

**CITY COUNCIL  
BUSINESS MEETING MINUTES  
May17, 2011**

The Business Meeting of the Monroe City Council was held on May17, 2011, in the Council Chambers at City Hall. Mayor Robert Zimmerman called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m.

Councilpersons present: Balk, Rodriguez, Cudaback, Tuttle, Stima, and Goering.

It was noted that Councilperson Stima would be late.

Councilperson absent: Williams

Staff present: Brazel, Feilberg, Quenzer, Harris, Inahara, Nelson, Smith, Farrell, and Martinson.

City Attorney Zach Lell was also present.

The meeting was opened with the Pledge of Allegiance.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & PRESENTATIONS**

**Proclamation Supporting the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Traditional Pow Wow**

Elijah Stevensen introduced himself and invited Council to attend the Pow Wow. Brook Flanders, Head Girl Dancer, also attended the meeting, along with several other girl dancers, who were in traditional "Jingle Dress" costumes. Mars Miller, Family Liaison-Coordinator for Skykomish Valley Indian Education, explained the "Jingle Dress" style of costume and the various dance styles that would be shown at the Pow Wow.

Mayor Zimmerman read the Proclamation Supporting the 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Tradition Pow Wow on May 28<sup>th</sup>.

**PUBLIC HEARINGS**

**Term Limits for the City's Elected Officials to Ensure Reasonable Degree of Rotation in Office**

Mayor Zimmerman explained that this item was set for a public hearing at the request of Council.

Mayor Zimmerman then opened the citizen testimony portion of the public hearing.

Joel Phillips, 505 Circle Drive, stated that he feels that the voters should vote on whether or not there should be term limits.

Dave Demarest, 19311 130 PL SE, Snohomish, stated that if it's not broken, don't fix it. He doesn't see the need to make a change in Council terms. An incumbent is often challenged and the voters decide if that person comes back. Incumbents run for a reason.

The motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback to close the citizen testimony portion of the public hearing. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to close the public hearing. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

### **COMMENTS FROM CITIZENS**

Bill Knutsen, has been a resident of Monroe for 23 years; his children and grandchildren went to Monroe schools. He addressed Council to express his opposition to the proposed 1/10 of 1% sales tax and the traffic enforcement cameras. He works at the Department of Corrections and hasn't seen a cost of living (COL) raise in four years. He doesn't think anyone deserves a COL increase when everybody at DOC is taking a hit. He also feels that traffic cameras are for revenue and doesn't believe that he has heard of a child being hit, injured, or killed at a crosswalk.

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Consent Agenda Items #3 (Resolution Authorizing Ballot Vote for 1/10 of 1% Sales Tax Increase for Law Enforcement) and #5 (Authorize Mayor to Sign District Court Intergovernmental Agreement - Judicial Venue for Automated Traffic Safety Camera Program) were pulled for discussion.

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to approve the Consent Agenda Items #1, #2, and #4. On vote,

Motion carried 5/0.

Items approved: 1A) March 8, 2011 Study Session Minutes; 1B) March 15, 2011 Special Meeting Minutes; 2) Bills (Vouchers #0794746 – 079601 in the amount of \$935,932.01; 4) Ordinance Adopting the Washington State Criminal Statutes.

### **Resolution Authorizing Ballot Vote for 1/10 of 1% Sales Tax Increase for Law Enforcement**

After discussion and questions for clarification, the motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Rodriguez, to adopt the resolution authorizing a ballot vote for 1/10 of 1% sales tax increase for law enforcement.

Councilperson Stima entered Council Chambers at 7:35 p.m.

After further discussion, the motion was on the floor to adopt the resolution. On vote,

Motion carried 4/2.

Councilpersons Balk and Cudaback were opposed.

### **Authorize Mayor to Sign District Court Intergovernmental Agreement - Judicial Venue for Automated Traffic Safety Camera Program**

This item had been removed at the advice of City Attorney Lell, to revise the approval motion; the revised motion was quoted by Mayor Zimmerman. City Attorney Lell

explained that they had received the most recent version of the agreement that afternoon and hadn't been able to conduct a thorough review. He doesn't believe any of the changes would affect the substance of the document. He noted some minor changes that would be made to the document and that he could make the revisions and have them approved by the Mayor.

After discussion and clarifying questions, the motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to approve the Intergovernmental Services Agreement with the Snohomish County District Court in substantially the form presented to Council, together with minor revisions as deemed appropriate by the Mayor.

After an additional comment, the motion was on the floor to approve the Agreement. On vote,

Motion carried 6/0.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

#### **Presentation: Six-year Transportation Improvement Program for 2012-2017**

Managing Engineer Inahara gave a brief introduction explaining that the next step would be to set a public hearing date, and that she would answer any questions Council might have.

After questions and comments, Council consensus was to direct staff to hold a public hearing on June 7<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Ethics Code and Executive Session Topics**

City Administrator Brazel explained that Council had a discussion previously about confidentiality and executive session topics. Staff is looking for direction from Council on whether they want changes to the Ethics Code.

After discussion and questions, it was determined that City Attorney Lell would conduct further research and that Councilperson Williams, who was absent, would be invited to review the discussion and forward any questions to the City Attorney.

#### **City Clerk Position**

Human Resources Manager Smith explained that they are bringing a proposal to add City Clerk/Records Officer position. Many other cities have records officer, as well. Public records requests are currently being coordinated by a Parks Administrative staff member, who had agreed to help out; but her current position is already full-time. She noted that the Public Disclosure Act document request log includes time for the Parks Administrative staff member's time, but doesn't include her own time, the City Administrator's time, the Police Department's time, and other staff members' time.

