



CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING JANUARY 5, 2021

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 5:01 pm, Mayor Wong convened an Executive Session for approximately 90 minutes to discuss with legal counsel litigation or potential litigation pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) and to receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee RCW 42.30.110(1)(f).

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using a teleconferencing platform provided by Microsoft Teams.

City Manager Jessi Bon participated from City Hall and City Attorney Bio Park participated in the executive session from a remote location.

At 6:30 pm, City Clerk Estrada announced that the Executive Session was extended to 6:40 pm.

At 6:40 pm, City Clerk Estrada announced that the Executive Session was extended to 6:50 pm.

At 6:50 pm, City Clerk Estrada announced that the Executive Session was extended to 6:55 pm.

At 6:55 pm, Mayor Wong adjourned the Executive Session.

CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Wong called the meeting to order at 6:56 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using a video teleconferencing platform by Zoom.

City Manager Bon participated remotely from City Hall, 9611 SE 36th Street, Mercer Island, Washington. The City Attorney and Mercer Island City Leadership Team participated from remote locations.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Deputy Mayor Weiker delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Amend the agenda to include an additional Executive Session following the end of the Open Session, followed by a subsequent Open Session where action may be taken.

Passed 4-2

FOR: 4 (Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

AGAINST: 2 (Anderl and Nice)

ABSTAIN: 1 (Jacobson)

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Weiker to:

Approve the agenda as amended.

Passed 4-3

FOR: 4 (Reynolds, Rosenbaum, Weiker, and Wong)

AGAINST: 3 (Anderl, Jacobson, and Nice)

STUDY SESSION

AB 5793: King County presentation on the Urban Growth Capacity Study and King County Planning Policies Growth Target Update Process.

Interim Community Planning and Development Director Jeff Thomas introduced King County staff members, Rebeccah Maskin and Karen Wolf. King County staff presented an overview of the work items planned for 2021. This presentation included information about the Countywide Planning Policies update process, how information from the UGCS is used to inform the update process, how Mercer Island fits into Vision 2050 in the High-Capacity Transit regional geography category, and how the Growth Target process generally works.

King County staff explained that the Countywide Planning Policy Growth Target update process is scheduled to be completed by mid-2021. In addition to having updated Countywide Planning Policies, King County and incorporated jurisdictions within will each have updated growth targets for housing and employment. These updated growth targets will serve as a foundation for the next periodic Comprehensive Plan update, planning to 2044.

CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- COVID-19 Update
- Council and Boards & Commissions Update
- Recreation Restart Planning Work
- PROS Plan Restart
- Water Main Break – December 23 at SE 40th & 96th Ave. SE
- MIPD Theft Response & Prevention
- City Service Updates:
 - Landslide Update – November 28 near 5600 Block of East Mercer Way
 - Mercerdale Park Playground (flooding due to heavy rains)
 - Automated Locks at Park Restrooms
 - Thrift Shop Remodel Project
- Staffing Update:
 - Fire Chief Steve Heitman accepted position as Chief leading the Renton Regional Fire Authority
 - Matt Mornick appointed Finance Director
 - Alaine Sommargren appointed Deputy Public Works Director
- Good News:
 - YFS Foundation Tree Lot netted \$44,000
 - MI Preschool Association raised \$8,956.28 for YFS
 - MIPD receives Christmas Dinner from community
 - Illuminate MI and digital art engagement platform in Town Center

APPEARANCES

Victor Raisys, Mercer Island, addressed the amendment to the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget, adding an allocation for the Mercer Island Chamber of Commerce, and expressed his frustration that the City Council had not followed its rules and procedures in bringing an amendment to the 2021-2022 Biennial Budget. Furthermore, he encouraged the Mayor, as the presiding officer of the city council, to perform the duties of the Mayor as outlined in the City Council Rules of Procedure.

There being no additional public comments, Mayor Wong closed Appearances.

CONSENT CALENDAR

Approve Accounts Payable Reports for the periods ending:

- A) December 4, 2020 in the amount of \$588,119.42
- B) December 11, 2020 in the amount of \$148,734.18
- C) December 18, 2020 in the amount of \$756,321.17
- D) December 23, 2020 in the amount of \$280,935.94

E) December 30, 2020 in the amount of \$356,528.30

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

Certification of Payroll dated:

A) December 4, 2020 in the amount of \$737,980.34

B) December 18, 2020 in the amount of \$727,217.28

C) December 31, 2020 in the amount of \$740,543.28

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

Approve Minutes of the following meetings:

A) October 20, 2020 Regular Video Meeting

B) October 22, 2020 Special Joint MISD Video Meeting

C) October 26, 2020 Special Video Meeting

D) November 2, 2020 Special Video Meeting

E) November 17, 2020 Regular Video Meeting

F) December 1, 2020 Regular Video Meeting

Recommended Action: Approve the minutes as written.

