

**City of Puyallup
Regular City Council Meeting
February 4, 2014**

(These minutes are not verbatim. The meeting was recorded, and copies of the recording are retained for a period of six years from the date of the meeting and are available upon request.)

COUNCILMEMBERS PRESENT: Mayor Knutsen, Deputy Mayor Hopkins, Councilmember Door, Councilmember Palmer, Councilmember Shadko, Councilmember Swanson, Councilmember Vermillion

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Council Action: A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Hopkins, second by Councilmember Vermillion, to approve the agenda. The motion passed 7-0.

CONSIDERATION OF THE MINUTES

Minutes of January 11, 14 and 21, 2014

Council Action: A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Hopkins, second by Councilmember Palmer to approve the minutes of January 11, January 14 and January 21, 2014 as submitted. The motion passed 7-0.

PRESENTATIONS AND/OR PROCLAMATIONS

Central Pierce Fire and Rescue presentation of a Citizen Lifesaving Award to staff members of the Mel Korum YMCA

Central Pierce Fire and Rescue Assistant Chief Ed Hrivnak described the efforts of staff at the Mel Korum YMCA who successfully performed CPR and defibrillated and resuscitated a YMCA patron. He acknowledged Beverly Eredia, Richard Miller, Shawn Klapp, Jordan Stedman, Matthew McDonnell, Kirk Willis, Miriam Ellison and Deb Moran, and presented a "Citizen Lifesaving Award" to Ms. Eredia as supervisor and a second to her staff for recognizing and responding to a life-threatening situation. Assistant Chief Hrivnak also recognized the presence of the gentleman whose life had been in danger, who presented Ms. Eredia with a bouquet of flowers and voiced his appreciation for her efforts and those of her staff.

Presentation by Pierce County Council Member Joyce McDonald

Pierce County District II Council Member Joyce McDonald congratulated Councilmembers Door and Shadko and Mayor Knutsen on their appointments. She issued a reminder regarding the 2015 U.S. Open at Chambers Bay Golf Course, which will draw many visitors to Pierce County. As chair of the Pierce County Flood Control Zone District, she thanked Deputy Mayor

Hopkins for his service on the Advisory Committee, pointed out that the District will provide \$8.5 million for the Calistoga setback levee project and \$6 million to the Tacoma wastewater treatment plant over the next six years, and said both projects will help protect infrastructure throughout the valley. Additionally, as chair of South Sound 9-1-1's policy board, she noted her pleasure that Puyallup is continuing to negotiate with South Sound 9-1-1 regarding the consolidation of emergency communications in the region.

Update on Puyallup's Emergency Management Division

City Manager Bill McDonald introduced Emergency Management Director Bob Bartro, who gave an overview of recent progress within the emergency management division. Mr. Bartro explained that his primary focus is to achieve an Emergency Operations Center (EOC) which is capable of activating and responding effectively. He discussed the steps taken so far in regards to the training of personnel, evaluation of equipment and capabilities, and reconfiguration of the EOC, and noted key relationships with other agencies.

Discussion ensued regarding excess equipment that may be available through JBLM, and Mr. Bartro voiced his intent to investigate all available resources.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Shelly Schlumpf reported on the attendance of Puyallup/Sumner Chamber of Commerce staff at the Washington State Legislative session, where a bill by Representative Norm Johnson to recognize Yakima's Central Washington fair as the official State Fair was presented but failed. Ms. Schlumpf said the Chamber also advocated for a Washington State tourism budget, regulatory reform, and the completion of SR-167. She spoke of a recent break-in at her home and thanked the police department for the quick arrest of the perpetrator.

Mr. Michael James believed the recent moratorium will allow for a focus on quality development in Puyallup. He spoke of the need for a master plan for the Shaw-Pioneer area and suggested a campus-style orientation that encourages walking and pedestrian use. He encouraged thinking beyond distribution uses to retailing and production. He discussed the perceived loss of the view corridor and the maintenance of bicycle and pedestrian connections from the riverfront to the trail, and called for mitigation and requiring development to pay for traffic impacts.

