

November 3, 2020

Steilacoom Town Council Minutes

CALL TO ORDER:
November 3, 2020

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

ROLL CALL:

In attendance were Mayor Lucas, Councilmembers Neal, Henderson, Crumley, and Smith. Councilmember Franklin was excused. Staff members in attendance were Town Administrator Loveless, Attorney Hoffman, Public Safety Director Yabe, Public Works Director Burlingame, Town Planner Fortner and Administrative Assistant Bollman.

Mayor Lucas led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

CONSENT CALENDAR:

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

1. Minutes of October 20, 2020
2. Approval of Claims Checks #114817 - #114886 in the amount of \$324,238.33 and Manual Checks #114715 & #114717 in the amount of \$10,486.26.
3. Mayor Pro-Tempore (AB 3034)

Yes: All

AUDIENCE INPUT:
Non-Agenda Items

No public comments.

QUASI-JUDICIAL PUBLIC HEARINGS:

Vacation of Puyallup Street and Alleyway (AB 3033) (Ordinance #1632)

Mayor Lucas asked the following questions:

1. Has any Councilmembers had ex-parte contact with any of the parties to the hearing? Answer – No
2. Are there any challenges to any Councilmember's or the Mayor's participation in the Public Hearing? Answer – No
3. Swore in those planning to testify.

Town Planner Fortner delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

Mayor Lucas opened the Public Hearing and invited comments from the audience. The following people spoke.

Debra Dick, 2303 Lexington Street, Steilacoom. She is strongly opposed to the vacation of Puyallup Street. She stated that it adversely effects their property.

Peter Sato, 1902 Starling Street, Steilacoom. He is opposed to the vacation due to many concerns, such as creating a cul-de-sac and tree removal. He urged the Town to consider a different valuation of the land.

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QUASI-JUBICIAL PUBLIC HEARING continued:

Hugo Fischer, 1115 Sequalish Street, Steilacoom. He feels that this ordinance would change the character of the neighborhood with the loss of trees and vegetation. He feels a path would be much better than 2 homes.

Kari Albrecht, 310 Puyallup Street, Steilacoom. She is both concerned about the trees that would be cleared from this property and the additional ambient lighting that would be added to the Town.

Janice Stracener, 811 Starling Street, Steilacoom. She is concerned with non-stop construction of homes and the traffic flow patterns that would be re-routed on to Starling Street. She asked if there has been an Environmental Impact Statement on stream beds in the area.

Kyle Dyer, 1914 Starling Street, Steilacoom. He has witnessed a lot of wildlife in this area due to it being a wildlife corridor. Therefore, developing this property would not be in the public's best interest. He is concerned with erosion in the area. Suggested a public walking trail.

Deborah Turpin, Nisqually Street, Steilacoom. She asked who signed the petition to vacate the street, not the people that were affected by this project. She is also concerned about the protection of the Yew tree on this property.

John Gibson, 4021 North 31st Street, Tacoma. As the applicant, he answered many of the concerns that were expressed by the citizens.

Yes: All

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

Yes: Smith, Neal and Lucas

No: Henderson and Crumley

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to approve Ordinance 1632, thereby approving the street vacation for Puyallup Street between Starling and Nisqually Streets and an alleyway in Block 27 of Balch's part of Steilacoom.

PUBLIC HEARINGS:
Revisions to Frequently Flooded Areas Regulations (AB 3025) (Ordinance #1630)

Town Planner Fortner delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

Mayor Lucas opened the Public Hearing and invited comments from the audience. No one spoke.

Yes: All

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

Yes: All

Councilmember Neal moved and **Councilmember Henderson** seconded to approval of Ordinance 1630, thereby amending SMC 16.16.600 through 16.16.690, and SMC 16.16.900.

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**PUBLIC HEARING cont.
Revisions to Wireless
Communications
Regulations (AB 3026)
(Ordinance #1631)**

Town Planner Fortner delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.

Mayor Lucas opened the Public Hearing and invited comments from the audience. No one spoke.

Yes: All

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

Yes: All

Councilmember Henderson moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to approval of Ordinance 1631, thereby amending SMC 18.22.130 and SMC 18.08.895.

**ACTION ITEMS:
School Resource
Officer – Amendment to
Exhibit A (AB 3030)**

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

Councilmember Henderson moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the appropriate documents with the Steilacoom Historical School District amending Exhibit A of the Interlocal agreement for the School Resource Officer.

