



**Yacolt Town Council- Meeting Minutes
Monday, March 8, 2021
Town Hall Virtual/ Telephonic- 7:00 PM**

Call to Order

Mayor Listek called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm

Flag Salute

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor: Katelyn Listek

Council Members: Amy Boget, Michelle Dawson, Herb Noble, Malita Moseley, Marina Viray

Town Attorney: David Ridenour

Late Changes to the Agenda

None

Approve Minutes of Previous Meetings

Motion was made to approve minutes of the February 8, 2021 Council meeting, with changes mentioned by Boget and Moseley.

Motion: Noble 2nd: Viray

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Noble, Moseley, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Citizen Communication

- Mike Ranweiler stated that Yacolt is underserved when it comes to high-speed internet. Silver Star is only at Town Hall and Christy Court. He suggested we pressure Silver Star to bring high-speed internet to the whole town.
- Daerick Gross agreed, asked council to do whatever they can to improve the situation.

Unfinished business

Belcorp Short Plat Public Hearing Continuation

Mayor Listek closed the regular meeting and opened the Belcorp Short Plat Application Public Hearing continuing from January 11, 2021 and February 8, 2021, at 7:17 pm. She introduced the hearing and its purpose, then gave instructions on how the public may give their comments/ testimony.

Ed Greer (land use planner for the applicant) said the applicant will be removing the existing mobile home and they revised the plot plan/ plat map to show new setbacks, so short plat proposal is now in compliance with zoning/ setback codes.

Devin Jackson (town engineer) recommended 4 conditions in addition to those in the engineer's staff report which must be met before final approval:

1. Removal of existing home
2. Investigation of extra existing septic tank, and gaining final approval from the town engineer and the County health department
3. Mitigation of existing stormwater pipe known to have caused a sinkhole and provide an approved engineered solution
4. New plot plan must demonstrate compliance with engineered storm

Public comments on short plat application:

Pete Roberts called in and was sworn in. He used to own the subject property from 2003-2006, and wanted to make 3 important points:

1. A French drain around the drainfield at 123 S. Spruce takes water across the NW corner of the property, along the east side of Spruce. There is a pipe running down to a catch-basin between 221 & 227 S. Spruce. It is vital that that pipe does not get cut, or area septic system(s) will fail.
2. A buried 24" culvert diverts an underground creek going north to south along the property, to down near the curve on S. Spruce.
3. The extra septic tank is near the south fence line, about 20 feet west and 10 feet south of the corner of the existing shop building.

Jackson then added a 5th condition to be met prior to approval:

5. The French drain issue must be resolved and approved by the town engineer.

Travis Tormanen, who was also representing the applicant, said all those conditions sound reasonable, and he had no objections.

Jackson re-iterated that all conditions must be met prior to final approval to split the property.

Motion was made to approve the amended short plat application with the conditions in the staff report as well as the 5 conditions listed above.

Motion: Boget **2nd:** Viray

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Moseley, Noble, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Mayor Listek closed the public hearing and re-opened the regular meeting at 7:43 pm.

Amending Personnel Policies and Procedures Manual

- The Clerk advised Council on various “housekeeping” changes which need to be made, in order to keep the manual consistent with Municipal Code, as well as to keep policies in line with the Town’s current and future personnel needs.
- If the manual changes are all approved, there will also need to be minor changes made to YCM 2.10.010.
- She also recommended that they repeal Resolution #571, as it performs no actual function.

Motion was made to have an ordinance drawn up to reflect the proposed changes to the manual and code, and to also repeal Res. #571.

Motion: Boget **2nd:** Dawson

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Moseley, Noble, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Council Education and Board Meeting Compensation

- The clerk presented the Code (YMC Ch. 2.20.020 §A) and budget allotment for council meeting stipends and training.
- Stipends will be paid for live trainings and meetings which (a) council member attends as a Town representative, and (b) which pertain to Town business. Prior approval will not be necessary for stipend payment, providing the above guidelines are met.
- The attorney has researched this issue and there are no problems with it, and no budget amendment needs to be made to accommodate it.

New Business

Red Cross Month Proclamation

Mayor Listek proclaimed March 2021 to be Red Cross Month in the Town of Yacolt.

Town Clerk’s Report

- Is signed up for several trainings and webinars over the next month or so.
- Preparing for April 24th Surplus Items Sale.
- Working on safety and compliance issues (fire extinguishers, elevator, etc).
- Beginning a Housing & Population Report for the Washington Office of Financial Management (due April 1).
- Congrats to Mayor Listek on achieving her Certificate of Municipal Leadership.

Public Works Report

- Continuing storm debris cleanup and drainage issues.
- Will be pruning trees and low-hanging limbs and treetops in danger of breaking.
- The wing mower is being repaired and should be ready for use by end of March.
- Planning for the install of the new reader board.
- Assisting with oversight of the W. Jones Street water main replacement project by PUD.

Attorney's Comments

- The clerk has been stepping up and taking an increased role, and he is so impressed with her work and the care and precision she puts into it.

Citizen Communication

- A caller asked when are in-person meetings going to happen again?
- He also pointed out that so many businesses are struggling and/ or failing due to COVID restrictions, and he referred to the low number of COVID cases in our large geographical area (Yacolt and Amboy). He wants our local government to represent us at the state level to work on getting the mask mandate repealed. He appreciates Mayor Listek's previous letter to Governor Inslee regarding this; but he wants more action soon.

Council's Comments

Boget:

- Turned in handouts from Association of Washington Cities' City Action Days and the Community Action Advisory Board meeting, and will have more info next week, when CAAB meets to go over budget and COVID funds. All handouts she turned in are in the meeting packet.
- She created a "Teams" page to enable Council to share documents.
- She has been reaching out to internet providers (Silver Star, Starlink, etc.) in hopes of getting high speed internet throughout this town.

Moseley:

- National Community Development Week is April 5-9
- Attended a UCPB meeting this morning, where CDBG and HOME Grants were awarded.
- Battle Ground free clinic planning to move to a larger location, closer to bus line.
- Proud Ground received grant funding to help 3 families with down payment assistance to buy homes; they are taking applications for next year.

Dawson:

- Happy Women's Day
- Agrees that more action is needed to oppose the mask mandate.

- Crime is rising in the area, particularly noticeable in the big parking lot and the parks. Citizens are concerned, and they don't feel safe. (Mayor Listek announced that there will now sometimes be an extra officer patrolling at night.)

Viray:

- Thanked Council Member Boget for her research into high-speed internet.
- Thanked Terry for all his hard work.
- Preparing for the first Saturday Market, which will be April 3rd.

Mayor's Comments

- Working on improving street lighting, starting at the Town Tree, and working down Yacolt and Railroad. Should help alleviate some crime and vandalism.
- Also installing/ replacing cameras at the town parks with new cameras which were bought several years ago but never were used.
- Planning/ organizing Town events in hopes that we will be able to have them this year. Creating binders for reach event.
- Will be putting together pre-packed craft packages for monthly craft activities in conjunction with Town Markets.
- Will be sending out Town newsletter soon.

Approval to Pay Bills on Behalf of the Town

Motion made to pay the bills on behalf of the town:

Motion: Moseley **2nd:** Boget

Aye: Boget, Dawson, Moseley, Noble, Viray **Nay:** 0

Motion Passed

Adjourn

Mayor Listek adjourned the meeting at 9:17 pm

Katelyn J. Listek, Mayor

Stephanie Fields, Clerk