Mr. Bruce Bittman recalled his past comments regarding commuter parking issues on Stewart between 6th and 7th streets and urged Council to support the parking ordinance.

Mr. Merv Swanson spoke regarding oil trains and commented on the amount of work being done on the tracks by Burlington Northern Santa Fe. Noting major incidents have occurred elsewhere in the United States, he questioned Puyallup's preparedness in the event of a catastrophic oil fire. He was concerned that such fires place many lives at stake and warned of the need for the City to have the capability to suppress a fire of that magnitude.

CONSENT AGENDA

Adoption of a resolution authorizing WSDOT to lower the speed limit along North Meridian from Puyallup’s northerly limits to Valley Avenue

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Swanson, second by Deputy Mayor Hopkins to approve the consent agenda. The motion passed 7-0.

RESOLUTION NO. 2248

A RESOLUTION of the City Council of the City of Puyallup, Washington, authorizing the State of Washington’s Department of Transportation to lower the speed limit along North Meridian from Puyallup’s northerly limits to Valley Avenue.

PUBLIC HEARINGS

2013-2014 Parks, Recreation and Open Space (PROS) Element of Puyallup’s Comprehensive Plan:

- a. Public Hearing**
- b. First reading of an ordinance adopting the 2013-2014 PROS plan**

Associate Planner Chris Beale reviewed the latest updates to the 2013-2014 PROS plan, noting that the vision statement was revised to better define the direction of the element. He reviewed the City’s level of service ratings by the State’s Recreation and Conservation Office, noting that Puyallup received an overall “A” rating except in the neighborhood parks category. He summarized the City’s parks service levels, identified new policies within the PROS Plan, and highlighted a projects identified on the Six-Year Capital Improvement Projects list including their anticipated implementation schedule and projected costs. Mr. Beale concluded with staff’s recommendation to approve the draft PROS Plan including two items: to involve and support private league sports clubs in future development plans for city recreational facilities; and to study alternative access routes (i.e. bike lanes, pathways, crosswalks, etc.) related to connecting Veteran’s Park to trailheads near the SR-512 overpass.

In response to a question by Councilmember Palmer, Mr. Beale confirmed that the draft PROS Plan identifies three possible alignments for the Riverwalk Trail extension in the Shaw/Pioneer area. Members of the community and the Friends of the Riverwalk Trail have stated their preference that the extension be constructed along the river and connect to the Foothills Trail; however, current projects underway in the vicinity could make other routes more viable. Mr. Beale assured that at this time, all three options remain available.

Deputy Mayor Hopkins commented that the CIP was flexible and he expected that it would be revised in response to changed conditions. He communicated concerns from the Puyallup Historical Society that language in Section 2(j) of the plan could negatively impact its ability to

secure grant funding, and asked that staff contact Mr. Bob Minnich of the PHS regarding this issue.

Councilmember Swanson suggested tempering the language in 2(j), allowing it to be more generic in support of non-government agencies opening private parks. As the Historical Society's plan involves privately-owned property it doesn't currently own, he suggested removing specific references to Centennial Park while leaving the general language intact. He believed that not specifically naming the park would resolve any grant concerns as well as support the City's ability to encourage this activity along with other privately-initiated park projects.

Mayor Knutsen recalled his request to Mr. Beale to review the ratio of parks to population and consider trail property as park acreage, as trails are part of the park system.

Mayor Knutsen opened the public hearing at 7:17 p.m. No one wished to speak and the public hearing was subsequently closed.

Deputy Mayor Hopkins read a letter from Bill Hilton, a member of the Parks, Recreation and Senior Advisory Board, into the record. The letter expressed Mr. Hilton's appreciation to staff and the citizens who provided their input and offered four suggestions he believed would improve the implementation of the PROS plan.