Yes: All

**NEW ITEMS:
Special Valuation Tax
(AB 3029)**

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

Councilmember Smith moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to approve the application for Special Valuation and execute the Historic Preservation Special Valuation Covenant with the property owners Rosa Beth and Terrill L. Gibson, and authorize the Mayor to sign on the Town's behalf.

Yes: All

**Humane Society –
Sheltering Contract
(AB 3035)**

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

Councilmember Henderson moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to authorize the Mayor to sign the Contract for Services with the Humane Society for Tacoma and Pierce County renewing animal sheltering services for 2021, 2022, and 2023.

Yes: All

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**New Items cont.
Administration Building
Carpet Replacement Bid
Award, Great Floors
(AB 3036)**

Yes: All

**REPORTS:
Mayor**

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

Councilmember Neal moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to approve the estimate as submitted by Great Floors Commercial Sales under State Bid/NASPO contract #03916 in the estimated amount of \$36,440.92 and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary contract documents on behalf of the Town of Steilacoom.

Mayor Lucas reported the following:

- Stated that he appreciates Councilmember Henderson making contact with the Audubon Society for bird watching in Farrell's Marsh.
- Expect during the next Council meeting for the Mayor to request \$5,000.00 for the South Sound Housing Affordability Partnership.
- Commented on him voting tonight regarding agenda bill 3033.

Administrator

Town Administrator Loveless reported the following:

- He apologized for the email issues that Councilmembers are having. The new laptops are getting ready to be passed out to Council.
- He gave us a CARES funding update. Reported that he is in the process of closing out the program.

Attorney

Attorney Hoffman reported no new litigation.

Public Safety

Chief Yabe reported the following:

- Reported that the officer that had been out on quarantine, due to possible Covid-19 exposure, is now back to work. Everyone is healthy.
- The ballot box is now officially closed in Town. No events to report.
- Our on-line crime reporting system is up and running. We have had half dozen reports submitted.
- Reported that by using a throw rope one of our officers was able to rescue a fisherman who got stuck in the mud up to their waist.
- Our newest officer arrested a DUI driver with ten previous DUI incidents. He was booked and charged with felony DUI violations.
- Our officers were involved with an individual in crisis. The incident was contained by using ideal professionalism on the part of the officers.

Public Works

Public Works Director Burlingame reported the following:

- Happy to report that the grind & overlay of Old Military Road was awarded by the PSRC. This is a 2024 project that totals 750,000 in Federal funds.
- Staff is working on correspondence with the State Department of Transportation to get the Rigney Road non-motorized project off the ground.

Public Works continued

- Pierce County had comments regarding the round-about project which involves the ferry lanes. Our engineering firm is working on their suggestions.
- The Marietta lift station upgrade project is currently out to bid. Bids will be opened on November 18th.
- Crews are very busy trying to keep storm drains clear of leaves.
- Solar rebates were recently issued to residents that utilize solar energy.

Council

Councilmember Smith reported the following:

- He still has no Town email right now.

Councilmember Crumley reported the following:

- Great work from staff with distributing the CARES funding.
- He feels that the housing development, that they voted on tonight, changes the character of the Town.

Councilmember Henderson reported the following:

- She stated that she would have liked more discussion regarding AB 3033.
- Complimented staff for the management of the CARES program.
- She gave Council an update on Farrell’s Marsh and her contacting the Audubon Society.
- Gave us a noxious weed update.
- She noted that there were a number of people that signed a petition for The Play Time Adventure program. She discussed why the program is currently not in session with COVID-19 restrictions.

Councilmember Neal reported the following:

- He commented that the CARES program is in much better shape compared to other neighboring communities.
- He appreciates other Councilmembers concern with more developments. However, the requirements of the Growth Management Act mandates communities to grow and build more homes.
- He stated that he really appreciates the Chief’s weekly reports.
- He recently attended the annual Puget Sound Regional Council meeting. The Vision 2050 document was amended and passed.
- He is proud to share that his daughter in-law is the economic director for the City of Puyallup.

ADJOURNMENT:

The November 3, 2020 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 9:26 p.m.

STUDY SESSION:

The study session to discuss short-term rentals and 2021 Legislative priorities was cancelled.

Town Administrator

Mayor

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