring NORCOM does not create any additional obligation or liability for Mercer Island.

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Brahm to:

**Pass Resolution No. 1481 sponsoring NORCOM's request to join the Association of Washington Cities Employee Benefit Trust, adding a fifth whereas statement as follows:**

**"WHEREAS, the City of Mercer Island has expressed a willingness to sponsor NORCOM's request to participate in the AWC Employee Benefit Trust benefit programs and has been advised that such sponsorship will not result in any additional obligation or liability to the City of Mercer Island."**

Passed 7-0

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

#### **AB 4933 Police Hire Ahead Position**

Police Chief Ed Holmes presented a request to "unfreeze" the hire ahead position that was frozen in 2011 as part of the budget process. He explained the history and purpose of the hire ahead position as well as the effect an officer leaving has on the department.

The Council asked questions about the hire ahead position and upcoming retirements in the Police department. They also asked how the new 12-hours shifts will effect this position and if the General Fund will be able to cover the IT costs in the future if they are moved out of the Criminal Justice Fund.

It was moved by Cero; seconded by Brahm to:

**Authorize the City Manger to fill the Police Hire Ahead position that has been temporarily frozen since 2011.**

Passed 6-1

FOR: 6 (Bassett, Bertlin, Brahm, Cero, Senn, Wong)

AGAINST: 1 (Grausz)

#### **AB 4934 2015-2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) Budget Kick-Off**

Finance Director Chip Corder and Deputy Finance Director Francie Lake reviewed the 2015-2020 Capital Improvement Program (CIP) calendar (as part of the biennial budget process), how the projects are organized within the CIP, the revenue forecast including real estate excise tax, motor vehicle fuel tax and utility rates, and the available 2013 year-end fund balances. Director Corder also spoke about the CIP related results from the 2012 biennial citizen survey and asked for Council direction on the following significant CIP issues: CIP-related budget policies, street fund balance, and the Mercer Island Community and Event Center equipment & furnishings sinking fund.

Deputy Mayor Grausz suggested having the City Manager and staff do an in-depth review of the City's fleet management, looking at the number of vehicles and equipment and how staff determine the right numbers. Council and staff discussed current staff time restraints in providing this information in advance of the upcoming budget process. It was agreed that, at a Study Session within the next couple of months, staff would provide an overview of how the City's fleet is managed, including how the vehicle replacement rates are calculated.

#### **OTHER BUSINESS**

##### **Councilmember Absences**

There were no absences.

Deputy Mayor Grausz will be absent March 31.

## Planning Schedule

City Manager Treat noted the following:

- The Coval Long Plat Findings of Fact will be on the April 21 meeting.
- The Shoreline Master Program will come back to the Council in the spring, and staff will arrange to have DOE in attendance to explain their decision. Deputy Mayor Grausz asked if staff could research what the other jurisdictions on the lake were allowed regarding dock renovation.
- The Conner Homes/Trellis Long Plat is scheduled for the May 3 meeting.

Councilmember Cero asked when the Council will review the Comprehensive Plan. City Manager Treat responded that the majority of the Council's review will be at the end of 2014 and early 2015. Mayor Bassett suggested looking at the regulations in the Comp Plan regarding subdivisions. City Attorney Knight stated that staff are looking at possible code amendments and amendments to the Comp Plan regarding the subdivision process.

Councilmember Cero asked about the purpose of the Investment in the Local Government Investment Pool agenda item. City Manager Treat noted that it is a housekeeping item.

Councilmember Bertlin asked to have the Kiwanis fireworks permit agenda item moved to Regular Business. She also asked if the Summer Celebration Fireworks have been fully funded yet.

## Board Appointments

It was moved by Bertlin; seconded by Brahm to:

**Approve the appointment of Charles Neff to Position #9 (expiring May 2014) on the Youth and Family Services Advisory Board.**

Passed 7-0

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

## Councilmember Reports

Councilmember Senn asked what specialists are needed on the Design Commission. City Clerk Spietz stated that she would provide the information to the Council and update the advertisements to recruit for the specialists needed.

Deputy Mayor Grausz spoke about the library committee meeting last week.

Councilmember Bertlin spoke about the recent ETP meeting. She asked about the status of the Town Center visioning committee and if there will be any citizens on the committee. Mayor Bassett responded that the committee would be comprised of Councilmembers with a defined charter.

Councilmember Senn asked if the Council would like a wrap-up about the legislative session that just concluded.

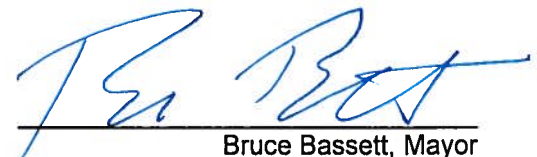
The Council agreed. She also spoke about how impressed she was by Mercer Island staff when they were at the legislature advocating for their professional organizations.

Councilmember Wong noted that he attended the ARCH workshop for elected officials and that ARCH praised Mercer Island for the work that has been done on accessory dwelling units on the Island. He also spoke about the SCA PIC meeting regarding KC efforts on climate change. He noted that Mercer Island was singled out as an example of what cities can do for climate change issues.

Mayor Bassett will attend an ARCH presentation at an upcoming Mayors meeting.

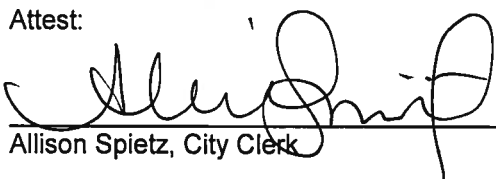
## ADJOURNMENT

The Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:01 pm.



Bruce Bassett, Mayor

Attest:



Allison Spietz, City Clerk