

**SPECIAL CITY COUNCIL
MEETING - RETREAT**

**March 28, 2009
8:30 A.M.**

MINUTES



"Where Dreams Can Soar"

The City of Bonney Lake's Mission is to protect the community's livable identity and scenic beauty through responsible growth planning and by providing accountable, accessible and efficient local government services.

Website: www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us

LOCATION: Windermere Conference Room, 18008 SR 410 E., Bonney Lake

Audio Time
Stamp ↓

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Neil Johnson called the meeting to order at 8:32 a.m.

Roll Call:

Records & Information Specialist Susan Duis called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember David Bowen, Councilmember Laurie Carter, Councilmember Dan Decker, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Dave King and Councilmember Jim Rackley.

[Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Community Development Director John Vodopich, Police Chief Mike Mitchell, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Community Services Director Gary Leaf, Court Administrator Kathy Seymour and Records & Information Specialist Susan Duis.]

II. DISCUSSION TOPICS

8:33 a.m.

1. Council Visioning and Goal Setting

- A. Review/Update Council Vision Statements
- B. Review/Update Council Goals

City Administrator Don Morrison facilitated the Retreat discussions. The Councilmembers began by discussing both Council vision statements and goals concurrently, and by proposing various revisions.

Growth Vision & Goals: Topics discussed included areas for potential annexation or utility services lying to the north, east and south of the City. Councilmembers added a goal to “Develop a tri-city agreement with Sumner and Auburn and encourage Pierce County to include urbanized areas in the Urban Growth Area.”

Economic Development Vision & Goals: Councilmembers discussed special events, formation of an economic development committee, and local employment opportunities. The first goal was revised to read, “Develop a closer relationship with the Chamber, including involvement in Bonney Lake Days, beautification projects, and farmer’s/flea markets.”

Parks and Community Center Vision & Goals: Councilmembers discussed opportunities for a community center, YMCA or Boys & Girls Club, regional parks and recreation options, potential land acquisition and costs, etc. The first goal was revised to read “Pursue opportunities for a YMCA, Boys & Girls Club, community center, etc.”

Water Resources Vision & Goals: Topics discussed included water supplies, sewer treatment plant options, and current and future service demands. The following goal was added: "Research all other water sources available."

The Retreat was recessed for a short break at 9:54 a.m. and resumed at 10:06 a.m.

Town Center / New Civic Center Vision & Goals: The Council discussed implementing the downtown plan in phases, and required property acquisitions in the Civic Center area. Community Development Director Vodopich noted that the plans for the Interim Justice Center building have been through the Design Commission and the City expects to go out to bid for construction in May or June of 2009. The goals were revised to refer to continuing, rather than beginning, land acquisition, IJC, and Downtown identity. The goal to "Prioritize new street signs" was removed. A new goal was added to "Upgrade public/private utilities infrastructure in the Downtown."

Transportation Vision & Goals: Topics discussed were crossings over and under 410, upcoming projects, and funding options. Councilmember Bowen suggested buses could be rerouted across 410 at Main St to provide safer passenger access. The first transportation goal was revised to read "Pursue ~~Increase~~ funding options ~~sources~~ to implement ..." The last goal was revised to "Continue street resurfacing (overlays and chip seals) according to plan."

Staff Development and Retention Vision & Goals: Councilmembers discussed education and training incentives, certification pay and personnel updates. Two goals were added: "Develop departmental succession planning strategies," and "Continue to focus on individual development."

Community Outreach Vision & Goals: Items discussed included the City's cable franchise agreement, neighborhood meetings, and options for televised meetings through Rainier Cable Commission. The second goal was revised to include review of a cable franchise agreement.

Public Safety Vision & Goals: Councilmembers discussed animal services and emergency preparedness. The first goal was revised to "Retain space for a possible future ~~Develop~~ a Bonney Lake Animal Shelter." The following goal was added: "Update the City's emergency plan including extended response capability (7-10 days) for water, sewer and public safety."

C. Goal Prioritization (5 dot exercise)

Each councilmember reviewed the list of goals and marked their top five priorities. City Administrator Morrison said this information would be used to help in future planning.

The Retreat was recessed for a short break at 11:25 a.m. and resumed at 11:33 a.m.

11:33 a.m.

