

MEMORANDUM

To: Mayor Muri and Members of the Town Council
From: Paul Loveless, Town Administrator
Date: April 22, 2022
Subject: Updates

Administration:

Upcoming Meetings:

Council Meeting – May 3, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88084688382>

Planning Commission – May 5, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83307091988>

Civil Service Commission – May 5, 2022, at 2:00 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84136797235>

Preservation and Review Board – April 27, 2022, at 6:30 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81692100448>

Parks, Community Services, and Environment Advisory Committee – May 16, 2022, at 6:30 PM. Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86074324447>

Public Safety Advisory Committee – May 18, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Zoom Invite: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87136579024>

Town Positions Available:

The Town is currently recruiting for Public Works Seasonal Maintenance Worker positions, Before and After School Program Recreation Aide positions, and Summer Camp positions. See the Town's official website at townofsteilacoom.org for details.

Public Safety Advisory Committee Online Survey:

The Public Safety Advisory Committee is requesting your input. Please complete the online survey at <https://forms.gle/rLGmVksRqwjumu348>.

See Something – Say Something:

If you see something suspicious or if you have been a victim of a crime, please contact the Department of Public Safety. For in-process emergencies, call 911. For non-emergencies, please call either (253) 287-4455 or (800) 562-9800 or email crimetips@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Community Development:

Zoning Ordinance Amendments:

The Town Council will continue the public hearing on zoning ordinance text amendments regarding accessory dwelling units, home occupations, short- and long-term lodging or care facilities, parking standards, group care facilities and definitions at the meeting on May 3, 2022, at 6:00 PM.

Setback Variance Request:

The Town has received a request for a variance to the street building setbacks for 417 Short Street. A public hearing before the Hearing Examiner will be held on May 17, 2022, starting at 10 AM virtually using Zoom at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85119957376>.

Code Compliance:

The Building Inspector/Code Compliance Officer is focused on inspecting construction sites for erosion control measures, following up on vehicles being stored on the rights-of-way, vegetation control, and reviewing building permit applications.

Community Services:

Before and After School Care:

Registration is now open for the Town of Steilacoom's Before/After School Program for 2021-2022.

Club AM and PM is offering before and after school care for Kindergarten - 5th Grade school students every day with the exception of national holidays.

- Location: Cherrydale Elementary
- Pre-registration is required and payments can be made online, by phone, or by check.
- Multiple child discounts are available as well as Military and Free/Reduced Lunch qualified students.
- Discounts cannot be combined.
- Part-time and full-time rates now available!

Additional information and registration is available on the Town's official website at <https://townofsteilacoom.org/156/Youth-Programs>.

Public Safety:

Over the past week, 123 Public Safety incidents occurred in town, including the following:

Emergency and patrol incidents

- 6 medical aid responses
- 29 suspicious circumstance/security checks
- 4 responses for persons in crisis/welfare checks
- 63 traffic stops
- 1 response for residential/commercial alarms
- 1 motor vehicle collision
- 2 arrests for criminal arrest warrants

Crimes against persons

- 1 incident of alleged abuse, still under investigation
- 2 incidents of domestic violence/disturbance

Crimes against property

- 1 incident of fraud/identity theft
- 1 incident of theft

Significant information:

Public Safety is working on plans to partner with our Public Safety Advisory Committee to host frequent neighborhood meetings. The intent is to bring our officers into the community for increased communication and familiarization. More information to follow.

Public Safety is collaborating as part of the West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition for participation in the 2022 Cascadia Rising training exercise. This exercise will simulate a major earthquake suffered throughout our region and our response to that incident. Public Safety has participated in critical transportation infrastructure workshopping with our regional partners throughout Pierce County. We are also reviewing our emergency management procedures and increasing our capabilities for communication for resources during disasters.

Announcements:

CodeRED is a new emergency notification system for the Town of Steilacoom. At no cost, persons may opt-in to receive emergency and general notifications, to include:

- Missing persons/children
- Evacuation notices
- Natural disasters

- Boil water advisories
- Inclement weather warnings
- Criminal activities
- Road closures/traffic alerts
- Shelter in place/lockdowns

The Town of Steilacoom will be joining a nationwide network of emergency notifications which can be accessed from the no-cost cell phone app (CodeRED Mobile Alert). Persons may also opt-in to receive notifications from many of our surrounding towns and cities, to include:

- Tacoma
- Lakewood
- Puyallup
- University Place
- Bonney Lake
- Sumner
- Orting
- Buckley
- Carbonado
- Wilkeson

Ways to opt-in:

- Visit <https://tinyurl.com/3zumsxsv>
 - Text “SteilacoomAlert” to 99411
 - Call (866) 939-0911
- Questions about the program?
- More information can be found on our department website: <https://tinyurl.com/2yr6tbv6>
 - Email Public Safety at: CodeRED@ci.steilacoom.wa.us

Reminders:

Please visit our department website (<https://tinyurl.com/2bz3jzey>) for assistance with:

- Online crime reporting
- Anonymous reporting of suspicious activity
- Reporting of persistent traffic concerns
- Unwanted prescription medication
- Concealed pistol licenses

In-progress emergencies can be reported directly to 911. To reach a police officer NOT during an emergency, please call either (253) 287-4455 or (800) 562-9800.

