

CALL TO ORDER:
July 20, 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, West Pierce Fire & Rescue Deputy Chief Boltz, Public Works Director Burlingame, Town Planner Fortner, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
All: Yes

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of July 20, 2021.

Mayor Muri led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

PROCLAMATION:

Mayor Muri proclaimed May 1st – December 31st 2021 to be the Pierce County Library System’s 75th Diamond Anniversary. Misha Hacke was there on behalf of Pierce County Library to receive the proclamation.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

Councilmember Crumley moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to approve the following items on the consent calendar:

1. Minutes of July 6, 2021.
2. Approval of Payroll Checks #116113 - #116119 in the amount of \$255,432.04.
3. Approval of Claims Checks #116123 - #116177 in the amount of \$406,704.97.

Yes: All

AUDIENCE INPUT:
Non-Agenda Items

- James Costello - 2504 Natalie Lane, Steilacoom: He asked Municipal Code 18.20.080, Fence Standards, be reevaluated. He is specifically interested in Council revisiting the height requirements in a street setback area.

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 Council.

Mayor Muri invited comments from the audience.

- Michael Koznarsky - 65 Jackson Street, Steilacoom: He lives across from an inn and has never had a problem with the guests of that house. He believes the people who own it are doing a great job managing it even though they do not live on-site. He also raised the point that the Town communicating via email, rather than mail, might get a more rapid response to issues that need addressing.

Short Term Rentals (AB 3071) Cont'd

- Tyler and Heather Imig - 68 Jackson Street, Steilacoom: They own the aforementioned inn and are concerned because they cannot live on the property. If that requirement remains in the ordinance, they will no longer be able to keep that property.
- Rebecca Hill - 1006 Union Avenue, Steilacoom: Her relatives were guests of the Imig's inn. She also questioned the requirement that owners live on the property. She thinks that seems unreasonable when owners can still be responsive.

Yes: All

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to close the public hearing.

Councilmember Neal moved to table action on Bill 3071 until the August 3 Town Council Meeting. The motion died for lack of a second.

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to prohibit short-term rentals in residential zones, excluding bed and breakfasts and guest houses as currently defined in the existing Steilacoom Municipal Code, and providing a six-month phase-out period for existing short-term rentals.

Yes: All

6-Year TIP (AB 3088) (RES 1191)

Mayor Muri opened the public hearing.

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

Mayor Muri invited comments from the audience.

- Craig Hanna - 606 Lafayette Street, Steilacoom: He would like to see more effort put into repairing the sidewalks on Martin Street. He believes its current state may leave the Town open to a lawsuit.

Yes: All

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to close the public hearing.

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to adopt Resolution #1191, approving the Six-Year Transportation Program for 2022-2027 as amended, moving Martin Street up to priority #4.

Yes: All

NEW ITEMS:

South Sound Housing Affordability Partnership Agreement (AB 3087)

Town Administrator Loveless provided an update to Council and indicated the bill would be up for action on the Town Council meeting of August 3rd.

REPORTS:

Administrator

Town Administrator Loveless reported the following:

- The farmers' market continues from 3 – 7 p.m. downtown on Wednesdays through the month of August.
- The summer concert series will begin in August. Concerts will be held every Wednesday from 6 – 7:30 p.m.
- There will be a candidate forum for Council Seat Position 2 on July 24 from 5:30 – 6:45 p.m. Those interested should preregister. The link is available on the Town website.
- July 24 is the Celebration of Life for Ron Lucas at Lucas Field from 1 – 3 p.m.
- July 25 is the Salmon Bake from 12 – 4 p.m.
- The Town-wide garage sale will take place on August 14. It is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce. Contact them to participate.
- September 11 is the Drive Electric Car Show.
- We received an award of S.E.E.K. funds to help with summer camp transportation costs.
- Summer camps have a COVID-19 issue that we are addressing. There may be challenges with staffing and participation.

