



Town of Yacolt

Town Council Meeting Agenda

Monday, September 13, 2021
7:00 PM
Town Hall / Virtual / Telephonic

Call to Order

7:00 PM

Flag Salute

Roll Call

Council Members Present: Amy Boget, Michelle Dawson, Joshua Beck, Ronald Homola, Marina Viray
Also Present: Mayor Listek, Town Attorney David Ridenour, and Clerk Stephanie Fields

Late Changes to the Agenda

Rotate Mayor Pro-Tem added as item #6

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion to approve Minutes from 8-9-21 Council Meeting

Motion: Beck **2nd:** Dawson

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Beck, Homola, **Nay:** 0 **Abstain:** Viray

Motion Passed

Motion to approve minutes from 8-23-21 Budget Workshop and Executive Session

Motion: Beck **2nd:** Viray

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Citizen Communication

Troy Katter came up to give his time to his wife Mattye, who made the following speech:

Hello, my name is Mattye Katter. I have been a member of the Yacolt community for two years now. I'd like to start by saying thank you for the display of flags that welcomes you as you drive into town. Whenever friends or family come to visit the first thing they mention is how amazing it is to see the line of flags all the way down the road. It stirs up patriotic feelings, so thank you for that!

In 1988 my mother was diagnosed with cancer. After a year of surgery, then chemotherapy, good days and bad, a doctor invited my mom into his office. I came with her. He offered her a chance to be a part of a trial study of a drug therapy. He told us the hopes that it would kill the cancer, but he also outlined the

possibility of death. He said they really did not know. They needed people to volunteer to try it. They would monitor and document the effects it had on people. He then asked her to take home the information, think about it, talk it over with her family, and then decide what she wanted to do. He did not say 'if you do this I will throw your name into a drawing for a trip to Hawaii, or if you decide to do this we'll give you a couple of tickets to the fair, that would have just been ludicrous.

A little history I take this from the Full Fact by Pippa Allen -Kinross

When World War II ended in 1945, the victorious Allied powers enacted the International Military Tribunal on November 19th, 1945. As part of the Tribunal, a series of trials were held against major war criminals and Nazi sympathizers holding leadership positions in political, military, and economic areas. The first trial conducted under the Nuremberg Military Tribunals in 1947 became known as *The Doctors' Trial*, in which 23 physicians from the German Nazi Party were tried for crimes against humanity for the atrocious experiments they carried out on unwilling prisoners of war. Many of the grotesque medical experiments took place at the Auschwitz concentration camp, where Jewish prisoners were tattooed with dehumanizing numbers onto their arms; numbers that would later be used to identify their bodies after death.

The Doctors' Trial is officially titled "*The United States of America v. Karl Brandt, et al.,*" and it was conducted at the Palace of Justice in Nuremberg, Bavaria, Germany. The trial was conducted here because this was one of the few largely undamaged buildings that remained intact from extensive Allied bombing during the war. It is also said to have been symbolically chosen because it was the ceremonial birthplace of the Nazi Party. Of the 23 defendants, 16 were found guilty, of which seven received death sentences and nine received prison sentences ranging from 10 years to life imprisonment. The other 7 defendants were acquitted.

The verdict also resulted in the creation of the Nuremberg Code, a set of ten ethical principles for human experimentation.

From the code the first principle says:

The voluntary consent of the human subject is absolutely essential. This means that the person involved should have legal capacity to give consent; should be situated as to be able to exercise free power of choice, without the intervention of any element of force, fraud, deceit, duress, over-reaching, or other ulterior form of constraint or coercion, and should have sufficient knowledge and comprehension of the elements of the subject matter involved as to enable him to make an understanding and enlightened decision. This latter element requires that before the acceptance of an affirmative decision by the experimental subject there should be made known to him the nature, duration, and purpose of the experiment; the method and means by which it is to be conducted; all inconveniences and hazards reasonably to be expected; and the effects upon his health or person which may possibly come from his participation in the experiment.

