

**CALL TO ORDER:**  
September 7, 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.

**Mayor Muri** led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**POINT OF ORDER:**

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

**Councilmember Franklin** moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to reconsider the vote on AB 3087 – the agreement to enter into the South Sound Housing Affordability Partnership Agreement.

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

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

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**  
**Yes: All**

**Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Crumley** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of September 7, 2021.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

**Council** unanimously voted to approve the following items on the consent calendar:

1. Minutes of August 3, 2021.
2. Approval of Payroll Checks # 116316 - #116320 in the amount of \$245,335.03 and Payroll Checks # 116376 - #116383 in the amount of \$165,472.08.
3. Approval of Claims Checks # 116322 - #116373 in the amount of \$269,851.67, Manual Checks # 116312 & 116312 in the amount of \$4,203.83, Claims Checks # 116434 - #116493 in the amount of \$159,231.10, and Manual Check # 116375 & #116433 in the amount of \$8,367.17.
4. Set Public Hearings – 2021-2022 Mid-Biennium Budget Amendments (AB 3092).
5. Set Public Hearings – 2022 Property Tax Levies (AB 3093).
6. Set Public Hearing – Supportive, Transitional & Emergency Housing (AB 3101).

**Yes: All**

**AUDIENCE INPUT:**  
**Non-Agenda Items**

- Rebecca Hill - 1006 Union Ave, Steilacoom: She thanked our officers for their attention to speeding on Union Avenue. They have been very gentlemanly and have helped those who live on the street to have quiet and peace of mind at all times of day.

NEW ITEMS:

**Intergovernmental Agreement Between the Town of Steilacoom and the Steilacoom Indian Tribe (AB 3098) (\*)**

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

- Danny Marshall wanted to recognize the work Town Administrator Loveless did on this bill. It was multi-year work that many people played a part in. He thanked the Town for their partnership.

**Councilmember Franklin** moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the Intergovernmental Agreement between the Town of Steilacoom and the Steilacoom Indian Tribe for administering a joint undertaking for the rehabilitation of the Steilacoom Tribal Cultural Center.

**Yes: All**

**Interlocal Agreement for Emergency Management Services (AB 3099)(\*)**

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

**Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement between the Cities of Lakewood, University Place, the Town of Steilacoom, and Pierce County Fire District 3 for Emergency Management Services.

**Yes: All**

**BPA/Tacoma Interconnection Project, Regulator Purchase (AB 3102)(\*)**

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

**Councilmember Smith** moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approve the purchase of a voltage regulator and related equipment in an amount not to exceed \$69,250.50 for future installation as part of the BPA/Tacoma Interconnection Project.

**Yes: All**

**Supportive, Transition & Emergency Housing (AB 3101)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**Parking Regulations (AB 3091)(Ord 1641)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**Electric Utility Rate Modifications (AB 3094)(Ord 1642)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**Water Utility Rate Modifications (AB 3095)(Ord 1644)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**NEW ITEMS CONT'D:**

**Sewer Utility Rate Modifications (AB 3096)(Ord 1643)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**Storm Water Utility Rate Modifications (AB 3097)(Ord 1645)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**Unrepresented Employees' 2022 Pay Plan (AB 3100)(Res 1192)**

**Town Administrator Loveless** introduced the agenda bill.

**REPORTS:**

**Administrator**

**Town Administrator Loveless** reported the following:

- Future Town Council Meeting agendas are filling up with end-of-year items. There is more to come. These meetings will likely be lengthy.
- Our Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer is excelling in her work. She has been very active.
- The Town is responding to mandates regarding COVID-19. Governor Inslee has required vaccinations for various groups, some of which overlap with our Public Safety officers and childcare workers. Exemption forms go out tomorrow.
- While the Town is trying to take and enforce safety precautions, one employee is out with COVID currently. We will respond to such incidents as necessary.
- School has started and the childcare program is growing. We continue to have recruiting challenges for staffing this program and others.
- West Pierce Fire and Rescue wanted to invite Mayor and Council to their 9/11 Memorial at Station 31 in University Place at 9 a.m. It is the 20-year remembrance.

**Attorney**

**Attorney Hoffman** reported no new litigation.

**Public Safety**

**Chief Yabe** reported the following:

- Earlier this week, Steilacoom officers assisted Lakewood Police in responding to an active shooter at an apartment complex in Lakewood. During the incident, the individual began firing at on-scene police officers and an officer fired back. PCFIT is investigating the incident. There is no indication that Steilacoom officers used deadly force.
- This week, our officers will receive familiarization training from the Pierce County Sheriff's Office SWAT team. We have contracted with them for the past few years for major incident response assistance.

