

**COUNCIL WORKSHOP**

**February 15, 2011  
5:30 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.*

*Website: [www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us](http://www.ci.bonney-lake.wa.us)*

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 5:31 p.m.
- II. Roll Call:** [A1.3]

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

[Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Community Development Director John Vodopich, Community Services Director Gary Leaf, City Attorney Jim Dionne, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, and Administrative Specialist Shawn Campbell.]

**Councilmember Decker moved to excuse Councilmember Carter from attendance at the meeting. Councilmember Lewis seconded the motion.**

**Motion approved 6-0.**

**III. Agenda Items:**

5:32:27

**A. Council Open Discussion:**

**Urban Growth Area Amendment:** Councilmember Hamilton asked to have the City's proposed amendments to the County Comprehensive Plan put on the City website for Citizens to view. He also asked for a timeline of when the amendments go through the different County departments and meetings be added to the website so Citizens can be informed and involved in the City's plans for the future.

**Costco:** Councilmember Decker asked for a status update on Costco coming to the City. Mayor Johnson said the City is still in contact with Costco. He said Costco is continuing to evaluate all options.

**Corliss Property:** Councilmember Hamilton said he heard that Mr. Corliss is replanting the ridge west of the City. Councilmember Decker said there is heavy equipment on the hillside. Director Vodopich stated he is not aware of what is currently happening on the property because it is in the county. He said Mr. Corliss has three years to replant the trees.

**Flood Plan Advisory Committee:** Councilmember Hamilton said he attended a Flood Plan Advisory Committee meeting where they presented a proposed capital

projects budget. He noted that all members of the committee live in the valley. He said one of the 46 projects is a floodwall for the Sumner Sewer Treatment Plant. Mayor Johnson stated he asked the County to add a sewer treatment plant floodwall to any capital improvement flood plan.

**Flood Control District:** Mayor Johnson said he spoke with Pierce County Councilmember Tim Ferrell, who plans to propose a new process to start a flood control district that includes getting input from interested parties at the County Council retreat.

**Urban University Forum:** Councilmember Rackley said he attended an Urban University Forum. He said he would like to investigate adding an off campus site of University of Washington Tacoma in Bonney Lake. He said the University would have four high schools to pull from and it would be good for students and the City. He said he spoke with the UWT Chancellor and is going to call him again and ask him to contact the City Administrator to discuss this further.

**Good Samaritan Hospital:** Councilmember Rackley said he attended the opening of the new wing of the hospital. He said the new wing is very nice.

**Pierce Transit:** Mayor Johnson said he attended the Pierce Transit board meeting. He said the other board members do not have a good understanding of the needs of smaller communities. He said the rural communities need a different type and level of service and he would like to see a study done to show the different types of service that would work for smaller communities. He said they need to look at ways to make the service efficient and work for the rural customers. He said the board has a retreat scheduled for February 28, 2011. He will give the Council a full report at the March 1<sup>st</sup> Council Workshop. Councilmember Hamilton said now is not the time to raise taxes especially while cutting services.

5:53:22

- B. **Review of Council Minutes:** February 1, 2011 Workshop and February 8, 2011 Council Meeting.

The minutes were forward with corrections to the February 22, 2011 Meeting for Council action.

5:53:39

- C. **Discussion:** AB11-28 – Ordinance D11-28 - At-large vs. Wards for Council representation.

Deputy Mayor Swatman asked the Council to think about whether or not the Ward System will serve the citizens of Bonney Lake now and in the future. He said he wants citizens to have the ability to vote for all Councilmembers. He believes if the City was bigger and had different demographics then it would make sense to have a ward system, but concerns of the citizens are similar all around the City. Councilmember Rackley said he feels having an At-Large system makes the most sense. He likes the idea of citizens voting for all councilmembers. Councilmember Lewis said most cities the size of Bonney Lake have all At-Large representation and the cost savings to the taxpayers is important. Councilmember Decker said he likes the idea of all At-Large representation, but believes the citizens should vote on changing the system of representation. He said one of his concerns is it may be cost prohibitive for people to run for Council in an At-Large system because they would

