

CALL TO ORDER:
June 15, 2021

Mayor Muri called the regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. on Zoom.

ROLL CALL:

In attendance were Mayor Muri, Councilmembers Neal, Henderson, Crumley, Franklin and Smith. Staff members in attendance were Town Administrator Loveless, Attorney Hoffman, Public Safety Director Yabe, Public Works Director Burlingame, Town Planner Fortner, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
All: Yes

Councilmember Neal moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of June 15, 2021.

Mayor Muri led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approve the following items on the consent calendar:

1. Minutes of June 1, 2021.
2. Approval of Payroll Checks #115938 - #115942 in the total amount of \$207,537.46.
3. Approval of Claims Checks #115944 - #115993 in the amount of \$270,638.82.
4. Request to Set a Public Hearing, Partial Vacation of 7th St. (AB 3081)

Yes: All

AUDIENCE INPUT:
Non-Agenda Items

No public comments.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
Short Term Rentals (AB 3071)

Mayor Muri opened the public hearing.

Town Planner Fortner delivered the staff report and answered questions from the public and Council.

Mayor Muri invited comments from the audience.

- John Perry – 813 Lewis Ln., Steilacoom: He asked for clarification of the definition of “short-term rental.” He quoted part of RCW 64 pertaining to short-term rentals and wanted to know if Steilacoom is looking at implementing stricter regulations than Washington state. The answer is yes.
- Craig Hanna – 606 Lafayette St., Steilacoom: He quoted tax regulations pertaining to short-term rentals and inquired as to why the Town would tightly restrict a potential source of income for its residents.

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to continue the public hearing on Short-Term Rentals to the July 20, 2021 Council Meeting.

NEW ITEMS:

Election of Mayor Tempore (AB 3080)

**Yes: Smith, Henderson, Franklin, Crumley
Abstained: Neal**

Town Administrator Loveless delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to select Councilperson Neal to serve as Mayor Pro Tempore for a term from July 1, 2021 through December 31, 2021.

Sunnyside Pump Station Improvement Project Bid Award Madsen Electric (AB 3082)

Yes: All

Public Works Director Burlingame delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to approve the bid submitted by Madsen Electric in an amount not to exceed \$343,876.00 for upgrades to the Sunnyside Beach Pump Station and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary contract documents on behalf of the Town of Steilacoom.

REPORTS:

Administrator

Town Administrator Loveless reported the following:

- The Farmers’ Market starts June 16 and runs from 3 p.m. – 7 p.m. There will be many vendors. Volunteers to help take down the market are always appreciated. Those interested should arrive at 6:50 p.m.
- Summer concerts are starting on August 4. There will be four artists on the four Wednesdays that month holds.
- The new Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer starts on Monday.
- He obtained very *preliminary* growth numbers on our assessed valuation. It should come in roughly 10% more over this last year. If the EMS levy is adopted the combined total amount may land just over a quarter of a million dollars in the general fund. This is only if everything comes out as anticipated and the EMS levy will still not cover the entire 6-year EMS allocated cost, but it should cover the first few years.

Attorney

Attorney Hoffman reported no new litigation.

Public Safety

Chief Yabe reported the following:

- Last week, our officers used force in taking a juvenile into protective custody. A detailed account was provided in last week’s update.
- Concerning force use, over the past two years, they have averaged over a dozen uses of force each year. So far this year, they have had 4 uses of force, which has them presently on track to have fewer force uses than during each of past two years.
- Last week, they submitted their first step in the application process for the COPS grant for hiring additional police officers. The next portion is due in a week.

Public Safety Cont'd

- He met with representatives from Pierce County Ferries to continue regular discussions of safety upon the vessels and in our loading lanes. They also continued plans for dedicated patrol presence in the ferry lanes through the rest of the summer.
- Over the weekend, a longtime dispatcher with South Sound 911 passed away after suffering from an unexpected medical issue. Our dispatchers are part of the extended family in public safety. We are grateful for the service of Christy Curtis and will miss her.
- Finally, their hearts are with the Seattle Police Department regarding the line of duty death of Seattle Police Officer Lexi Harris.

Public Works

Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- It has been a challenge getting applications for summer jobs. If they cannot get applications Public Works may need to look at cutting some of their summer programs, like crack sealing, back.
- Pierce County is having a hard time acquiring paint for stripping due to material shortages. They have asked the Town to cut back to 20-30% of the repainting we would usually do.
- Work on the Roundabout Project is starting July 6. Submittals are coming in and they have a preliminary schedule of work. They are hoping for a November end date.
- The Marietta St. Lift Station project is moving forward. They have installed all the pumps. The controls for that facility are now being tested against our telemetry system (making sure our system interacts with other facilities). The project will likely be done by the end of June.
- The Sunnyside Lift Station project will start moving forward, though work on it might be impacted by the worldwide chip shortage. More information will be forthcoming.
- Engineers are polishing their plans for the seawall repair at Sunnyside Park. Once they are complete, they can be submitted to the State for permits. That project cannot begin before July 15 due to the potential impact on spawning grounds.
- The Rigney Road Motorized Improvements project is being worked upon. He has taken a look at a first-draft plan. There are utility conflicts that will have to be worked through.
- Great strides are being made in the parks now that we have summer hires on board. They will support the Farmers' Market.
- Kiwanis is doing a great job on Pioneer Park Bandstand.

Council

Councilmember Smith reported the following:

- He is out of Town from Thursday to next Wednesday.

Councilmember Henderson reported the following:

- She thanked those who volunteered for the work party at Farrell's Marsh.

Council Cont'd

- We have a relationship with the Pierce Conservation District, working to remove knotweed. It is very invasive. They were pleased to see few plants embedded in most areas, though there are a few residences with infestations.
- She shared an anecdote from her neighborhood about police arriving on a scene quickly when they were needed.

Councilmember Crumley had no reports.

Councilmember Neal reported the following:

- He wanted to discuss the plan for the revenue from the sale of the Diggs St. property. It went into the Capital Projects Fund.

Councilmember Franklin reported the following:

- He is looking forward to meeting in person again in the near future.

Mayor

Mayor reported the following:

- Things are going well and he is looking forward to the Farmers' Market.

ADJOURNMENT:

Yes: All

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to adjourn the Town Council Meeting of June 15, 2021.

The June 15, 2021 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 8:11 p.m.

STUDY SESSION:

A study session to discuss the American Rescue Plan Act was convened at 8:11 p.m. and adjourned at 8:18 p.m.

Town Administrator

Mayor