AB 5794: Interlocal Agreement for Jail Services with King County.

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to sign the updated Interlocal Agreement for Inmate Housing between the City of Mercer Island and King County.

AB 5790: Landscape Easement Modification – Xing-hua Project

Recommended Action: Authorize the City Manager to execute an amendment to the easement for planting recorded under King County recording number 8201220491, substantially in the form proposed in Exhibit 3.

AB 5792: Pump Station Generator and Pump Replacement Closeout

Recommended Action: Accept the completed Pump Station 18 Pump Replacement; Pump Stations 13, 17, and 24 Generator Replacement project and authorize staff to close out the contract.

It was moved by Reynolds seconded by Anderl to:

Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein.

Passed 7-0

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

REGULAR BUSINESS

AB 5795: Acceptance of Washington Department of Commerce Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund Grant.

Council commended staff for pursuing grant funding opportunities.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Rosenbaum to:

Accept the Washington State Department of Commerce Coronavirus Emergency Supplemental Fund grant in the amount of \$243,129 to restore school-based and emergency assistance staffing to full time for the 2021-2022 biennium.

Passed 7-0

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

AB 5788: First Reading of Ordinance No. 21C-01 amending the Mercer Island City Code Title 17, Construction Codes to implement the 2018 Amendments to the State Building Code.

Interim Community Planning & Development Director Jeff Thomas Jeff Thomas, Building Official Don Cole, and Fire Marshall Jeromy Hicks outlined changes in the first reading of Ordinance No. 21C-01 amending Mercer Island City Code Title 17 regarding Construction Codes to implement the 2018 amendments to the State Building Code.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Reynolds to:

Set Ordinance No. 21C-01 to January 19, 2021 for a second reading and adoption.

Passed 7-0

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

AB 5791: 2021 City Council Liaison Assignments

Mayor Wong explained that Councilmembers would remain in their current assignments through 2021 to ensure continuity for staff during what would continue to be a time of great transition due to the COVID-19 Pandemic. The one exception would be the SCA Public Issues Committee. Mayor Wong requested Councilmember Rosenbaum to serve as the regional assignment, while he stepped back and served as the alternate.

City Boards and Commissions:

- Arts Council: Nice
- Disability Board: Jacobson and Rosenbaum
- Open Space Conservancy Trust: Anderl
- Parks & Recreation Commission: Jacobson
- Utility Board: Anderl

Committees:

- Sustainability Committee: Nice, Reynolds, and Wong

Local Assignments:

- MISD Superintendent's Advisory Council: Rosenbaum
- MISD Superintendent Equity Advisory Council: Wong
- Mercer Island PTA Advocacy Committee: Rosenbaum

Regional Assignments:

- Eastside Transportation Partnership: Jacobson and Reynolds
- King County-Cities Climate Collaboration (K4C): Weiker
- Renton Airport Advisory Committee: Nice
- SCA Public Issues Committee: Rosenbaum and Wong (alternate)
- WRIA 8 Salmon Recovery Council: Anderl
- Safe Energy Leadership Alliance (SELA): Reynolds

EXECUTIVE SESSION

At 9:13 pm, Mayor Wong convened an Executive Session for approximately 30 minutes to receive and evaluate complaints or charges brought against a public officer or employee RCW 42.30.110(1)(f).

Mayor Benson Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl, Jake Jacobson, Salim Nice, Craig Reynolds, and David Rosenbaum participated remotely using a teleconferencing platform provided by Microsoft Teams.

City Manager Jessi Bon participated from City Hall and City Attorney Bio Park participated in the executive session from a remote location.

At 9:49 pm, City Clerk Estrada announced that the Executive Session was extended to 10:05 pm.

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At 10:05 pm, Mayor Wong adjourned the Executive Session.

No action was taken.

OTHER BUSINESS

Councilmember Absences

There were no absences reported

Planning Schedule

City Manager Bon briefly outlined the January 19 planning schedule for Council.

Councilmember Reports

Deputy Mayor Weiker and Councilmember Rosenbaum thanked Fire Chief Steve Heitman for his years of service to the Mercer Island Fire Department.

Councilmember Anderl reported that the Utility Board and Open Space Conservancy Trust met.

Councilmember Jacobson:


ETP – met a few weeks ago. He will send out the report to Council

P&R Commission met December 7 – he will send out memo on that meeting

Mayor Wong reported that he was attending the January 6 Eastside Chamber of Commerce meeting regarding legislative issues and reminded everyone that the YFS Foundation Breakfast was scheduled for February 10.

ADJOURNMENT

The regular Council Meeting adjourned at 10:08 pm.



Benson Wong, Mayor

Attest:



Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk