



# CITY COUNCIL MINUTES REGULAR VIDEO MEETING March 2, 2021

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## CALL TO ORDER & ROLL CALL

Mayor Wong called the meeting to order at 5:00 pm from a remote location.

Mayor Wong, Deputy Mayor Wendy Weiker, and Councilmembers Lisa Anderl (5:04 PM), 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

Mayor Wong delivered the Pledge of Allegiance.

## AGENDA APPROVAL

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Nice to:

**Approve the agenda.**

Passed 7-0

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

## CITY MANAGER REPORT

City Manager Jessi Bon reported on the following items:

- COVID-19 Update – All regions continue in Phase 2; educators and licensed childcare workers eligible
- Virtual Meetings Schedule
- 2021 Mid-Year Planning Session – April 27 from 5 to 9 pm
- 2021-2022 Department Work Plans
- Prospective Council Candidate Workshop – April 15 from 5 pm to 6:30 pm
- Board & Commission Vacancies
- Luther Burbank Docks Project Update
- PROS Plan Virtual Public Meeting
- City Service Updates
  - Town Center Moratorium – Next Steps
  - Recology Vendor Cyber Incident
  - Parenting in Place Masterclass Series
  - Emergency Management Program Update
  - Pavement Temperature Sensors Installed
- Community and Event Updates
  - Follow the Leprechaun Trail in Town Center
  - Last Chance to Support Friends of the Library Pop Up Store
  - Community Blood Drive
- Some Good News
  - Firefighters Recognized by King County
  - Community Art Exhibit – Island Lanterns

## APPEARANCES

Callie Ridolfi, Mercer Island – as representative of the King County League of Women Voters Environmental Committee, discussed sustainability and encouraged Council to create a detailed climate action plan for Mercer Island.

Roberta Lewandowski, Mercer Island – pleased that the City is proposing work on a sustainability program and appreciates the City's intention to make substantial progress on sustainability, noting that many King County cities are updating their Climate Action Plans as well.

Carolyn Boatsman, Mercer Island – expressed support for the City's sustainability program and encouraged the City Council to adopt the proposal.

There being no additional public comments, Mayor Wong closed Appearances at 5:38 PM.

## **CONSENT CALENDAR**

### **Approve Accounts Payable Report for the periods ending February 12, 2021 (\$736,623.27) and February 19, 2021 (\$227,513.81)**

**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 February 26, 2021 in the amount of \$790,755.91**

**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 February 16, 2021:**

**Recommended Action:** Approve the minutes as written.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Anderl to:

**Approve the Consent Calendar and the recommendations contained therein as presented and amended.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

## **REGULAR BUSINESS**

### **AB 5819: Aubrey Davis Park Trail Safety Improvement Project Framework**

Ryan Daly, Recreation & Operations Manager, reported that the Aubrey Davis Master Plan (ADMP) was adopted by City Council in December 2019. At that time, City Council directed the City Manager and Parks & Recreation Commission to develop a project framework to utilize a Washington State Department of Commerce Grant specific to Aubrey Davis Park Trail Safety Improvements. Daly continued, explaining that the original funding request included trail widening, which was not in alignment with the adopted ADMP. As a result, the City need to submit a revised project scope for review and approval by the Department of Commerce.

Rory Westberg, Parks & Recreation Chair, outlined the community input process, which included five meetings since January 2020, and outlined the input received.

Paul West, Capital Projects and Planning Manager, summarized the project framework recommendation and explained that its focus was on "low impact" approaches.

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Anderl to:

**Approve the project framework recommendation from the Parks and Recreation Commission and authorize the City Manager to submit a Scope of Work Amendment Request to the Department of Commerce for the Aubrey Davis Park Trail Safety Improvement Project**

Passed: 7-0

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

It was moved by Jacobson; seconded by Anderl to:

**Upon approval of the Scope of Work Amendment Request, direct the City Manager to commence design of the trail improvement project and direct the Parks and Recreation Commission to facilitate a public input process at the 30% design stage and prepare a final project recommendation to the City Council.**

Passed: 7-0

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

#### **AB 5818: ARCH Housing Trust Fund Project Funding Approval**

Alison Van Gorp, Deputy Director of Community Planning & Development, provided an overview of the three projects recommended by the ARCH Executive Board for funding from Mercer Island's contributions to the ARCH Housing Trust Fund (HTF):

- Eastgate Supportive Housing (\$5,500)
- Samma Senior Apartments (\$5,500)
- Horizon at Totem Lake (\$44,300)

Van Gorp further explained that the current balance in the Mercer Island HTF account was \$196,718. Of this amount, \$118,636 was committed to previously funded projects that were now in development. Van Gorp also noted that if the \$55,300 for the recommended projects listed above was approved, \$22,782 would remain in Mercer Island's HTF account. The funds would then be held in an interest-bearing account, and together with the 2021 contribution (plus interest earned and any loan repayments) would be available to award to new projects in the fall 2021 funding round.