The duty and responsibility for ascertaining the quality of the consent rests upon each individual who initiates, directs or engages in the experiment. It is a personal duty and responsibility which may not be delegated to another with impunity.

My mother was not forced, or bribed. The doctor outlined the experiment and gave her the choice.

Fast forward to now.

When the Covid 19 trial drug vaccines came out we were excited. We believed we would be able to see how the trials went over the course of time. Doctors and scientists would be able to document the way the shots interacted with people and make changes until it had been proven safe. They did set up a site where people could register their adverse affects, but none of that is being shared with the public. Within a few months they started pushing for everyone to jump on board and get in line to receive the miracle drugs. We started hearing crazy incentives to bribe us to come on down and get the shots.

My employer sent us an email stating that they were given a goal to have at least 75% of our work force vaccinated by a summer date. To help meet that goal if we would show them our papers after receiving the vaccines, they would give us a \$100 bonus. A little while later, when Governor Inslee lightened up the mask wearing we got another email. It was trying to spin us into believing it was a good thing. They said for those of us who have shown HR your papers, you can start coming to work without a mask. If you have not shown us your papers, you must continue to wear a mask, no exceptions. I am aware that this is a widespread practice throughout the business community.

Immediately, my thoughts were that this sounds just like 1955 whites in the front of the bus, blacks in the back. They are segregating us! We are taking steps in the wrong direction going backwards. It also reminds me of 1941 when the Nazis implemented the wearing of the gold star of David by all jews to be able to publicly identify, humiliate, and isolate them. This was just prior to mass deportation and killings of innocent people.

As the quote goes: History is not there for you to like or dislike. It is there for you to learn from it. And if it offends you, even better. Because you are less likely to repeat it. It's not yours to erase. It belongs to all of us!

Just a few days ago Joe Biden started sounding like a dictator instead of a president of the United States of America. He said "It's simple: if you want to work for the federal government, you must be vaccinated. If you want to do business with the federal government, you must vaccinate your work force. If you break the rules, be prepared to pay, and by the way show some respect." He also said "Let me be blunt: My plan also takes on elected officials and states that are undermining you and these life saving actions. If these governors won't help us beat the pandemic, I will use my power as a president to get them out of the way."

He has passed the slippery slope! He has gone too far! The time for sitting on the back of the bus patiently waiting for things to get better and someone else to fix this is past. We have to stand up and move to the front of the bus because the bus is starting to look more like a train whose freight cars are going to a destination from where no one returns.

I would like to propose that the town of Yacolt pass a resolution that says we will not have a vaccine mandate, meaning that we will allow people to choose whether they will take the vaccines or not. We are a small town, but if we take this stand we can grasp hands with Woodland who has already taken this stand. Hopefully more towns and cities will stand with us and say NO!

I shared this idea on our town Facebook page a couple days ago and the response has been overwhelmingly in favor. I have over 130 likes to this idea and I think that is a pretty good representation of how the people of Yacolt feel.

Thank you for your time and consideration.

Stephanie Beck spoke about the frequent horseplay going on at the Rec Park, near her home. She complained of loud music, tires spinning in the gravel parking lot, and so on. She asked if the Town might consider a gate to be closed at night so that the vehicles quit coming at night and making so much noise.

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Conditional Building Permit

Beck asked what is still left to be approved? Ridenour answered that a few final conditions for the Short Plat have yet to be completed; the referenced Conditional Building Permit Agreement covers the Town's interests, and that no Certificate of Occupancy would be issued until all conditions for regular permitting have been met. Boget expressed that she is not in favor of setting a precedent for special exceptions. Ridenour explained that many safeguards have been considered and built into the contract. Beck asked if there is a timeline for the permits? Fields answered that permits have a 6-month timeline, which can be extended if need be, but that this builder historically builds very quickly. Homola said he looks forward to the property being developed, with nice homes, yards, and neighbors. Viray made a motion to allow the Mayor to execute the Agreement, and that the Town issue Conditional Use Permits per the Agreement.

