



REVISED CITY COUNCIL MINUTES SPECIAL HYBRID MEETING MAY 23, 2023

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Salim Nice called the Special Hybrid Meeting to order at 1:02 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Salim Nice, Deputy Mayor David Rosenbaum and Councilmember Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Craig Reynolds, Wendy Weiker, and Ted Weinberg participated remotely using Zoom.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The City Council delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the agenda.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR: 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

APPEARANCES

There were no public appearances.

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 6256: 2023-2024 Work Plan Update

City Manager Jessi Bon presented an overview of the work completed in 2021-2022 as the City continued to navigate the impacts of the pandemic and the pandemic recovery. She spoke about:

- The efficiencies and organizational improvements including the creation of the first Citywide Master Fee Schedule, financial management system replacement, and new organizational structure as determined in the 2021-2022 Biennial budget.
- The major planning work that has been completed including the Parks, Recreation, and Open Space (PROS) Plan, development of the Recreation Reset Plan, adoption of the ADA Transition Plan, work on the Climate Action Plan, and update of the City's budget policies and financial management policies.
- 2021-2022 Capital Projects including the annual update of the Transportation Improvement Plan, Luther Burbank Dock and Waterfront Project, Water Meter replacement project, Supervisor Control and Data Acquisition project (SCADA).
- Addressing the backlog of permits applications and streamlining the permit review process.
- The development of Code of Ethics training for all public officials.
- The launch of the Mobile Integrated Health program.

City Manager Bon presented the 2023-2024 Work Plan highlighting major work including

- the Periodic Update to the Comprehensive Plan,
- Town Center Parking Study,
- Comprehensive Facilities Assessment,
- Mercerdale Park Master Plan
- Groveland & Clark Joint Master Plan
- Playground Replacement Strategy

- Update to the City's Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan
- Impacts of the 2023 Legislative Session
- Development of the 2025-2026 Biennial Budget
- Classification and Compensation Study and implementation
- Cost allocation methodology and cost recovery policy
- 2023-2024 Capital Projects
- Stabilization plan for YFS revenues
- Climate Action Plan implementation of early action items
- Phased project implementation for ADA transition plan
- Implementation of the new Financial Management System
- Building back Recreation and Thrift Shop.

The City Council discussed the presentation and provided feedback.

AB 6257: Recap of 2023 State Legislative Session

City Manager Jessi Bon introduced the recap of the 2023 State Legislative Session and spoke about the City's engagement during the legislative session.

Senior Management Analyst Merrill Thomas-Schadt presented the Capital Budget Requests that included funding for Luther Burbank Park, spoke about SB 5352 regarding Police pursuits and about the "Blake Fix" that was passed during a Special Session on May 16. She spoke about the Public Works Assistance Account, discussed the Marine Patrol Funding that did not pass and spoke about the property tax cap bills that did not advance.

Management Analyst Robbie Cunningham-Adams presented housing and land use bills. He spoke about HB 1110 and about HB 1337 and discussed potential impacts. He presented various permitting bills and housing regulation bills that will also impact the CPD Work Plan. He also presented key housing bills that did not pass this legislative session.

City Manager Bon spoke about the Residential Development Standards (RDS) and how the bills passed this legislative session have impacted this work and how staff recommend pausing the RDS review until adopted bills from the session are appropriately analyzed. She spoke about the Town Center Parking Study and the impacts the legislative session had on this body of work.

The City Council discussed the Legislative Session and asked questions of staff.

AB 6259: 2024 Comprehensive Plan and Development Code Amendments Docket Preview

CPD Director Jeff Thomas presented the preview of the 2024 Docket of possible City initiated items. He presented the process for Comprehensive Plan and Development Code amendment docket, spoke about the tracking that CPD has implemented for tracking items that are placed on the docket. CPD Director Thomas presented possible City-initiated Items Nos. 1-5 regarding Residential Development Standards, spoke about Item No. 6 also regarding Residential Development Standards, discussed Item No. 7 regarding Town Center Development Standards, and spoke about Items Nos. 8 and 9 regarding impacts from the State Legislative Session.

The City Council discussed the possible City initiated docket items.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Jacobson to:

Direct staff to prepare a docket request to establish Temporary Use Provisions in Title 19.

PASSED: 7-0

FOR (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

The City Council was in recess from 2:39 pm – 2:51 pm.

AB 6255: Disposition of FY 2022 Year-end Surplus and Direction on Deferred 2022 Budget Proposals

Finance Director Matt Mornick presented the 2022 year-end surplus from unassigned ARPA funds, unassigned General Fund balance, and the Contingency Fund balance above target funding level. Director Mornick spoke about the financial management policies and the guidance they provide regarding surplus. He also discussed fund balances and reserves and the staff recommendation to use some unassigned surplus funds to fund underfunded fund balances and reserves.