The lobby of Public Safety is open Tuesdays through Fridays, from 9:00 am until 12:00 pm. Staff remain available by phone and appointment from 1:00 pm until 5:00 pm.

Helpful links:

When to call 9-1-1: <https://tinyurl.com/2p9bs3ej>

Department of Licensing disability and medical designation: <https://tinyurl.com/mpfypjsb>

South Sound 911 Emergency Health Profile: <https://tinyurl.com/ycktkze> (A cell phone is required to use this service)

Injured or deceased wildlife:

- City of Lakewood Animal Control: <https://tinyurl.com/d7n3hjzn>
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife: <https://tinyurl.com/579d8k6d>

Public Works:

Building Energy Efficiency/Replacement Project:

Air Systems Engineering is on hold waiting for parts for the Community Center. A portion of this work will be delayed at least 60 days due to challenges in receiving two of the HVAC units. The lighting contractor will commence work once the components arrive.

Streets and Storm:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew concentrated on sidewalk maintenance, sign maintenance, ditch maintenance, street sweeping, repairing the riding mower, and performed other maintenance activities.

Electrical:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew completed an owner requested disconnection/reconnection in the 300 block of Third Street; repaired a faulty secondary line on Martin Street which caused a small power outage; installed a temporary meter in the 1900 block of Starling Street; performed annual testing of the wayside horns with BNSF officials; began scoping a project to install new primary wire on portions of the system west of Union Avenue near Martin Street; repaired street lights at the request of the City of Lakewood in accordance with our interlocal agreement; and performed other maintenance activities.

Water/Sewer:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew assisted the Electric crew with the power outage on Martin Street; performed water main inspections at the School District maintenance facility; repaired one of the sewer jet trucks and transported the other to the repair facility; jetted sewers throughout Town; commenced annual fire hydrant maintenance; cut brush around facilities; and performed other maintenance activities.

Parks, Buildings and Grounds:

Crew Emphasis:

The crew repaired the entrance gate to Sunnyside Beach Park; repaired a plumbing leak in the Town Hall kitchen; mowed, trimmed, and maintained various parks and facilities; removed and replaced soil and plants in the planters near the Post Office on Lafayette Street at the request of the Garden Club; and performed other maintenance activities.

Steilacoom High School – National Honor Society Project at the Community Center:

Blessed with an afternoon of sunshine in the midst of a string of unusually cold and rainy days, on Friday, April 15, students from Steilacoom High School's National Honor Society (NHS) spent several hours sprucing up a natural area on the grounds of the Steilacoom Community Center.

Because some native plants have imposters with a similar appearance, the work session began with a briefing about distinguishing native from non-native plants. Native Oregon grape can be confused with invasive English holly, trailing blackberry with Himalayan blackberry, and red huckleberry, before leafing, with scotch broom.

The students learned to identify native plants to preserve such as salal, sword fern, trailing blackberry, low bush Oregon grape, snowberry, and red huckleberry. Invasive non-native plants such as Himalayan blackberry, English holly and ivy were also pointed out.

The work then began. Divided into teams of 4-5, the students were led by Erin Anderson, current NHS advisor, and Roberta Black, a retired Steilacoom High School educator and previous NHS advisor. Load after load of invasive plants, downed limbs, and vegetative debris were wheeled away.

The two-hour volunteer effort passed rapidly, creating more space for native plants to thrive and an improved look to the Steilacoom Community Center. Thank you, Steilacoom High School NHS for your pride in our Town and improving the environment.

Other:

Enroll Now for Kindergarten in the 2022-23 school year!

Full-day Kindergarten is free -- and it's an important part of your child's success! You can enroll electronically on the Steilacoom Historical School District website, <https://www.steilacoom.k12.wa.us/Page/4179>.

We are already planning for staffing and curriculum needs for the fall. **Enroll now and receive a Kindergarten Welcome Box!** You will also receive important district communications over the summer, including food service and transportation information. Please please contact our Enrollment Department at enrollment@steilacoom.k12.wa.us or (253) 983-2228 for assistance.

