

CITY COUNCIL WORKSHOP

**June 5, 2012
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

Location: Bonney Lake Justice Center, 9002 Main Street East, Bonney Lake, Washington.

I. CALL TO ORDER – Mayor Neil Johnson, Jr. called the workshop to order at 5:32 p.m.

II. ROLL CALL:

Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson called the roll. In addition to Mayor Johnson, elected officials attending were Deputy Mayor Dan Swatman, Councilmember Mark Hamilton, Councilmember Donn Lewis, Councilmember Randy McKibbin, Councilmember Katrina Minton-Davis, Councilmember Jim Rackley, and Councilmember Tom Watson.

Staff members in attendance were City Administrator Don Morrison, Public Works Director Dan Grigsby, Community Development Director John Vodopich, Chief Financial Officer Al Juarez, Interim Police Chief Dana Powers, Development Review Engineer Cole Elliott, Administrative Services Director/City Clerk Harwood Edvalson, Assistant City Attorney Kathleen Haggard, and Records & Information Specialist Susan Duis.

III. AGENDA ITEMS:

A. Council Open Discussion:

City Fees: Councilmember Watson said he received a call from a citizen who said all the City fees are too high. He told the citizen the Council is working on ways to reduce fees.

Events: Councilmember Watson said Senior Services Assistant Staci Guirsch is leaving the City and the Senior Center is holding a going away open house for her on June 6th.

Councilmember Watson said the Bonney Lake Lions is holding a kickoff party for Don Stevenson's fundraising walk on June 7th at Auburn City Hall. Also on June 7th the Communities for Families meets at Sumner School District at 3:00 p.m. He said he plans to attend a tour of the Good Samaritan Foundation on June 13th.

ICSC Conference: Mayor Johnson said he, Councilmember McKibbin and Community Development Director Vodopich attended the International Council of Shopping Centers conference in May. He said he plans to provide a report to the Council soon. He said it was a beneficial trip and provided him with information and ideas, including ways to partner with other agencies and developers.

Meeting with Senator Cantwell: Mayor Johnson said he met with U.S. Senator Maria Cantwell, along with City Administrator Morrison and Executive Assistant Brian Hartsell. They discussed issues including transportation, recreation facilities, and the proposed veteran's memorial. He said he plans to get the Bonney Lake Veterans Memorial Committee in contact with the Senator's office to discuss options. Mayor Johnson said he plans to meet with Senator Patty Murray soon, and will probably receive invitations from other representatives this election season.

BLHS Traffic Signal: Councilmember Lewis said the new traffic signal is being installed near Bonney Lake High School. He said it is causing some delays for buses, but will be good for kids traveling in the area this summer and during the school year.

- B. **Recognition:** Presentation of Athletic and Academic Awards to Students from Bonney Lake, Sumner, and White River High Schools.

Mayor Johnson read aloud the names of students from area high schools who achieved high academic and athletic marks during the 2011-2012 school year. He presented certificates to the students who were in attendance. He said he asked for names from Sumner, Bonney Lake, and White River high schools, as students living in Bonney Lake attend all three schools. He congratulated the students, and said he plans to continue this yearly recognition to highlight the achievements of local students in the community.

- C. **Review of Draft Minutes:** May 8, 2012 Meeting, May 15, 2012 Special Meeting, May 15, 2012 Workshop, and May 25, 2012 Special Meeting.

Councilmember Lewis noted a typographical error in the May 8th minutes. The minutes were forwarded to the June 12, 2012 Meeting for action as corrected.

- D. **Discussion:** AB12-53 – Ordinance D12-53 – Amendment of BLMC Related to Civil Permitting.

Community Development Director Vodopich introduced Development Review Engineer Cole Elliott. Mr. Elliott said when he joined the City he was asked to clarify the civil code and process. He said the proposed ordinance ensures the City complies with the Growth Management Act and describes the civil permitting process from start to finish, including the criteria and paperwork required to close out a project. The proposed ordinance also clears up two issues he discovered in the code since he joined the City 18 months ago. He said the current code is not clear on the requirements and departmental responsibilities for several issues, including connections to the sewer system, grease interceptors, and sprinkler system connections. He said Public Works started a program to track septic conversions, but the process has not been consistent in the past. He said the proposed ordinance assigns responsibility for these items to his position, to ensure inspections are completed and the appropriate paperwork is submitted. Councilmember Lewis commended Mr. Elliott for his approach to find and solve issues in the City's code.

Councilmember Hamilton asked how the City follows up on homes that have septic systems and are required to connect to City sewer when the property is sold. Director Grigsby said when sewer is installed within 250' of a property, the City sends a letter to the property owner stating that when they sell the property (or if the septic fails), they must connect to sewer. The City files a copy of this letter with Pierce County, which appears on a title search so the buyer and seller are aware of the requirement and fee.

Deputy Mayor Swatman noted that the proposed ordinance originated from staff recommendations and the Planning Commission also reviewed it. He asked what the rationale is for doubling fees when the appropriate permit is not submitted. He said the City wants to ensure people follow the proper process, not to punish them for making a mistake. Director Vodopich said this penalty is consistent with fees in the building code. He said the language could be removed if the Council wished.

Mr. Elliot said he set the proposed fees at \$500 for inside City limits and \$1,000 outside City limits. He said \$500 is the lowest fee set by other portions of the permitting code and is reasonable based on the actual staff time and costs required to review, inspect, issue permits, and close out projects. Councilmembers discussed the proposed fees. Several Councilmembers said they would support lower fees. Deputy Mayor Swatman said the City charges no fees for these items currently; he suggested the proposed fees be cut in half (\$250 and \$500). Council consensus was to reduce the proposed fees by half.

Councilmember Minton-Davis asked why fees for areas outside city limits are charged double. Mr. Elliott said locations that require inspections outside City limits can be fairly far away, such as the Lakeland development near Auburn. He said fees in other parts of the permit code are also double for sites outside the City limits. He said his next project will be to look at all City permit fees and evaluate whether they are reasonable or should be raised or lowered.

Deputy Mayor Swatman requested that Section 4. (BLMC 15.20.120) be revised to remove the phrase "in writing". He said it could cause confusion if the City moves to electronic permit applications in the future. Assistant City Attorney Haggard said 'writing' can include online or electronic permits, but agreed the phrase is redundant and could be removed. Consensus of the Council was to forward the proposed ordinance to the June 12th meeting with the suggested amendments.

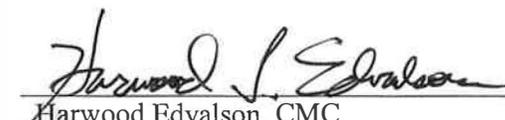
IV. EXECUTIVE SESSION:

Pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), the Council adjourned to an Executive Session with the City Attorney at 6:23 p.m. for 5 minutes to discuss property acquisition. The Council returned to chambers at 6:32 p.m. No action was taken.

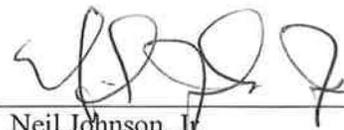
V. ADJOURNMENT:

At 6:32 p.m., Councilmember Rackley moved to adjourn the Council Meeting. Councilmember Watson seconded the motion.

Motion to adjourn approved 7 – 0.



Harwood Edvalson, CMC
City Clerk



Neil Johnson, Jr.
Mayor

Items presented to Council at the June 5, 2012 Workshop:

- *List of Academic & Athletic Award Recognition Recipients* – City of Bonney Lake.