The Parks staff member didn't have prior experience and has reached out to the Police Department (PD) for help. That person has helped, but her time is more limited, due to a new program and her own PD public records requests. People have stepped up, but the Parks staff member is burned out and the PD staff member is burning out, too.

After discussion, it was determined that this item would be brought back with the additional information requested by Council.

### **Review Preliminary Official Statement for the 2011 Revenue Bonds**

Finance Director Nelson explained that presenting the *Preliminary Official Statement* is a formality requested by the bond underwriter to ensure that Council saw the statement in advance and is aware that it's on the bond market. There will be an ordinance presented for approval in June.

No action was taken, as this was for the purpose of review only.

The motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to put the term limits ordinance as proposed on the ballot for a public vote in November.

City Attorney Lell Zach suggested that they give direction to staff to revise the draft ordinance for the proposed advisory vote. He explained that this type of ordinance, as written, would be subject to referendum and would not be an advisory vote. If it is put on as an advisory vote, it doesn't bind Council.

The motion was withdrawn by the maker and the seconder.

The motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Stima, to approve the resolution putting an Advisory vote by the public with regards to term limits on the November ballot, based on the details of the proposed ordinance.

After discussion, the motion was made by Councilperson Balk to amend the motion that Section 2.26.020(D) be changed from "eight consecutive years" to "two consecutive years".

The amendment to the motion died for lack of a second.

After further discussion, the motion was on the floor to approve the resolution putting term limits on the ballot in November. On vote,

Motion carried 4/2.

Councilpersons Balk and Cudaback were opposed.

Mayor Zimmerman explained that he had received a letter from the County Executive's office on May 13, 2011, regarding the automatic renewal of the Interlocal Cooperation Agreement for Urban County Requalification with the US Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD). As a member of the consortium, it allows the City to apply for funding that comes to the Urban County Consortium. Council could terminate the agreement and still apply for block grants; but they would come from the state Community Development Block Grant program. If they chose to separate, they would need to respond by June 3, 2011. He felt the recommendation would be to continue with the consortium.

Councilperson Balk commented on the grants that the City had won for sidewalk construction. Other funds are used for housing; such as, Housing Hope and the Gospel Mission, which have applied and received funds.

Since he is president of the Gospel Mission Board, to ensure there would be no conflict, Councilperson Stima recused himself and left Council chambers.

Councilperson Balk stated that he doesn't presently sit on any of the Boards that have received any of the grants.

City Administrator Brazel recommended continuing with the consortium, as the City doesn't have the staffing or expertise to go to the state level for grants.

The motion was made by Councilperson Balk and seconded by Councilperson Cudaback, to continue with the HUD Agreement. The motion and second were withdrawn, as no action means acceptance of continuing with the program.

Councilperson Stima returned to Council Chambers.

City Administrator Brazel reported that he had received a resignation notice from the City's plans examiner and asked Council to lift the hiring freeze to fill the position.

The motion was made by Councilperson Goering and seconded by Councilperson Rodriguez, to lift the hiring freeze to fill the plans examiner position. On vote,

Motion carried 6/0.

#### **MAYOR/COUNCIL/ADMINISTRATIVE STAFF REPORTS**

Chief Quenzer thanked Councilperson Rodriguez for her service to the City; they have enjoyed working with her. He presented her with a *Chief's Coin*.

Mike Farrell reported on an award from the Baseball Players Association for scheduling, planning, and administration of baseball tournaments.

Councilperson Rodriguez reported that the swifts are back and active. There will be an event in September that will be bigger and better than last year.

Human Resources Manager Smith thanked the businesses in Monroe that helped with the City's Wellness Fair last Tuesday. The Center for Wellbeing, Valley General Hospital, and other vendors sent representatives, too.

#### **Draft Agenda/June 7, 2011 Business Meeting**

City Administrator Brazel presented the draft agenda for June 7, 2011.

Councilperson Stima asked to add a study session item for June 14, regarding the Hill Street building, to discuss what can and can't be done on that property.

Mayor Zimmerman asked that this topic be added to the June 14<sup>th</sup> agenda.

Mayor Zimmerman explained that there was a need to go into executive session. City Attorney Lell explained that the purpose of the executive session was for discussing litigation or potential litigation, pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i), for approximately 10 minutes. No action in open session is anticipated when Council reconvenes.

MEETING RECESSED INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION: 9:26 p.m.  
EXECUTIVE SESSION WAS EXTENDED  
MEETING RECONVENED INTO REGULAR SESSION: 9:43 p.m.

Councilperson Goering thanked Councilperson Rodriguez for her service to the city; she will be missed.

Mayor Zimmerman expressed his appreciation to Councilperson Rodriguez, as well.

Rodriguez stated that she respects every person on the Council.

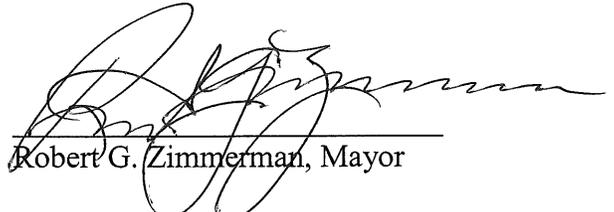
There being no further business, the motion was made by Councilperson Rodriguez and seconded by Councilperson Goering, to adjourn the meeting. On vote,

Motion carried 6/1.

Councilperson Balk voted nay.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 9:45 p.m.

  
Eadye Martinson, Deputy City Clerk

  
Robert G. Zimmerman, Mayor