2. **Council Strategy Session: Budget Contingency Plans**

Councilmembers reviewed the projected expenditures and revenues for the current biennium through 2014. Deputy Mayor Swatman asked about the projected growth in the budget models and other variables that could affect the budget. City Administrator Morrison said the

projections are based on past performance and conservative estimates. He said the Council should consider how much of the fund balance they would be willing to spend down. Councilmembers discussed contingency planning, including item freezes, employee hour reduction, furloughs, etc. Councilmember Carter said she does not support freezing funding for the Stream Team. The Council also discussed additional budget reductions that could be triggered if revenues do not meet a minimum level by mid-year. Department directors described various cost-saving measures taken by City staff. Councilmembers asked to be provided with regular updates on expenditure reductions. They also encouraged the Mayor to let the public know about how specific employees are taking steps to save City funds.

Mayor Johnson recessed for lunch at 1:00 p.m. The Retreat resumed at 1:20 p.m.

1:20 p.m.

3. **Council Strategy Session: CUGA Annexation, including sewer considerations**

Director Vodopich provided a summary of the draft annexation study provided by AHBL consultants. Councilmembers discussed possible annexation areas and options, costs to provide services to annexed areas, and long-term residential and commercial development considerations. Councilmembers suggested the City should begin talking with residents of annexation areas to the South of the City limits to determine the level of interest. After initial discussions the City can begin pre-annexation work with the County and consider options for an election in 2010 or later. Councilmembers discussed concerns of maintaining service levels throughout the City after annexation. Councilmembers also stressed that residents in annexation areas should expect a higher level of service after annexation, but infrastructure and other improvements will develop over time and not happen immediately.

Councilmembers continued discussions regarding the Southern and Northern sewer service areas. Considerations included infrastructure needs, membrane plant (MBR) options, Cascadia's sewer treatment plant, coordination with the County and area cities, etc. Director Vodopich said he would work to schedule a presentation by AHBL of the annexation study to the Council and Planning Commission at a future workshop.

2:45 p.m.

4. **Council Strategy Sessions: Long Range Park and Recreation Goals**

A. Community Center/YMCA

Mayor Johnson said the proposed plan from YMCA is for two locations: one in Sumner and one in Bonney Lake. He said any actual project for either city is dependent on locating a site and finding funding sources. He said Sumner's plans may be delayed as they negotiate for land. Mayor Johnson said he is working to identify potential sites in Bonney Lake, but fundraising could begin any time.

B. Center, Park and Trail Funding

Mayor Johnson said the City has applied for grants, stimulus funds and earmarks for projects including the Fennel Creek trail, pedestrian crossings, etc. The City will continue to work to identify potential funding.

3:00 p.m.

5. **BLMC Assessment Briefing**

City Administrator Morrison said the department directors continue to review the BLMC to identify needed revisions. He said once the review is complete it will be brought to a joint

Council and Planning Commission meeting or workshop for review and implementation of a 3-5 year plan for systematic revisions.

3:15 p.m.

6. **Code Enforcement Task Force Briefing**

City Administrator Morrison said the Task Force has met twice to discuss code enforcement issues and policies at other cities. They have focused on staffing, organization, and ways to expedite the enforcement process. Councilmembers discussed how the need for services will grow as the City grows, and ways to make enforcement policies hold more weight.

3:42 p.m.

7. **Open Discussion**

Memorial Drive

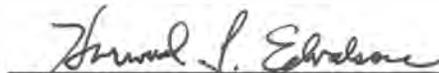
Councilmembers discussed potential locations for a memorial for the Greater Bonney Lake Veteran's Memorial Committee, including downtown storm water ponds and right-of-way on SR 410. GBLVMC member and Park Board member David Colbeth was in attendance, and he described the committee's hopes to name part of Old Sumner Buckley Highway as a Memorial Drive and install a memorial. The Mayor said staff would look into the potential use of a small piece of land on SR 410 at Main St., which is currently owned by the DOT.

3:58 p.m.

8. **Adjournment**

Councilmembers discussed whether to continue the Retreat as planned with a working dinner at Al Lago restaurant. As all the business items on the agenda had been discussed, Councilmembers spoke in favor of removing this item from the agenda and forgoing the expense of a dinner meeting. Councilmembers thanked the various department heads for attending the retreat and providing excellent informational resources for the discussions.

Mayor Johnson adjourned the Council Retreat at 3:58 p.m.



Harwood Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk



Neil Johnson
Mayor