It was moved by Reynolds; seconded by Nice to:

**Approve the use of \$55,300 from the City's contributions to the ARCH Housing Trust Fund as recommended by the ARCH Executive Board and authorize the City Manager to execute related agreements and documents.**

PASSED: 7-0

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

#### **AB 5820: Interlocal Agreement for the Independent Force Investigation Team – King County (IFIT-KC)**

Chief Holmes reviewed the 2019 legislation, known as the Law Enforcement Training and Community Safety Act (LETCSA) requiring that all applications of deadly force by police resulting in death, substantial bodily harm, or great bodily harm be investigated by an independent team of investigators, with no involvement from the involved agency. The proposed Interlocal Agreement between regional law enforcement agencies would authorize an Independent Force Investigation Team to provide independent investigations into officer-involved applications of deadly force.

Holmes further explained that during 2020, thirteen agencies in northeast King County agreed to form a regional independent investigation team to comply with LETCSA. Each participating agency will be responsible for the costs associated with investigations, training, and possible court time. The Mercer Island Police Department plans to assign one detective to the IFIT-KC. The IFIT-KC will be governed by an Executive Board comprised of the Police Chiefs and Sheriff from each participating agency.

It was moved by Nice; seconded by Weiker to:

**Authorize the City Manager to sign the interlocal agreement between regional law enforcement agencies to form the Independent Force Investigation Team of King County to provide independent investigation services in the event of an officer-involved use of deadly force, substantially in the form attached as Exhibit 1 to AB 5820.**

Passed: 7-0

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

#### **AB 5822: 2021-2022 Sustainability Work Plan**

Ross Freeman, Sustainability and Communications Manager provided a brief background of the City's Sustainability Program, explaining that the proposed Sustainability Work Plan would build on past program success and focus on areas of sustainability improvements within the City's own operations. Major fundtions of the program include:

- Efficiency
- Waste & Toxics
- Energy
- GHG Emissions
- Transportation
- CIP & Operations
- Outreach & Education

Freeman continued, explaining that the program would expand existing initiatives, but also take a more visionary and holistic approach, such as applying an energy efficiency lens to CIP projects, revising the City's procurement policies and building maintenance to include sustainability options, and focusing on the collective stormwater impacts to Lake Washington across all City operations. In addition, the work plan included catching up on the past few years of GHG tracking and performance data.

City Council discussed the Sustainability Work Plan at length and made several suggestions for consideration.

It was moved by Weiker; seconded by Jacobson to:

**Approve the 2021-2022 Sustainability Program Work Plan.**

Passed: 7-0

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

## **OTHER BUSINESS**

### **Councilmember Absences**

There were no absences reported.

### **Planning Schedule**

City Manager Bon outlined the March 16 agenda, noting that the first part of the meeting will be a joint meeting with the Utility Board and an executive session would be added to the end of the meeting. Bon also reported that outside legal counsel to address the Code of Ethics was confirmed and that he would be meeting with each Councilmember.

### **Councilmember Reports**

Councilmember Rosenbaum reported that the Superintendent's Advisory Committee met.

Councilmember Reynolds provided an update on several legislative items:

- Senate Bills 5126 and 5373 (Carbon bills)
- House Bills 1091, 1099, 1075, 5141
- HB 1099
- HB 1075

Reynolds also reported that he had talked to leadership and citizens regarding the homeless issue to learn what other communities are doing to help the homeless population.

Deputy Mayor Weiker provided a recycling update.

Councilmember Nice provided an update on the Renton Airport Advisory Council, noting that a letter was sent to the FAA encouraging the FAA to put back into effect the RFP procedures.

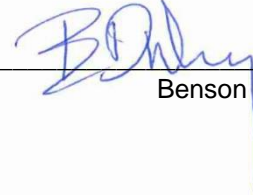
Councilmember Jacobson reported that the Parks & Recreation Commission would be meeting again on Thursday, March 4

Mayor Wong reported on the following:

- Attended the Healthy Youth Initiative Meeting on February 23
- Conservation District Board of Supervisors
- King County Regional Water Quality Committee – March 3

## ADJOURNMENT

The regular Council Meeting adjourned at 8:05 pm.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Wong", is written over a horizontal line.

Benson Wong, Mayor

Attest:

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Deborah A. Estrada", is written over a horizontal line.

Deborah A. Estrada, City Clerk