

MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING OF THE
LACEY CITY COUNCIL HELD THURSDAY,
JULY 1, 2021, REMOTE ATTENDANCE

CALL TO ORDER:

Mayor Ryder called the meeting to order at
4:00 p.m.

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:

Mayor Ryder led the Pledge of Allegiance.

COUNCIL PRESENT:

A. Ryder, C. Pratt, C. Cox, L. Greenstein, E. Kunkel,
M. Miller, M. Steadman

STAFF PRESENT:

S. Spence, R. Almada, J. Burbidge, S. Egger, M. Hardie,
S. Kelley-Fong, D. Schneider, R. Walk, T. Woo,
P. Edmonds

APPROVAL OF AGENDA
AND CONSENT AGENDA:

Consent Agenda Items:

- A. Council Worksession minutes of June 10, 2021.
- B. Council meeting minutes of June 17, 2021
- C. A motion to approve payment of claims, wages
and transfers for June 10, 2021, through
June 22, 2021.

COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN MOVED TO
APPROVE THE AGENDA AND CONSENT AGENDA.
COUNCILMEMBER COX SECONDED. MOTION
CARRIED.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Persons wishing to provide public comment on items not
on the agenda must pre-register to speak. Registration
closed at 3:00 p.m. today.

Jeff Loyer presented Council with information on the
“Better than a Tent” project.

Public comments may also be submitted by email by
12:00 p.m. today. Comments will be provided to the City

Council electronically prior to the meeting. Comments will not be addressed during the meeting; however, comments received will be added to the official record.

Four written public comments were received and will be made part of the official record.

PROCLAMATION:

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director, presented "Our Park and Recreation Story."

Mayor Ryder and Council proclaimed July 2021 as Parks & Recreation Month.

ORDINANCES:

Ryan Andrews, Planning Manager, presented Council with Ordinance 1596 to approve the Capitol City/Chambers Estates Annexation.

The City received a petition for annexation for the area including Capitol City Golf Club Estates, Chambers Estates, Capitol City Townhomes, and the Capitol City Golf Course. The Thurston County Assessor's office verified the signatures represent not less than 60 percent of the assessed valuation for general taxation of the property for which the annexation has been petitioned. The annexation was sent to the Thurston County Boundary Review Board (BRB) for their review and they declined to invoke jurisdiction. The application returns to Council for final consideration in ordinance form.

The area includes approximately 288 acres in 491 separate tax parcels, with the 2020-2021 assessed value of these parcels at \$134,023,000. The City has initiated the annexation on behalf of those parcels within the annexation area where the City holds power of attorney agreements regarding annexation. The 2020-2021 assessed value of the parcels with power of attorney agreements in place is \$99,788,600, which represents 74.4% of the assessed valuation and is over the 60% required under the petition method of annexation.

Upon annexation, the City is required to conduct a door-to-door census of the area. An accurate census ensures that population-based revenues are distributed to the City. The City will be contracting with a private consultant to complete the census this summer.

If the City Council approves the ordinance, notification of the annexation will be sent to affected agencies. The effective date of the annexation will be set for September 1, 2021, to allow for sufficient time to transition from Thurston County provided services to City of Lacey services.

DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT MOVED TO APPROVE ORDINANCE NO. 1596 FOR THE CAPITOL CITY/CHAMBERS ESTATES ANNEXATION FOR AN EFFECTIVE DATE OF ANNEXATION ON SEPTEMBER 1, 2021, TO ALLOW FOR THE ORDERLY TRANSITION OF CITY SERVICES. COUNCILMEMBER GREENSTEIN SECONDED. MAYOR RYDER, DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT, AND COUNCILMEMBERS GREENSTEIN, COX, KUNKEL, AND MILLER VOTED IN FAVOR. COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN ABSTAINED. MOTION CARRIED.

MAYOR'S REPORT:

Mayor Ryder recommended the appointment of Eduardo Maldonado to the Planning Commission.

MAYOR RYDER MOVED TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT OF EDUARDO MALDONADO TO THE PLANNING COMMISSION. DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

CITY MANAGER'S REPORT:

Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director, presented the Regional Athletic Complex (RAC) 20-year Financial Plan, and the 2020 and 2021 Budgets.

The 68-acre site was purchased in 1998. Thurston County and City of Lacey planned the athletic complex cooperatively and with considerable public input to provide for the athletic needs in the region as well as a community park with picnic shelters, play equipment, and facilities needed to hold special events.

Although successful, the RAC is not a self-supporting facility. The 2020 Budget included \$198,922 from the Thurston County settlement funds, which represented the remaining balance of the funds, and \$186,919 from the City's General Fund for operation and maintenance.