have to put signs all over the City instead of one small area. Deputy Mayor Swatman said people can run for election with very little money or spend large amounts. Councilmember Lewis said according to the Association of Washington Cities, this issue does not need to be on the ballot. He said the citizens elected each representative to the council and the council can make this decision. Councilmember Hamilton said would be less likely for people run unopposed in an all At-Large System. He said it would encourage more people to get involved and have more participation from citizens. By Council consensus, the item was forwarded to the February 22, 2011 Meeting for action.

6:51:05

- D. **Discussion:** AB11-04 – Ordinance D11-04 - False Alarm Ordinance  
 E. **Discussion:** AB11-05 – Resolution 2092 - Agreement with ATB Services to Administer the False Alarm Ordinance

Both Items were discussed in unison.

Chief Financial Officer Juarez said this ordinance and resolution have gone before the Finance Committee twice. He said the actual permit fee to customers would be reduced by 31%. He said the ordinance shifts the responsibility for false alarms to the permit holder. He gave statistics about the number of false alarms per year and the police staff time required. He said ATB quoted the City the ability to reduce the number of false alarms by 60% giving officers more time to devote to true crimes. He said the permit will cost \$24, of that \$20 goes to the servicing company and \$4 goes to the City. He added that a reduced fee will be available for seniors and the disabled. He said the City can choose to have fees sent directly to the servicing company or the servicing company can bill the City. If the City chooses to take the fees in-house there will be a nominal fee for billing from ATB. He said currently the alarm permit program is on the honor system. The City does not monitor in anyway who has a permit and who does not. He said the servicing company will work with the alarm installing agencies to ensure that all City residents who have alarms have the proper permits.

He said the Ordinance does remove the waiving of the first two false alarms, but if the permit holder does an online educational program, they can get the first false alarm fee waived. He said ATB heavily emphasizes educating customers. He said the benefit to the City is in the reduction of false alarms. Councilmember Lewis said this is a win-win for the City. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the fees are the same as Pierce County. He said ATB also provides tracking information to the City regarding false alarms. He said this is a better system then the City currently uses. Chief Financial Officer Juarez said notice will be provided via newspaper, public notice, and utility bills. By Council consensus, the two items were forwarded to the February 22, 2011 Meeting for action.

6:38:15

- F. **Discussion:** AB11-31 - Resolution 2106 - Hazard Mitigation Plan

City Administrator Morrison said the original Hazard Mitigation Plan was completed in 2004. He said the City is required to update the plan to be eligible for FEMA Funds. He said the City is not obligated to do the projects. He said the Council must approve the plan before it can be sent to FEMA for final approval. He said the City can use this plan to reduce hazards for citizens. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the plan is very impressive. Councilmember Lewis said the plan

shows that staff did their homework. He said that the maps show each area instead of one map with the whole area, which will be helpful in an emergency. By Council consensus, the item was forwarded to the February 22, 2011 Meeting for action.

6:43:55

G. **Discussion:** Council Retreat (3/5/11) Potential Agenda Items, Location and Participants.

City Administrator Morrison stated he sent out an Eastown Survey to the Council boards, commission members and residents of Eastown. He said he will present the results of the survey at the retreat. He said the results will not be comingled between the homeowners and the board members.

IV. **Executive Session:** None

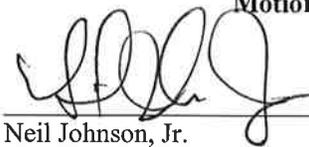
6:45:44

V. **Adjournment:**

At 6:45 p.m. Councilmember Rackley moved to adjourn the Workshop. Councilmember Lewis seconded the motion.

Motion approved 6 – 0.

  
Harwood T. Edvalson, CMC  
City Clerk

  
Neil Johnson, Jr.  
Mayor

Items submitted to Council at the February 15, 2011 Workshop: None