Sunnyside Beach Community Clean-up:

Join us Saturday, June 4 from 8-9:30 A.M.

Steilacoom Public Works will provide grabbers and bags, but it is suggested to bring gardening/work gloves if you have them. Please feel free to reach out to Liz Grasher with any questions at elizabeth.grasher@ci.steilacoom.wa.us. Sunnyside Beach Park address: 2509 Chambers Creek Road. See you then!



GARDEN CLUB PLANT SALE



The Steilacoom Garden Club is holding its annual plant sale on Saturday, May 7th from 9:00 to 12:00 in the Multipurpose Court on Lafayette Street next to the Bair Bistro. There will be a variety of plants: perennials, annuals, groundcovers, shrubs, bulbs, and vegetable and herb starts. This is a great time to fill up your garden with some new and different plants. Garden-related items will also be on sale. And do not forget Mother's Day is the next day!!!

Proceeds from the Plant Sale support the Garden Club civic projects including the flowerpots downtown, the Scarecrows around town and the Scarecrow contest in the fall, and the Christmas swags for businesses and for the 42nd Military Memorial. The Garden Club has been providing civic beautification projects for Steilacoom since the 1920's, so this is an organization you want to support.

DONATIONS OF PLANTS are needed! We appreciate your support by bringing plants to the site the previous day with a label (so we know how to sort them). We ask that no invasive plant species be donated, e.g., Shasta Daisies. Plants can be brought to the Multipurpose Court between 4:00-6:00 on Friday May 6th or at 7:30 Saturday morning.

Steilacoom Kiwanis 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Historic Stroll:

Usher in spring with a healthy and fun Steilacoom event while making an impact on the lives of others at risk of hunger!

Sunday, 24 April 2022: Steilacoom Kiwanis 5K Run/Walk and 1 Mile Historic Stroll to support the **We Love Steilacoom Food Pantry**. Suggested minimum donation of \$10/person or \$20/family. Choose your start time between **0900 and 1100**. Courses close at **1200**.

The 5K non-timed, non-competitive event includes scenic views and trails. Local historians and Steilacoom Tribal members will be posted at historic sites along the 1 Mile route, eager to share Steilacoom's fascinating past.

Register online with your donation at <http://www.kiwanisclubofsteilacoom.org/run-walk-registration/> by 21 April for a chance to win the prize drawing. One ticket for each \$10 donation. Drawing will be held 24 April at noon at the SHMA patio. Need not be present to win. All donors receive a gift of appreciation. Start and in-person registration will be at the Steilacoom Historical Museum patio at Rainier and Main St. COVID-19 guidelines will be observed. Questions? Contact Nancy Henderson at nehenders@comcast.net.

Library Exploration Series:

The Friends of Steilacoom Library and the Pierce County Steilacoom Library present the award winning author, Steve Olson for the final presentation in the 2021-22 series on Friday, May 13 at 2:00 pm via zoom. Mr. Olson, sponsored by Humanities Washington, will present on "Atomic Washington: Our Nuclear Past, Present and Future". A long time Washingtonian, he grew up in Othello, just 15 miles away from the closest nuclear reactor at Hanford. He is the author of "Mapping Human History" and "Eruption: The Untold Story of Mt. St. Helens". His most recent book, "The Apocalypse Factory" tells the story of Plutonium and the making of the Atomic Age and contains significant information on Hanford. To register go to the Pierce County Library Web Site (piercecountylibrary.org), click on the calendar, select May 13 and the presentation.

Little Free Pantry:

The Town of Steilacoom in partnership with the We Love Steilacoom Association and the Lakewood Rotary are sponsoring a Little Free Pantry at the Community Center. Stop by and drop a nonperishable food item off or if in need, pick something up.

We Love Steilacoom Association – Steilacoom Food Bank:

The We Love Steilacoom Association operates a food pantry/bank located at the Steilacoom Community Church, 1603 Rainier Street, Steilacoom, Washington, 98388. You do not need to be a member of the Church to obtain assistance through the Food Pantry.

The Food Pantry has weekly distributions on Saturdays from 9:30 AM to 11:30 AM. Preregistration is not required. For an emergency food need or if you would like additional information, contact Paul Loveless at 253.581.1912.

Ron Lucas Classic Golf Tournament:

The Steilacoom Historical Museum Association presents the 2022 Ron Lucas Classic Golf Tournament on May 14, 2022. The 9-hole scramble will take place at the Meadow Park Golf Course.

Register and pay online by May 11 at tinyurl.com/shmagolf

Cost

- \$50 – Individuals
- \$180 – Foursome

Prizes

Questions – Contact Paul Loveless at 253.581.1912 or paul.loveless@ci.steilacoom.wa.us