

STEILACOOM TOWN COUNCIL

MINUTES

Steilacoom Town Hall & Zoom

Tuesday, February 6, 2024

6:00 p.m.

A. Call to Order and Roll Call

1. **Mayor Muri** called the regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. at Town Hall and on Zoom.
2. In attendance were Mayor Muri, Councilmembers Neal, Henderson, Johnson, Franklin and Grasher. Staff members in attendance were Town Administrator Loveless, Attorney Hoffman, Public Safety Director Yabe, Public Works Director Burlingame, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

B. Pledge of Allegiance

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

C. Approval of Agenda

1. **Councilmember Neal** moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of February 6, 2024, as amended, moving Item #4 to Introduction Items.
 - i. **All:** Yes

D. Consent Agenda

1. *Minutes of January 16, 2024*
2. *Approval of Payroll Checks #121421 - #121423 in the amount of \$212,159.54 and Payroll Checks #121445 - #121446 in the amount of \$276,859.52*
3. *Approval of Claims Checks #121447 - #121510 in the amount of \$150,328.64 and Manual Check #121418, #121424 - #121425 in the amount of \$77,995.73*
 - i. **Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Johnson** seconded to approve the items on the Consent Agenda, as amended.
 1. **Yes:** All

E. Audience Input on Non-Agenda Items

1. *Garret Hall, Steilacoom:* He lives in Madrona Park and wanted to note that the current height of some trees seems to be blocking the view of some homes. The Town's current code restricts tree height for the sake of homeowner views. He wanted to bring this issue to the Town's attention.
2. *Sunet Bath, Steilacoom:* He wanted to call attention to the same issue.

F. Introduction

1. *Tribal Museum and Cultural Center Improvement Project, Bid Award; Merit Construction (AB 3334)*
 - i. **Public Works Director Burlingame** delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.
 - ii. **Mayor Muri** requested public comment:
 1. *Chairwoman Rebecca Unzueta of the Steilacoom Tribe, Steilacoom:* She appreciates Council's consideration and is looking forward to collaborating with the Town to restore this building.

- iii. **Councilmember Neal** moved and **Councilmember Franklin** seconded to reject all bids for the Tribal Museum and Cultural Center.
 1. **Yes: All**
2. ***Sunnyside Beach Parking Technology and Related Services (AB 3333)***
 - i. **Town Administrator Loveless** delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.
 - ii. **Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Grasher** seconded to authorize the mayor to sign the Agreement to Purchase Parking Technology and Related Services with the IPS Group, Inc.
 1. **Yes: All**

G. Reports

1. ***Staff***

- i. **Town Administrator Loveless** deferred his report to the Executive Session.
- ii. **Attorney Hoffman** deferred his report to the Executive Session.
- iii. **Chief Yabe** reported the following:
 1. He is planning for a comprehensive emergency management project meeting involving Anderson Island and the surrounding communities some time in the spring.
 2. Last week, a new Public Safety officer graduated from the academy. He was among the top performers both in academic and practical testing. Our next new Public Safety officer graduates next week. He has been attending his practical testing this week and he is performing well.
- iv. **Public Works Director Burlingame** reported the following:
 1. He is excited to have a pre-construction meeting for Military Road tomorrow. He anticipates work starting in the next few weeks.

2. ***Council***

- i. **Councilmember Neal** reported the following:
 1. He welcomed the citizens in attendance. He appreciates their involvement in the democratic process.
 2. Steilacoom is now a part of the Maritime National Heritage Area. There may be grant opportunities that come with this. Administrator Loveless recommended the Steilacoom Historical Museum Association be the leading agency to apply for grants. The group is looking for a representative of the Town to join them. He is happy to continue fulfilling this role or will offer it to someone else. Everyone supported him continuing.
 3. The Public Safety Advisory Committee (PSAC) has elected Tom Wie as the new president of the committee. They are still working on the 2024 Workplan.
 4. West Piece Fire and Rescue has a new assistant chief. He expects to see him at many PSAC meetings.
 5. PSAC appreciates the Council-appointed task of investigating infrared laser technology. They are interested in a demonstration and in exploring the technology further.
 6. Tomorrow and Thursday he will be in Olympia for City Action Days. He has several meetings planned with State officials.

- ii. **Councilmember Franklin** had no report.
- iii. **Councilmember Henderson** reported the following:
 - 1. She thanked Alex Chaney for leading a work party at the 5th Street waterway. It was very successful.
 - 2. We have a flourishing Community Garden led by Carol Saynisch. It is going to be another community jewel. She thanked everyone involved.
- iv. **Councilmember Johnson** had no report.
- v. **Councilmember Grasher** reported the following:
 - 1. She gave an update on Valentines for Veterans, thanking students at Harrison Preparatory School in particular. Collection of valentines is over and they will now move into the distribution phase.
 - 2. Pierce Conservation District has an election. It is too late to register online but you can ask for a specific and special ballot. Doing so will permit citizens to vote in person at Pioneer Park Pavilion on February 21.
 - 3. She spoke with Representative Leavitt and Maria Petty about House Bill 1956, which will soon be named the Lucas Petty Act in memory of a young man who lost his life to an accidental fentanyl overdose.
 - 4. There will be a town hall in Dupont on February 17 from 1-2:30 p.m. Representatives Leavitt and Bronoske will be there. Please reach out to Representatives and Councilmembers.
 - 5. She reminded everyone to contact Council through their official emails and not on social media.

3. *Mayor*

- i. **Mayor Muri** reported the following:
 - 1. He will be out for town for the next Council meeting, though he will try to Zoom in, and will be going to China again in March.
 - 2. There are several upcoming Kiwanis meetings with speakers:
 - a. March 7, Pierce County Sheriff
 - b. March 21, Legislative Update from Representative Leavitt
 - c. April 11, Chambers Bay Restoration Project by Pierce County South Puget Sound Salmon Enhancement Group

H. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

- 1. **Councilmember Franklin** moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to go into Executive Session for approximately 62 minutes to end at approximately 8:30 to discuss claims and litigation and personnel issues in accordance with RCW 42.30.110 paragraph I.

I. Executive Session

- 1. Legal Issues
 - i. An Executive Session to discuss Legal Issues started at approximately 7:27 p.m. and lasted until 8:19 p.m. Other than adjourning the meeting, no actions were taken and no decisions were made in the Executive Session.