Attorney

Attorney Hoffman reported no new litigation.

Public Safety

Chief Yabe reported the following:

- Last week, some of our officers attended training for response to an active shooter incident. More officers will be attending the training next week.
- Also last week, a frantic driver unexpectedly pulled into the parking lot of the Public Safety building and reported their passenger was unresponsive. Sgt. Bailey recognized the signs and symptoms of a drug overdose, summoned priority medical assistance, and administered naloxone. This quick action revitalized the patient, and they were transported to the hospital. Many thanks to Sgt. Bailey for his rapid response, and thanks to Sgt. Whelan, who manages our medical aid services and ensures our officers are adequately equipped to respond to these types of incidents.
- Earlier that day he joined Lakewood Police Chief Zaro in providing an overview of the police reform legislation to our partners at West Pierce Fire and Rescue. These new laws will impact our response ability to persons in crisis, which then impacts the service provided by West Pierce Fire.
- Attendance at the police academy is continuing to increase. Recruit Palma continues to perform well. Next up is Recruit Warburton, who will begin at the academy next week. Finally, Recruit Gates will start in early August.

Public Safety Cont'd

Thanks to the efforts of Det. Hamrick in completing the background investigation, as well as the adaptability of both Mr. Loveless and our Human Resources department, they were able to secure a last-minute spot for the next recruit that puts them nearly 2 months ahead of the original schedule.

- New police recruits mean new equipment, including body armor. He is applying for a federal grant that has recently become available to reimburse some of those body armor expenses.
- There is still no update on the COPS grant, but he greatly appreciates the ongoing conversation that’s been had, both in and out of council meetings, regarding police staffing.
- This past weekend, they assisted the Lakewood Police Department in response to an incident of an adult armed with a firearm having taken a juvenile as a hostage. Within the past 30 days, we have assisted in response to two shootings at parks in Lakewood. All of this continues to highlight how fortunate we continue to be in that we have not experienced a significant incident of our own in Town. He hopes we can continue to discuss how best we can prepare ourselves to respond to significant events before they occur in Town.

Public Works

Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- The Roundabout Project is well underway. There have been a few utility conflicts but they have been working through them as they arise. The electrical contractor will join the construction on Thursday. Traffic has been flowing pretty well so far. Updates are posted on the Town website.
- The Marietta Street Lift Station is almost done. They did have to add a new component to the project, but a change order was not necessary.
- Madsen Electric is working on the submittals for the Sunnyside Pump Station project. It is not likely physical work will take place on that until the fall.
- Initial permits have been submitted for the Sunnyside Seawall Project.
- We have a new lineman starting tomorrow, giving us a full electric crew once more.
- The parks continued to see heavy use but we have a great band of seasonal workers keeping them in good shape.

Council

Councilmember Crumley had no reports.

Councilmember Smith had no reports.

Councilmember Franklin reported the following:

- Friday-Sunday, townspeople can support the Steilacoom Key Club by purchasing something from the Sugar Shack at Sunnyside Beach.

Council Cont’d

Mayor

ADJOURNMENT:

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Steilacoom Town Council Minutes

Councilmember Henderson
reported the following:

- She thanked Attorney Hoffman for his legal advice.
- She noted that we now have the entire packet that Council receives available to all citizens online.

Councilmember Neal reported the following:

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- He thanked his colleagues for their discussions and
- He gave us a legislative update.
- appreciates that they get along as a council.

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Mayor Muri reported the following:

- Kiwanis is now doing hybrid meetings.
- He is calling for volunteers for advisory committees.

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- The National Drive Electric Week is coming up and is sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce here in Steilacoom.
- He got to meet our new Town building inspector. She is a great hire.

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Councilmember Smith
moved and **Councilmember**

Henderson seconded to adjourn the Town Council Meeting of July 20, 2021.

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The July 20, 2021 regular meeting of the Steilacoom

Town Council adjourned at 8:36 p.m.

Town Administrator

Mayor