



COUNCIL REGULAR SESSION

Wednesday, January 18, 2023

APPROVED MINUTES

MEMBERS PRESENT

Mayor Rick Scholl
Council President Jessica Chilton
Councilor Patrick Birkle
Councilor Mark Gundersen
Councilor Brandon Sundeen

STAFF PRESENT

John Walsh, City Administrator
Kathy Payne, City Recorder
Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder
Jacob Graichen, City Planner
Tina Curry, Event Coordinator

OTHERS

Deb Parsons Gene Scoonover
Brady Preheim Pamela Scoonover
Eric Zahl Chris Murphy
Judy Thompson Ron Murphy

CALL REGULAR SESSION TO ORDER – 7:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

VISITOR COMMENTS – *Limited to three (3) minutes per speaker*

- ◆ Chris and Ron Murphy. Thanked the Council for denying their Street Vacation request. They honor and understand their decision. They learned a lot about City government during the process. They are happy to be citizens of St. Helens.
Council appreciated them coming and their patience.
- ◆ Eric Zahl. He used his time to show a video explaining the damage that will occur to Liberty Hill if Knife River proceeds with mining. That video can be viewed here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U775JE2NiE8>. After reviewing the video, Eric expressed his opposition to the Knife River mining permit on Liberty Hill. The County's comment period ends January 30 and they're concerned this is being rushed through. It potentially could increase the water problems on Pittsburg Road. He will personally be impacted as an adjacent property owner. They can move north and not affect the surrounding land as much. There are many people opposed.
- ◆ Brady Preheim. He emphasized the need to preserve Liberty Hill. It's a unique piece of property. He suggested a force annexation if they can do that.

- ◆ Pamela Scoonover. She expressed her concerns about Liberty Hill. Walking through there, she has seen the beautiful camas flowers. They are fortunate to have that there. The people living at the retirement facility will not be able to handle the blasting noise. She hopes the Council can find a way to prohibit mining in this location and move it north.

APPROVE AND/OR AUTHORIZE FOR SIGNATURE

1. Initiate Right-of-Way Vacation Proceedings for the North 11th/12th Street Bluff Property
2. Fourth Amendment to David Evans & Associates Agreement for Columbia Blvd. Sidewalk and Safety Improvements

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '1' and '2' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

APPOINTMENTS TO CITY BOARDS & COMMISSIONS

3. Reappoint Jacob Woodruff to the Parks & Recreation Commission

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Council President Chilton to approve '3' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR ACCEPTANCE

4. Library Board Minutes dated December 12, 2022
5. Parks & Recreation Commission Minutes dated December 12, 2022
6. Planning Commission Minutes dated December 13, 2022

Motion: Motion made by Councilor Birkle and seconded by Councilor Gundersen to approve '4' through '6' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

CONSENT AGENDA FOR APPROVAL

7. Joint City Council and Planning Commission Minutes dated December 14, 2022
8. Council Work Session and Regular Session Minutes dated December 21, 2022
9. Accounts Payable Bill Lists

Motion: Motion made by Council President Chilton and seconded by Councilor Sundeen to approve '7' through '9' above. **Vote:** Yea: Mayor Scholl, Council President Chilton, Councilor Birkle, Councilor Gundersen, Councilor Sundeen

WORK SESSION ACTION ITEMS

None

COUNCIL MEMBER REPORTS

Council President Chilton reported...

- Visited the Senior Center last Friday during the lunch and live music. She was impressed with how alive it is. They have a lot going on. The new executive director is doing a great job.

Councilor Sundeen reported...

- It was a good Parks & Recreation Commission meeting last week. They're beginning the new year with a new member and new leadership. He looks forward to seeing the things they do this year.
- Toured the Parks facilities with Buck Tupper. It was good to see the equipment and facilities.
- Meeting with Chief Greenway next week. He looks forward to learning their needs.
- He is enjoying getting to know people.

Councilor Gundersen reported...

- Attended the Planning Commission meeting last week. He was very impressed with the Waterfront Property design.
- Met with CIS attorneys last week about House Bill 3150. More information to come.

Councilor Birkle reported...

- Attended his first Library Board meeting last week as a Council member. Their big project right now is updating the Strategic Plan.
- Successful Chamber of Commerce event at the Makerspace. He is excited about the possibilities of business partnerships. It's crucial as they lose funding for that position this year.

MAYOR SCHOLL REPORTS

- Met with Senator Weber last week. She is a former mayor and house representative, so understands local government.
- City Day at the Capital next week. It's beneficial to attend if Council is able.
- Recommend they get a City table for the Black-Tie Blue Jean event for Council and maybe staff. City Administrator Walsh will look into it.
- Was very surprised by the number of volunteers at the Senior Center. It's an important service for the community.

OTHER BUSINESS

ADJOURN – 7:29 p.m.

Respectfully submitted by Lisa Scholl, Deputy City Recorder.

ATTEST:

/s/ Kathy Payne
Kathy Payne, City Recorder

/s/ Rick Scholl
Rick Scholl, Mayor