Councilmember Palmer expressed his desire to see some modified language brought back at second reading regarding the three trail routes to clarify that all three remain options.

Council Action: A motion was made by Councilmember Swanson, second by Deputy Mayor Hopkins, to approve first reading of an ordinance approving the Parks, Recreation and Open Space Element of the Comprehensive Plan with amended language to paragraph 2(j), as follows: "In an effort to promote and highlight historical and important facilities in the city and associated cultural values, consider supporting the establishment of private park facilities contiguous to those facilities." The motion passed 7-0.

ORDINANCES

Second reading of an ordinance adding timed parking zones between 7th and 6th Street NW on the north side of West Stewart; between 3rd and 4th Street SW along the north side of West Meeker; eliminating a timed parking zone between West Meeker and West Pioneer along the west side of 4th Street SW; and establishing a city police vehicle only parking zone between West Meeker and West Pioneer along the west side of 4th Street SW

Council Action: A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Hopkins, second by Councilmember Palmer to approve second reading of the ordinance. With a roll call vote, the motion passed 6-1 (Vermillion).

ORDINANCE NO. 3058

AN ORDINANCE of the City of Puyallup, Washington, amending section 10.40.023 of the Puyallup Municipal Code relating to parking time limits within the City of Puyallup.

Second reading of an ordinance providing for indexed annual adjustments to the water, wastewater, and stormwater utility rates and charges, and further providing for an additional four percent annual increase in the water utility rates in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017

Council Action: A motion was made by Deputy Mayor Hopkins, second by Councilmember Palmer to approve second reading of the ordinance. With a roll call vote, the motion passed 4-3 (Vermillion, Swanson, Knutsen).

ORDINANCE NO. 3059

AN ORDINANCE of the City Council of the City of Puyallup, Washington, amending PMC 14.01.035 to provide for indexed annual adjustments to the water, wastewater and stormwater utility rates and charges based on the Engineering News Record Construction Cost index and to provide for an additional four-percent (4%) annual increase in the water utility rates in 2014, 2015, 2016 and 2017.

OTHER BUSINESS**Freezing Nights Program Impacts**

Police Chief Bryan Jeter explained that in the interest of assessing impacts from the Freezing Nights program (FNP), information is gathered and compiled monthly into a report which is supplied to the FNP administrators. Noting that the pick-up/drop-off site for the program was relocated this year, he reported decreases in the number of complaints regarding congregating or loitering at the pick-up/drop-off site as well as in the number of contacts made with homeless persons. As compared to last year, the calls for service involving homeless persons at the Library, Pavilion and downtown Safeway have decreased, but the number service calls to the East Main Safeway and the Puyallup Executive Park (PEP) have increased and the police department is working with those entities to improve the issues. Noting that the FNP has enforced new guidelines, the chief said the risk of being banned from the program appears to have had a positive effect on behavior.

Chief Jeter further reported on the number of banned participants, explaining that a total of 31 individuals have been permanently banned (with eleven of those bans occurring this year), and another seven individuals have had their participation in the program temporarily suspended. The FNP has stated there were 20 participants in November, 28 in December and 51 in January. He believed that not allowing “walk-ups” to participate in the program has had a positive impact;

however, issues remain as there are many intoxicated individuals still present. He noted that the recommendation of instituting an “Alcohol Impact Area” remains on the list of items to be addressed.

In response to a question by Councilmember Swanson, Freezing Nights Coordinator Paula Anderson explained that while many of the recommendations from the task force have been implemented, the idea of offering a daytime resource center needs work and the city’s assistance. She believed that a resource center offering necessary services would be invaluable and concluded that many program participants have mental health issues and insufficient incomes to secure their own food, housing or other necessities.

Deputy Mayor Hopkins offered congratulations on the dramatic change in the program as compared to last year, said the program has been significantly improved despite some continued difficulties at the drop-off/pick-up area, and believed that, overall, FNP has done a commendable job.

