

CALL TO ORDER:
August 3, 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, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA:
All: Yes

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of August 3, 2021.

Mayor Muri led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

1. Minutes of July 20, 2021, as amended.
2. Approval of Payroll Checks #116180 - #116187 in the total amount of \$167,240.94.
3. Approval of Claims Checks #116253 - #116311 in the amount of \$ 301,961.71 and Manual Checks # 116178 - #116179 & 116199 in the amount of \$349.19.

Yes: All

AUDIENCE INPUT:
Non-Agenda Items

No public comments.

ACTION ITEMS:
South Sound Housing
Affordability Partnership
Agreement (SSHA³P) (AB
3087)

Town Administrator Loveless delivered the staff report and introduced County Executive Bruce Dammeier and Cedar River Group representative John Howell to give a presentation on SSHA³P and answer questions from the Council.

Mayor Muri opened the bill to public comment.

- John Perry – 813 Lewis Lane, Steilacoom: He had some clarifying questions about costs, energy efficiency, and the “drop dead” date.
- P.K. Thumbi – 2409 B Street, Steilacoom: He wanted to know how easy it would be for a jurisdiction to opt out of the agreement.
- Elizabeth Grasher – 1202 Pierce Street, Steilacoom: She noted that the master plan development of the old mill site was recently rezoned. There is potential for multi-family homes, etc. there.

Councilmember Neal moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the appropriate documents allowing the Town of Steilacoom to become a member of the South Sound Affordability Partnership.

Yes: Henderson, Neal
No: Franklin, Crumley, Smith

NEW ITEMS:

Union Ave./Rainier St. Roundabout Project, Change Order #1 (AB 3089)

Yes: All

Union Ave./Rainier St. Roundabout Project, Change Order #2 (AB 3090)

**Yes: Henderson, Franklin, Crumley, Smith
No: Neal**

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

Councilmember Franklin moved and **Councilmember Crumley** seconded to approve Change Order #1 to the Union Ave./Rainier St. Roundabout Project.

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

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approve Change Order #2 to the Union Ave./Rainier St. Roundabout Project.

REPORTS:

Administrator

Town Administrator Loveless reported the following:

- The Farmers’ Market continues on Wednesdays throughout the month of August from 3-7 p.m. in downtown Steilacoom.
- The Summer Concert Series will run on Wednesdays from 6-7:30 p.m. at Pioneer Orchard Park.
- Sunnyside Beach continues to have a swimming and water advisory for raw sewage. All impacted creeks continue to test positive for a substantial amount of raw sewage. Lack of rainfall has slowed the process of clearing that contaminated water down the waterway.
- There will be a community clean-up of Sunnyside Beach Park on August 9 from 8-10 a.m. All are welcome. It is requested that volunteers bring their own gloves.
- The Town-wide Garage Sale, sponsored by the Chamber of Commerce, will take place on August 14. Those interested in participating can find information of the Town of Steilacoom Chamber’s website.
- The Drive Electric Car Show will take place on September 11. Contact Mayor Muri for more information.

Attorney

Attorney Hoffman reported no new litigation.

Public Safety

Chief Yabe reported the following:

- In answer to an earlier question, there was a collision at the bridge on Chambers Creek Road. There were no Steilacoom officers involved in the investigation and no additional details available.
- He is looking forward to forthcoming discussion about legislative changes.