A five-year strategy has been developed, followed by a long-term plan to ensure the RAC can provide the same level of service in the near future. Staff have updated the long-term financial plan, which was reviewed by City administration and the Board of Park Commissioners. The Park Commissioners have recommended actions to be considered by the City Council. There are limited options to consider and implement: increase revenue, cut expenditures, attract more outside revenue sources, or a combination of those three.

The following financial changes warrant an update to the RAC's existing 20-Year Financial Plan:

- The remaining Thurston County settlement funds were depleted in 2020.
- The 2020 Budget includes \$198,922 from the Thurston County settlement fund, first allocated in 2010 with an anticipated drawdown in 10 years.
- The Public Facilities District (PFD) will sunset at the end of 2027.

It is also important to note that this Plan was developed during the COVID-19 public health crisis. The assumption when it was developed is that a vaccine would be available in 2021 and services would start to return to normal; however, if progress isn't made as projected, the RAC financial plan will need to be readjusted accordingly.

Troy Woo, Finance Director, provided additional financial information relating to the PFD and General Fund support.

COUNCILMEMBER COX MOVED TO APPROVE THE REGIONAL ATHLETIC COMPLEX 20-YEAR FINANCIAL PLAN. DEPUTY MAYOR PRATT SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Scott Egger, Public Works Director, requested Council award Lacey Contract Number PW 2021-15 to low bidder Northwest Cascade, Inc. from Puyallup, Washington in the amount of \$513,140.70 for the Lift Station 20 Abandonment Project.

Work will include service lines, cleanouts, transfer of sewer services, connections to existing sewer system, main abandonments, pavement and lawn restoration, and other work.

The project was advertised for two weeks and bids were opened June 17, 2021. Four (4) bids were received and ranged from a low of \$513,140.70 to a high of \$770,066.60. Northwest Cascade, Inc., was low bidder at \$513,140.70. The Engineer's Estimate is \$404,780.00.

Northwest Cascade is qualified and capable of performing the work. Start date of the project is anticipated to be September 2021, and there are 30 working days allotted.

COUNCILMEMBER MILLER MOVED TO AWARD PW CONTRACT PW 2021-15 TO LOW BIDDER NORTHWEST CASCADE, INC. IN THE AMOUNT OF \$513,140.70 FOR THE LIFT STATION 20 ABANDONMENT PROJECT. COUNCILMEMBER STEADMAN SECONDED. MOTION CARRIED.

Scott Spence, City Manager, presented an update to the Healthy Washington: Roadmap to Recovery Safe Start Plan, and noted we are now under Washington Ready. Many of the restrictions for business have now been lifted. City facilities will go back to the 5-day format for customers beginning July 6, 2021. Hours will be Monday-Friday from 9:00 am to 5:00 pm, but many of the City's online services will remain available.

Staff noted the Governor's Proclamation that suspended the Open Government Meetings Act is still in place. Council has the option to meet virtually, go back to in-person meetings, or a hybrid of the two options.

Masks will still be required for anyone who has not had a vaccine. The local and state health departments are still strongly recommending social distancing to stay in place for those who have not received the vaccination.

The Council Chambers could be set up for those in attendance to be social-distanced, regardless of vaccination status. If Council elects this option, a resolution will need to be passed to amend or rescind the resolution regarding meeting times, meeting location (in-person, virtual, or hybrid), and a date when Council will begin the new meeting times and location.

The Council did not reach consensus when to return to in-person meetings. Council directed staff to add this item to the July 22, 2021, Worksession for further discussion, with a tentative plan to go back to in-person or a hybrid model in August.

Scott Spence, City Manager, and Jen Burbidge, Parks, Culture and Recreation Director, provided an update on the July 3rd Fireworks event. The fireworks will be launched from North Thurston High School campus, and will be a "park and watch," event.

Council will draft a thank you letter to the sponsors of the event and forward to Jen Burbidge to distribute.

STANDING COMMITTEES:

Community Relations & Public Affairs Committee

Councilmember Steadman reported the Committee met on June 7, 2021, to receive an update on the Art Policy.

Utilities Committee

Councilmember Miller reported the Committee met on June 7, 2021, to discuss the Payment of Utility Connection Charges Proposal.

BOARDS, COMMISSIONS

AND COMMITTEE REPORTS: Regional Housing Council

Councilmember Cox reported a meeting was held to discuss cooling centers, tiny houses, Build-a-Bus, Thurston Thrives Housing Action Team, and Rapid Acquisition Funds.

Thurston Thrives

Councilmember Miller reported a meeting was held to discuss housing and housing policies.

Nisqually River Council

Councilmember Steadman reported a meeting was held in met in May to discuss Lakeside Industries, Eatonville Landfill, Nisqually Land Trust, Yelm Community Garden Workshop, and Nisqually State Park.

Mayor Ryder adjourned the meeting at 5:28 p.m.

MAYOR: _____

ATTESTED BY CITY CLERK: _____

DATE APPROVED: _____