Finance Director Mornick reviewed the deferred 2022 budget proposals and early action items from the Climate Action Plan.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weinberg to:

Reach 2023 Fund Balance and Reserve Target Funding levels, assign the following:

- **\$47,255 from General Fund Surplus to Compensated Absences Reserve**
- **\$81,275 from General Fund Surplus and \$217,725 from Contingency Fund Surplus to the YFS Fund Operating Fund Balance**
- **\$5,250 from General Fund Surplus to the Self-Insurance Claim Reserve**

PASSED: 7-0

FOR (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

The City Council discussed the deferred 2022 budget proposals.

It was moved by Rosenbaum; seconded by Reynolds to:

Approve budget proposals Nos.

- **2.1 – Develop a Diversity Equity and Inclusion Plan**
- **2.3 – Development of a Park Land Acquisition Strategy and Land Donation Program**
- **2.4 – Expand Curbside/Doorstep Recycling Options**
- **2.13 – Continuation of the 1.0 LTE Management Analyst**
- **2.15 – New 1.0 LTE Assistant Planner Position**
- **2.17 – Gun Buyback Program**
- **2.18 – New 1.0 LTE Support Services Foreman**
- **2.19 – Initial Funding for City Hall Asbestos Testing and Abatement**
- **3.1 – YFS Program Evaluation**
- **3.2 – YFS Community Needs Assessment**
- **All of the budget proposals included in Exhibit 2 related to early Action Items of the Climate Action Plan**
 - **CD1.2 – Phase in new State mandates for Composting and Recycling**
 - **NS2.5 – Establishing a monitoring and maintenance baseline for all City open spaces**
 - **CC3.1 – Continue GHG Tracking and Reporting and development of annual reports**
 - **TR1.6 – Phased elimination of gas-powered blowers from City operations**
 - **NE1.7 – Programs and Advocacy to encourage participation in the PSE Green Power Program.**

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Anderl to:

Amend the main motion as follows:

To remove item 2.2 – Policy to Ban Use of Personal Fireworks

PASSED: 4-3

FOR: 4 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, and Weiker)

AGAINST: 3 (Reynolds, Rosenbaum, and Weinberg)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Amend the main motion as follows:

To add item 2.17 – Gun Buyback Program

PASSED: 5-2

FOR: 5 (Jacobson, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

AGAINST: 2 (Anderl and Nice)

MAIN MOTION

PASSED AS AMENDED: 7-0

FOR (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)

Motion as passed:

Approve budget proposals Nos.

- 2.1 – *Develop a Diversity Equity and Inclusion Plan*
- 2.3 – *Development of a Park Land Acquisition Strategy and Land Donation Program*
- 2.4 – *Expand Curbside/Doorstep Recycling Options*
- 2.13 – *Continuation of the 1.0 LTE Management Analyst*
- 2.15 – *New 1.0 LTE Assistant Planner Position*
- 2.17 – *Gun Buyback Program*
- 2.18 – *New 1.0 LTE Support Services Foreman*
- 2.19 – *Initial Funding for City Hall Asbestos Testing and Abatement*
- 3.1 – *YFS Program Evaluation*
- 3.2 – *YFS Community Needs Assessment*
- *All of the budget proposals included in Exhibit 2 related to early Action Items of the Climate Action Plan*
 - *CD1.2 – Phase in new State mandates for Composting and Recycling*
 - *NS2.5 – Establishing a monitoring and maintenance baseline for all City open spaces*
 - *CC3.1 – Continue GHG Tracking and Reporting and development of annual reports*
 - *TR1.6 – Phased elimination of gas-powered blowers from City operations*
 - *NE1.7 – Programs and Advocacy to encourage participation in the PSE Green Power Program.*

AB 6254: 2022 Community Member of the Year

Chief of Administration Ali Spietz introduced the process for selecting the 2022 Community Member of the Year. City Clerk Andrea Larson sent email ballots to the City Council for the four nominees for 2022 Community Member of the Year: Gordon Polson, Gwen Loosmore, Lola Deane, and Michael Medved.

Round 1 (2 votes per Councilmember):

- Gordon Polson – 2 (Nice, Rosenbaum)
- Gwen Loosmore – 3 (Reynolds, Weiker, Weinberg)
- Lola Deane – 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)
- Michael Medved – 2 (Anderl and Jacobson)

Lola Deane and Gwen Loosmore advanced to Round 2.


Round 2 – 1 vote per Councilmember

- Lola Deane – 7 (Anderl, Jacobson, Nice, Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Weinberg)
- Gwen Loosmore – 0

Lola Deane was selected as the 2022 Community Member of the Year. Staff will invite the nominee to an upcoming City Council meeting so the City Council may formally recognize their contributions to the Mercer Island community.

ADJOURNMENT

The Special Hybrid Council Meeting adjourned at 4:13pm.


Salim Nice, Mayor

Attest:


Andrea Larson, City Clerk