- There is still no update on our COPS grant application.
- Last month, he hosted a ride along with State Representative Leavitt, who provided written support for our COPS grant. They discussed a number of items over the two-and-a-half-hour event.
- During the recent legislative session, Public Safety's less lethal shotguns were seemingly classified as military equipment and illegal to use under the new legislation. They have since obtained a different tool for the purpose of deploying less lethal force from a longer distance. He is arranging for familiarization training on the new tool in the near future.
- Also regarding our recent legislation, the Criminal Justice Training Commission announced a new certification form related to social media accounts that required signatures from every police officer in the state. Failure to do so could have made every officer subject to decertification. CJTC has since rescinded that mandate and removed the concern of simultaneous decertification of police officers throughout the state.
- He is still working on developing familiarization training for Mayor and Council regarding riots and authorization considerations for tear gas deployment. He is hoping for an update within a week.
- Finally, our officers will be wearing mourning bands in honor of Grant County Sheriff's Deputy Jon Melvin. Deputy Melvin passed away due to complications of COVID-19, and it is believed that he contracted COVID while performing his duties.

## Public Works

### Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- They are currently mostly working on the roundabout. The contractor is doing a great job. The ferry operators have not received complains about delays due to work on the roundabout.
- We currently have a possession and use agreement with the property owner of the Berry Dock Ice Cream Shop. The owner was given time to go through a competing appraisal process. He met with the owner of the land, and in exchange for additional improvements on the property, the owner will accept the Town's original agreed to price. It is a tentative agreement. Director Burlingame will be bringing an agenda bill related to this to Council at the next Council Meeting.
- The next project on the horizon is the Rigney Road Non-Motorized Improvements Project. They will be replacing the asphalt path along Rigney Road with curb, gutter, sidewalk, and a bike lane. It will only be for one side of the road. The other side would require enhancements prior to such improvements. Construction will begin next year.
- Park signs will be disappearing and reappearing over the course of the next year. We have contracted with Valley Signs in Orting to refurbish our signs. He wants to refurbish all Town park and building signs over the course of the year. If you see yellow ribbons, it indicates that Public Works took them and they were not stolen.

**Public Works Cont'd**

- With fall arriving soon, they will be taking down the flower baskets and flags due to uncertainty about weather.
- The Marietta Lift Station Project is still waiting on a chip-related component for the facility. He is uncertain of when it might be delivered. The delay is a result of supply chain issues.

**Council**

**Councilmember Smith** reported the following:

- He would still like to see parking signs at Saltar's Point. Staff responded that signs have been installed.

**Councilmember Franklin** reported the following:

- There is a truck driving school at the old mill site and a constituent expressed concern about the number of trucks driving down Lafayette to him. He wanted to know if they could put restrictions on this activity. The answer is no because they are coming from and going to an in-Town location.

**Councilmember Neal** reported the following:

- He encouraged all to take time to reflect on the tragedy of 9/11 this year.
- He would like Council to hold a study session in one of the upcoming meetings to work on legislative priorities for the next legislative session.

**Councilmember Henderson** reported the following:

- She was interested in status reports on several items that had been raised by Council members in the past.
- On the difficulty exiting Cormorant: Public Works Director Burlingame looked at it and agreed there's limited vision but noted that Union Ave. is not owned by the Town at that junction. We may need to work with Pierce County and/or JBLM to improve visibility.
- On the subject of taking a second look at Title 18, Short-Term Rentals: Town Planner Fortner plans to take the remaining ordinance back to the Planning Commission and it is moving forward again.
- On the suggestion that the Town offer live updates during a power outage: This would be challenging to implement. It is difficult to give accurate updates while in the middle of work. Also, calls from the public serve to help the electric crew isolate the outage area.
- A bill pertaining to Parking Regulations was introduced in this meeting. She believes Council needs to take a deeper dive into that ordinance. She will be writing up commentary for Council consideration.
- She wishes people would reach out to Council and Town officials directly instead of venting on social media.
- She asked if the cameras at Saltar's Point have been effective and inquired about a specific incident. Chief Yabe answered that they have been helpful, but information on the incident was not readily available.

**Council Cont'd**

- She recognized the Town’s electric team for the great work they do.
- There was a fire that occurred with a recent power outage. She noted that citizens have been coming forward to support the affected family and that this speaks to the character of the Town.
- She expressed several concerns pertaining to the parking lot near the ferry dock.

**Councilmember** Crumley reported the following:

- He requested that staff contact the appropriate parties about improving visibility around Cormorant and Union Ave. He recommended a reduced speed sign.
- He reiterated his interest in seeing the online municipal code redone to be more user friendly.

**Mayor**

**Mayor Muri** reported the following:

- He is looking forward to meeting with County Executive Dammeier and asked that staff think about issues that should be brought to his attention.
- He received an email from his neighbor thanking him for stopping by after the house fire. His neighbor expressed that they received tremendous service from our electric crew and were able to return power to their house with one of their recommendations.
- There have been two fires in Town in the last 30 days. No one was hurt in either.
- This Saturday is the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual National Drive Electric Steilacoom Festival. They will follow good COVID practices. He hopes it will be a good learning experience.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

**Councilmember Smith** moved and **Councilmember Franklin** seconded to adjourn the Town Council Meeting of September 7, 2021. The September 7, 2021, regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 8:09 p.m.

**STUDY SESSION:**

A study session to discuss Building Enhancements – Energy Efficiencies, Public Safety – Body Cameras and In-Car Cameras, and Town Hall – Audio/Visual Equipment was convened at 8:09 p.m. and adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

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Town Administrator

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Mayor