Motion: Viray 2nd: Homola

Aye: Beck, Homola, Viray **Nay:** Boget, Dawson

Motion Passed

Fire Marshal Interlocal Agreement

Ridenour explained the benefits of having this agreement in place with the County Fire Marshal. After a bit of discussion, the consensus was that we should enter into an Interlocal Agreement with the Fire Marshal for Plan Reviews, Fire Inspections, and Fire Investigations.

Security Cameras

Mayor Listek spoke about the different camera systems she's been looking into, mainly for the parks in Town. She explained that she would like to have a high-resolution system which could alert a phone when something is going on, and perhaps we could prevent vandalism in real time. She also likes the flexibility a system like "Ring" and "Blink" have to offer. Fields said she found a system which distinguishes between cars, animals, and humans, and only alerts when a human is detected. It also has the ability to sound a siren as well as instantly flooding the area with light, both huge deterrents. We already have both Silver Star and Century Link, so getting internet to all of these areas should not be too much of a problem. Homola made a motion that the Mayor be allowed to negotiate for, select, and purchase security camera systems for the Town Square, Town Park, and Recreational Park.

Motion: Homola 2nd: Dawson

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Rotate Mayor Pro-Tem

Joshua Beck was nominated by Amy Boget to be Mayor Pro-Tem.

Motion: Boget **2nd:** Dawson

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Homola, Viray

Nay: 0

Abstain: Beck

Motion Passed

Town Clerk's Report

- Working on 2022 Budget; will be publishing notices soon for upcoming Revenue and Budget Hearings; asked Council if they prefer 6pm or 7pm for Budget Workshop on Sept. 27, and all were in favor of 6pm.
- Working on a large, time-consuming Public Records Request
- Preparing for our upcoming State Audit; actual date TBD
- Working toward better internet service in Town. Service Providers say they need 40% of residents on a street to bring service down that street. Will post "invite" on website for people to write in to Clerk with Name, Address, Email and/or Phone #. Clerk will create a map of addresses, and when a street reaches the 40% mark, will notify local service providers.

Public Works Department Report

- Tom is on vacation until Sept. 27
- Fixed badly clogged toilet in Town Park restroom
- Repaired multiple sidewalks in Town
- In the process of painting lines on roads, speedbumps
- Prepping to start loop road in cemetery; will be working on sign for cemetery

Attorney's Comments

Working on building department policies and procedures. Taking every permit on a case-by-case basis, seeing a variety of permit situations. Once we develop standard policies, practices, and procedures, will have Council approve by Resolution.

Citizen Communication

- Stella Van wanted to find out if Yacolt has a designated public media person who can put out announcements on the internet. She feels that might get more people involved in Town meetings and events. Mayor Listek explained that we have our website for people to refer to for official Town information.
- Stephanie Beck suggested that we get a group of people together to recruit more community members to become involved.

Council's Comments

- Dawson - 100% on board with Mattye Katter's stance
- Beck – Also lost Mom to cancer; agrees that vaccinations should be self-choice, not forced

Mayor's Comments

- Missed thanking Tammy Bryant and Corwin Beverage for their very generous donation of soda and cookies for our National Night Out, and wants to extend a HUGE Thank You!
- Desiree Lorentz is sponsoring a Pumpkin Painting Contest at the next Outdoor Market Oct. 2 10am-2pm. Pumpkins will be available there, for painting then or later. Photos of painted pumpkins must be turned in by Oct. 10th; winner(s) will be announced at the next regular Council Meeting, Oct. 11th.
- Thank you to Marina for all her hard work on the Outdoor Markets. It is a lot of work!
- Read a nice letter from Herb and Linda Noble to the Town.

Approve to Pay Bills on Behalf of the Town

Motion: Homola **2nd:** Viray

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Beck, Homola, Viray

Adjourn

8:23 PM

Katelyn Listek, Mayor

Stephanie Fields, Clerk