

**CITY COUNCIL
WORKSHOP**

**March 16, 2010
5:00 p.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.

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Audio Time
Stamp ↓

Location: City Hall Council Chambers, 19306 Bonney Lake Blvd., Bonney Lake.

I. Call to Order: Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. called the workshop to order at 5:00 p.m.

II. Roll Call: [A13]

Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Edvalson called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Laurie Carter, Councilmember Dan Decker, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember Randy McKibbin and Councilmember James Rackley.

[Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Police Chief Mike Mitchell, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Assistant Public Works Director Charlie Simpson, Community Services Director Gary Leaf, City Attorney Jim Dionne, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson and Records & Information Specialist Susan Duis.]

III. Agenda Items:

A. Council Site Visit: 5:00 p.m. - Greenwood Project.

The Council visited the Greenwood Project located on the 8500 block of Main St E, north of Sumner-Buckley Hwy. Councilmembers and staff viewed one of the two-story, two-bedroom rental units that have been constructed.

B. *The Mayor, Council and staff returned to the City Hall Chambers and reconvened the Workshop at 6:02 p.m.*

Mayor Johnson noted that Mayor Enslow had not yet arrived and asked the Council to begin with review of minutes and open discussion.

6:02:51

C. Review of Draft Council Minutes: March 2, 2010 Workshop and March 9, 2010 Meeting Draft Minutes. (*Originally agenda item F.*)

Mayor Johnson noted that an e-mail from L. Winona Jacobsen was inadvertently not included on the March 9th Meeting minutes. The revised minutes were forwarded to the March 23rd Meeting for action.

6:04:25

D. Council Open Discussion: (*Originally agenda item E.*)

Road Construction: Councilmember Rackley asked about traffic impacts on Myers Road from improvements on the Sumner-Buckley Hwy and SR 410 intersection. Public Works Director Grigsby said the Phase II improvements include sidewalks and changes to the left-turn access onto Myers Rd. He said the City's plans should not increase traffic on Myers Road substantially but he would look into the possibility.

Sign Code: Deputy Mayor Swatman said he attended the meeting with City staff and business owners, and thanked Design Commissioners for taking part as well. He said he is open to short-term solutions and considering long-term changes to the code. Mayor Johnson said Council will discuss the issue at a future workshop.

Ken Simmons Park: Councilmember Carter noted several improvements to Ken Simmons Park, including an interpretive trail and kiosk that were constructed by local Eagle Scouts. A new picnic shelter has also been erected. She said the park is used both by nearby residents and others from around the City and is coming along nicely.

Stream Team: Councilmember Carter said the Cascade Land Conservancy has recognized the Stream Team, and noted that the City does not have a current Stream Team contract. She said the City is working on a wetland study for Eastown, and looks forward to getting more information about the Stream Team so the Council can consider whether to work with them in the future.

Dog Park: Councilmember Carter said she heard a presentation to the Park Board about off-leash dog parks. She said the City can possibly obtain free rain barrels to provide water for a dog park if a water source is not available on the site.

Corliss Property Logging: Councilmember Carter asked about logging on the Corliss property outside City limits. Mayor Johnson said he understands that the entire logging project will be done by the end of the year, and he will update the Council with any new information. He said he will check whether the logging crew plans to clean debris on Myers Rd.

6:01:58

- E. **Presentation:** Sound Transit – Mayor Enslow of the City of Sumner and Rachel Smith of Sound Transit. *(Originally agenda item C.)*

Sumner Mayor and current Sound Transit board member Dave Enslow introduced Sound Transit Government and Community Relations Specialist Rachel Smith. They offered information on Sound Transit services, projects and impacts on Bonney Lake. Ms. Smith said Sound Transit plans to add trips and cars to Sounder commuter rail services, extend light rail service, and improve other services. She said Route 582, which serves Bonney Lake, was changed since it overlapped with a Pierce Transit route. She highlighted the new Route 578, which shadows the commuter train route.

Councilmembers suggested that a transit parking ramp could be built in Bonney Lake for commuters, and expressed support for expanded service and options to use the Sounder train for sporting events in Seattle. Mayor Enslow said he does not plan to run again for his seat on the Sound Transit board, and encouraged someone from Bonney Lake to run. He thanked the Council for their time and input, and expressed hope that Bonney Lake continue seeing benefits from Sound Transit in the future.

Mayor Johnson recessed the Workshop for a break at 6:52 p.m. The Workshop reconvened at 6:59 p.m.

6:15:26

- F. **Presentation and Discussion:** AB10-43 – Sewer O & M Rate Analysis – FCS Group. *(Originally agenda item D.)*

Public Works Director Grigsby said the City's last sewer rate analysis was completed in 2004. At the time, the study showed sewer rates would need to increase, but could

wait a few years. The Council opted to increase water rates first and not increase sewer rates substantially at that time. He introduced Angie Sanchez of FCS Group, and noted that the City has worked with FCS Group since the Palermo lawsuit because of their expertise with sewer development charges and rate structures.

Angie Sanchez provided an overview of the sewer rate analysis, which studied infrastructure renewal costs, revenue forecasts, policies, operations and maintenance (O & M) expenses, and planned capital projects. She said projected expenses include general O & M costs as well as costs for copper removal programs, updates to the Sumner Wastewater Treatment Plant, and other projects. She said the City pays for debt service primarily with sewer development charge (SDC) funds currently. She said current sewer rates do not factor in maintenance and renewal costs, which will continue to increase as the City's sewer system matures. She said that meanwhile, as growth slows, SDC revenues and expansion costs will decrease.

Ms. Sanchez said the rate study shows that current rates are insufficient to cover the costs for the sewer system, and sewer fund balances must be used to cover costs. She offered several options for rate increases over the coming years, and noted that Bonney Lake's current sewer rates are lower than many cities in the area.

Councilmembers discussed sewer system costs, revenues and rate increase options. Councilmember Hamilton said sewer rates have increased through CPI adjustments over the past several years, and water rates also increased. He said the economy is still difficult, and questioned whether the Council should approve rate increases when they were unwilling to increase property taxes by 1% in 2010. He also expressed concern that the City has no control in the maintenance and operations of the Sumner Wastewater Treatment Facility, and suggested a utility district for Sumner and Bonney Lake would be easier to manage. Deputy Mayor Swatman said expenses exceed revenues in the sewer department, and he wants to study the budget in depth to remove inefficiencies and reduce expenditures. He said that any rate increases made today will help offset the need for larger increases later. Mayor Johnson suggested the Council consider the options and continue discussions at a future workshop or Finance Committee meeting.

IV. Executive Session: None.

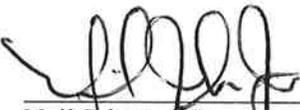
8:24:50

V. Adjournment:

At 8:24 p.m., Councilmember Lewis moved to adjourn the workshop. Councilmember Decker seconded the motion.

Motion approved 7 – 0.


Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk


Neil Johnson, Jr.
Mayor

Items submitted to the Council Workshop of March 16, 2010:

- Sound Transit – *Meeting the Challenge – 2010 Milestones* – Rachel Smith.
- FCS Group – *Sewer Utility Financial Plan and O & M Rate Forecast* – Angie Sanchez.