Public Safety Cont'd

- Last weekend, one of our officers used force pursuant to probable cause for an investigation of driving under the influence and reckless endangerment. As our officer investigated the incident, he was accosted by multiple angry bystanders. After the force use was ended, the on-scene reports of the supposed witnesses contradicted what had originally been reported. In consideration of the totality of circumstances, the suspect was released from custody and a police report was filed. The type of force used was a counter-joint technique, which has been classified by the Criminal Justice Training Commission as the least severe type of force use.
- There is still no update on the COPS grant, but the deadline to submit was extended again. Our submission has already been confirmed as received by the Department of Justice.
- Our two recruits in the academy continue to perform well. Our third recruit is scheduled to start next week. Next Monday, Mayor Muri and he will be visiting the recruits at the police academy.
- Earlier that evening, he was invited to attend a block party in one of our neighborhoods. Currently, he is also scheduling gatherings with various neighborhoods throughout town.
- As was previously mentioned, there still exists a water advisory at Sunnyside Beach. They have received calls regarding children playing in the water and have confirmed the parents were aware of the posted signs. Please stay out of the water.
- Our hearts are with the family of Clark County Sheriff Sergeant Jeremy Brown, who was killed on duty late last month.

Public Works

Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- There is a widespread shortage of traffic paint. The street crew is applying thermoplastic tape where they can. They are focusing on arterials.
- There was a power outage on Sunday night. There was a major fault in a wire. It was an unusual circumstance and took some time to locate. In that time many surrounding wires cooled down, which caused more fuses to pop further downstream of the fault once re-energized. The electrical crew was on location within a half hour and worked tirelessly through the night and into the next morning to get the power back up.
- The Roundabout Project is proceeding right on schedule. The recent weather has been helpful. Our crew is standing by and keeping an eye on the progress of the contractor. Some revisions have been made to utilities in order to keep the contractor moving. They will begin pouring curb and try to wrap up improvements around the pub and grill before moving to the other side of the street.

Council

Councilmember Smith reported the following:

- He wanted to commend the electric crew for their work on the power outage.

Council Cont'd

- He suggested the Town investigate a way to inform the public of the progress being made during an electrical outage.
- He commended our staff and crew for their work keeping the streets of Steilacoom in good repair.
- He was eager for the election results.

Councilmember Crumley reported the following:

- Ron Lucas's celebration of life was a very heartwarming event. He noted that our Town attorney, Mr. Hoffman, who does not live in Steilacoom, was present. He is a great part of our extended community.
- He had an idea for the use of ARPA funds. He suggested that we hire someone to improve the online search function of our municipal code.
- He had two comments related to Cormorant Passage. One was a request pertaining to a semi-repaired sidewalk square he wanted to make sure Mr. Burlingame was aware of. The other was that it is difficult to pull out of the neighborhood onto Union. He requests that a mirror or some other remedy be installed to aid residents.
- He requested an update on the COVID-19 outbreak our summer camp experienced. The latest is that we have had no new cases reported since closing the camp for two weeks and still plan on reopening on August 9.

Councilmember Neal reported the following:

- He thanked all the citizens who decided to run for Council Position 2.

Councilmember Henderson reported the following:

- She continues to be grateful for the community members who speak up at council meetings and encourages the public to read the packets posted online before each meeting so the council can receive more input.
- She continues to recommend that recordings of our meetings be loaded onto the Town website.
- She made the suggestion that the council take another look at some of the suggestions Town Planner Fortner made when proposing an ordinance for short-term rentals.

Councilmember Franklin reported the following:

- He inquired about where we are in the process of potentially putting audio/visual equipment in Town Hall. The answer is the company we have approached, Avidex, is putting together a quote.
- He noted that equipment for the Roundabout Project is blocking visibility on Union and suggested the contractor be cautioned to not block visibility.
- He thanked residents and non-residents alike for supporting the Salmon Bake this year.

Mayor

Mayor Muri reported the following:

- He will release the names of the Parks and Public Safety committees soon.
- He thanked the electric crew for their work on the power outage.
- The polls are closed and he hopes the EMS Levy passed.

ADJOURNMENT:

Councilmember Neal moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to adjourn the regular Town Council Meeting of August 3, 2021. The August 3, 2021 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 8:14 p.m.

STUDY SESSION:

A study session to discuss Police Reform Laws – Updates and Impacts was convened at 8:14 p.m. **Councilmember Crumley** moved and **Councilmember Franklin** seconded to adjourn the study session at 9:14 p.m.

Town Administrator

Mayor