

August 4, 2020

Steilacoom Town Council Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:
August 4, 2020

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

ROLL CALL:

In attendance were Mayor Lucas, 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 Bollman.

Mayor Lucas led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

1. Minutes of July 21, 2020
2. Approval of Payroll Checks #113984 - #113992 in the amount of \$164,756.19
3. Approval of Claims Checks #113999 - #114030 in the amount of \$239,992.35 and Approval of Claims Checks #114094-#114139 in the amount of \$88,897.30 and Manual Checks #114031, #114073, #114080 & #114093 in the amount of \$10,095.31
4. Mayor Pro Tempore (AB 3003)

Yes: All

AUDIENCE INPUT:
Non-Agenda Items

No public comments.

REPORTS:
Mayor

Mayor Lucas reported the following:

- The "Suits for Soldiers" program will be moved from downstairs of Town Hall to American Credit Union on North Fort.
- Reported that from the train incident all West Pierce personnel that were involved have tested negative for COVID-19 and are back to work.
- Stated that out of the 320 COVID tests that were performed here in Town, seven people tested positive. They were notified within 48 hours. There may be another testing site in Town at a later date.
- The water in the Puget Sound is cold but the beaches are packed with people.
- Happy to report that many more people are voting by mail.

Administrator

Town Administrator Loveless reported the following:

- Reported that a tentative agreement has been reached on a five year building lease for the DSHS Administration building on Lafayette Street. Deferred maintenance to the building will take place as part of the new agreement.
- A fall/winter childcare program will be announced on Monday. These programs will take place at Cherrydale and Saltar's Point schools. They are very labor intensive therefore costs have increased.

August 4, 2020

Steilacoom Town Council Minutes

Administrator cont.

- After observing a drive-thru COVID testing site, he stated, our walkup testing in Town was much smoother and faster.
- In regards to the CARES Act money, the Town was allocated 193,000. The Town has dispersed 138,000 to rental and utility assistance, local businesses and to the food bank.

Attorney

Attorney Hoffman reported the following:

- Reported no new litigation.
- The one piece of litigation that the Town was involved with is complete. We are just waiting for signed documents.

Public Works

Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- Reviewed new and current redevelopment taking place throughout Town. The new storm water requirements are tough.
- The street crews have been busy with pavement painting throughout Town.
- Happy to report the dock ramp has been repaired and is back in service.
- The parks are getting hammered with use due to the beautiful weather and COVID restrictions. Staff is dealing with a lot more garbage.
- Director Burlingame responded to a camp fire that was still burning in Farrell's Marsh. West Pierce Fire & Rescue responded. It is concerning under these dry conditions. He encouraged anyone that sees this occurring to call 911.

Public Safety

Chief Yabe reported the following:

- All the quarantined officers are back to work. The concern of COVID-19 is real and serious to all employees that come in contact with the public.
- Reported that the Pierce County Correspondence program is now fully staffed. This is a mental health outreach program where a crisis responder assists law enforcement personnel. In depth training for officers will take place later this month on how to best utilize this resource.
- Department wide photographs will be taking place. Plans are in place to post these on our Town website with cautions in place of balancing our officers private lives.
- Interviews have been scheduled for lateral candidates later this month.
- Reported that even after the recent fatality on the railroad tracks, five pedestrians were removed from trespassing along the tracks at the ferry dock.

Council

Councilmember Neal had no comment.

Councilmember Franklin had no comment.

Councilmember Henderson reported the following:

- Reviewed the outcome of the Pierce Transit Composition Review Board Meeting that took place in July. Elections will take place later.
- Asked about a possible sewer leak down by the dock. Answer: Yes, we had a mechanical failure in a pump which the crew were able to repair.
- Gave us an annual knotweed update. The program is doing well. We have a few areas in Town that still have plants but those will be sprayed in September.
- Reported that they had a successful work party at Saltar’s Point Park this morning. Thanked everyone that was involved.

Councilmember Crumley reported the following:

- Thanked Mark Burlingame for putting out the fire in Farrell’s Marsh.
- He commented that Attorney Hoffman’s letter regarding the Farrell’s Marsh beaver situation was very clear and informative. Because the Town is aware of the beaver causing a problem it cannot be ignored.
- Asked about the possibility of a pickle ball court being located at the downtown tennis court area.

Councilmember Smith reported the following:

- Asked if there were any reports of people having COVID-19 in Steilacoom. Answer: Yes, but not attributed to any Town meetings as far as we know.
- He commented that he would like to see the council meetings take place down at Town Hall again.

ADJOURNMENT:

The August 4, 2020 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

STUDY SESSION:

A study session to discuss the 2021-2022 Biennium Budget – Utility Capital Projects and Council Thoughts and Ideas was convened at 7:16 p.m. and adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Town Administrator

Mayor