

**CALL TO ORDER:**  
March 16, 2021

**Mayor Pro Tempore Crumley** called the regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council to order at 6:30 p.m. in the Town Hall.

**ROLL CALL:**

In attendance were Mayor Pro Tem Crumley, Councilmembers Neal, Henderson, Franklin and Smith. Staff members in attendance were Town Administrator Loveless, Attorney Hoffman, Public Safety Director Yabe, West Pierce Fire and Rescue Chief Sharp, West Pierce Fire and Rescue Deputy Chief Boltz, Public Works Director Burlingame, Town Planner Fortner, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

**Mayor Pro Tem Crumley** led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

**CONSENT CALENDAR:**

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

1. Minutes of March 2, 2021
2. Approval of Payroll Checks #115467 - #115471 in the amount of \$187,803.97
3. Approval of Claims Checks #115474 - #115532 in the amount of \$289,160.79 and Manual Check #115466 in the amount of \$98.98
4. Animal Sheltering Agreement – Amendment (AB 3056)
5. Re-appoint Kent Boyle and appoint Jean Carr to Planning Commission (AB 3058)
6. Set hearing date – re-designation and rezone of mill property (AB 3060)

Yes: All

**AUDIENCE INPUT:**  
Non-Agenda Items

No public comments.

**ACTION ITEMS:**  
Sale of Property at 1100  
Diggs Street (AB 3053)

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

**Councilmember Smith** moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore to sign the appropriate documents selling the property at 1100 Diggs Street to the Steilacoom Historical School District for use as the School District’s buildings and grounds maintenance facility or other school district administrative purpose.

Yes: All

**NEW ITEMS:**  
Appointment of Mayor (AB  
3055)

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

**Town Council and Administrator Loveless** discussed and agreed to the process to be used to appoint the interim Mayor.

**Sunnyside Beach Park –  
Revocable License  
Agreement (AB 3057)**

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

**Councilmember Neal** moved and **Councilmember Smith** seconded to authorize Mayor Pro Tempore Crumley to sign the Sunnyside Beach Park Revocable License Agreement with Brooker Enterprises, LLC dba KayakShare.com.

**Yes: All**

**EMS Levy Renewal (AB  
3059) (RES 1189)**

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

**Re-designate and rezone  
mill property (AB 3060)**

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

**REPORTS:**

**Mayor Pro Tem**

**Mayor Pro Tem Crumley** reported the following:

- Efforts to trap the beaver at Farrell’s Marsh have been indefinitely postponed. No further action will be taken until we have a mayor. What happens to the beavers will be the next mayor’s decision.
- April 1<sup>st</sup> is the deadline to decide if 4<sup>th</sup> of July festivities will be taking place or not. Citizens are welcome to give Council their input.
- School Superintendent Kathi Weight has informed him that their baseball field will be renamed Lucas Field in honor of his longstanding support of their schools.
- After Ron Lucas’s resignation last meeting, there was no chance for a retirement party. He shared a few heartfelt words outlining and thanking Mr. Lucas for his outstanding 28 years as a public servant.

**Administrator**

**Town Administrator Loveless** had no reports.

**Attorney**

**Attorney Hoffman** reported no new litigation.

**Public Safety**

**Chief Yabe** reported the following:

- On behalf of the Public Safety Department, he wanted to thank Ron Lucas for his service to the town. Our officers are committed to supporting our community during any periods of transition.
- Over the past week, he has attended a few regional meetings with public safety leadership. One was with South Sound 911, where they discussed some forthcoming updates to the functionality of the 911 system, which has not been updated since the 1960s. Another expected change is a new nationwide mental health treatment telephone number. Similar to 911, the new number will be 988. While this system is not yet in place in Pierce County, South Sound 911 is working through all of the challenges in implementing this type of resource for all of us.
- He has been meeting with other police chiefs in our immediate area to further discuss a number of police-related bills that are in the legislature, ahead of a tentative meeting with our district representatives.

**Public Safety Cont'd**

- They responded to the drive-by shooting that occurred in Puyallup March 15<sup>th</sup>, as part of a regional major crimes investigation team. This team has helped with past investigations in our town when the needed effort surpassed our available resources.
- He has received a few traffic concerns via our new email address and our officers have responded to those areas of concern and increased their presence.
- Over the last week, he has received some questions regarding pedestrian right-of-way at crosswalks. State law is quite clear that vehicles do not have to stop and allow pedestrians to cross unless the pedestrian is already within the crosswalk. Additionally, state law prohibits pedestrians from entering a crosswalk without giving an approaching vehicle enough time to safely stop. While it is always appreciated when vehicles do stop and allow pedestrians waiting upon the sidewalk to cross, there is no requirement for vehicles to do so.
- He has met with our contracted animal control officers, who expressed appreciation for the number of changes that Council authorized for our animal code.
- Lastly, over the past month, officers have responded to a residence in town for mental health concerns. The resident had become a frequent caller to 911 and had been harassing neighbors and others involved with the residence. Thanks to the efforts of the Pierce County Co-Responders, the resident's safety and well-being were better assured, and the resident was provided with resources well-beyond that which could have been provided by law enforcement alone. As a result of the co-responder's involvement, the repeated calls for assistance and neighborhood disruptions have completely ceased. This is a great example of the benefits of investment into comprehensive community mental health and crisis programs.

**Public Works**

**Public Works Director Burlingame** reported the following:

- He has received good feedback on the roundabout project from concerned citizens on Anderson Island. They have made some minor design changes in response and are continuing to proceed with the project. If July 4<sup>th</sup> festivities occur, the parade may be impacted.
- The Marietta Street Pump Station project is moving forward. Construction will likely start on or about April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Geotech work is being done on the Sunnyside seawall project. They are looking to get all the pieces they need in place for a July 15<sup>th</sup> start date. Work cannot begin before that due to a prohibition that prevents work during a local fish spawning window.

**West Pierce Fire and Rescue Dept.**

**Chief Sharp** reported the following:

- Changes are coming to emergency medical services that have been in the works for some time. They have added a fifth medic unit and a squad unit that serve the Town.

**Council**

**Councilmember Smith** reported the following:

- He suggested that Council and Staff take a look at keeping a virtual option for attending Town Council even after virtual distancing is no longer a requirement.

**Councilmember Henderson** reported the following:

- She agreed that a virtual option for attending Town Council would be an enhancement.
- She stated that Mayor Pro Tem Crumley did a wonderful job honoring Former Mayor Ron Lucas and would like to add that Mr. Lucas did a wonderful job of appointing people to positions.
- She advertised a St. Patrick’s Day work party at Farrell’s Marsh spreading woodchips (courtesy of Dick Muri).

**Councilmember Franklin** reported the following:

- He suggested a flashing pedestrian crosswalk be added to Union and Sequelish while the roundabout construction is taking place.

**Councilmember Neal** reported the following:

- He also agreed that he would like to see virtual option remain for attending Town Council.
- He thanked the Kiwanis Club for their adopt-a-street cleanup of Union Avenue.
- He gave everyone a legislative update and highlighted a number of bills that may have an impact on the Town.
- The Pierce County Regional Council county-wide planning revisions are starting. He is open to people contacting him about it.

**ADJOURNMENT:**

The March 16, 2021 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

**STUDY SESSION:**

A study session to discuss Short-Term Rentals was convened at 7:32 p.m. and adjourned at 8:07 p.m.

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Town Administrator

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Mayor Pro Tempore