Councilmember Vermillion appreciated the lower numbers but relayed complaints he had received regarding issues along the river and the pick-up and drop-off area. He also noted the presence of negative impacts along Meridian, specifically, loitering near the area of the Sounder station. He reported on an incident when the FNP bus dropped off a female participant at St. Francis House, although St. Francis House is not set up to accommodate such persons on an immediate basis, and suggested that FNP may need to find an alternate solution (such as the hospital) for similar situations.

Ms. Anderson responded that the individual is still in the program and has not been dropped off at St. Francis since that one time. She explained this person’s physical limitations and confirmed that, when necessary or appropriate, the van will pick up or drop off elsewhere.

Mayor Knutsen acknowledged complaints from the East Main Safeway, but believed the problems have lessened since the previous season. He questioned the origins of the people who were banned from the program.

Ms. Anderson explained that the coordinators met over the summer and reviewed the behavior history of the participants, twenty of which had already been banned for either one or two seasons. This year, eleven individuals have been banned, mostly due to failure to achieve an acceptable background check or behavioral issues. Ms. Anderson noted that most of the original 20 individuals who were banned were from this area and had been in the program for years.

Chief Jeter concluded that officers have reported the presence in the evening of some non-FNP participants, but for the most part these individuals are not causing problems.

CITY MANAGER’S REPORT

City Manager McDonald issued a reminder regarding the upcoming study session, where the topics of discussion will be the false alarm ordinance and the processing of permits for special events. He also noted the City Council retreat set for Wednesday, February 12th to discuss

council priorities, among other items, and the Chamber's State of the Cities luncheon on Friday, February 14th.

COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Palmer spoke in regards to the PROS plan, explaining that one of the recommendations concerns the lack of playfields, along with the desire for a community park in the Shaw/Pioneer area. He voiced hope that Council will seriously consider this plan and suggested that the idea of forming a task force to investigate possible land purchases in that area be added as a topic of discussion during the retreat.

Councilmember Swanson reported on his attendance at the Affordable Housing symposium hosted by Congressman Denny Heck. He offered congratulations to the Seahawks for their recent victory, and pointed out that local resident Jermaine Kearsse, who caught a touchdown in the Superbowl, once played in a high school game in Sparks Stadium.

Councilmember Door also noted her attendance at the Affordable Housing symposium. She found the information enlightening, noted that the market is rebounding and was happy with the information presented. She issued a reminder regarding the upcoming school levy and encouraged citizens to exercise their right to vote.

Councilmember Vermillion echoed Councilmember Door and asked that positive consideration be given to the upcoming school levy. He spoke of his attendance at the AWC legislative session in Olympia, where Governor Inslee discussed the effects of the Boeing contract on the Puget Sound job market. He also noted his attendance at the library event recognizing those who met the Mayor's 100 Book Challenge and commended them for their efforts. He spoke of his intent to attend a change of ceremony for I-Corps Commander Lieutenant General Brown, and further mentioned a public meeting hosted by Puget Sound Energy regarding the possible installation of high-tension power lines in the Shaw-Pioneer area. He reported on plans for the Veteran's Parade in Tacoma in August and referred anyone interested in participating to Steve James.

Deputy Mayor Hopkins voiced support for great schools and encouraged citizen participation in the upcoming election. In regards to the Sunny Skies Animal Rescue on East Main that was experiencing serious financial difficulties, he explained they have a new landlord and expected that the clinic will be allowed to remain in business and not be evicted. He voiced a need for volunteers and advocates who can help raise funds in support of the clinic.

MAYOR'S REPORT

Mayor Knutsen encouraged citizens to vote next week. He noted that the oldest participant of the Mayor's 100 Book Challenge was a gentleman by the name of Eugene Gambriel, who came to Puyallup in 1928 and coincidentally turned 100 years old on the day of the celebration. He offered his condolences to Bob Akridge, a city employee who recently lost his wife.

ADJOURNMENT – 7:54 p.m.