

# STEILACOOM TOWN COUNCIL

## MINUTES

Tuesday, August 16, 2022

6:00 p.m.

### A. Call to Order and Roll Call

1. **Mayor Muri** called the regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council to order at 6:00 p.m. on Zoom.
2. In attendance were Mayor Muri, Councilmembers Neal, Henderson, Crumley, Franklin and Grasher. Staff members in attendance were Town Administrator Loveless, Attorney Hoffman, Public Safety Director Yabe, Public Works Director Burlingame, Town Planner Fortner, and Administrative Assistant Gibelyou.

### B. Pledge of Allegiance

1. **Mayor Muri** led the attendees in the Pledge of Allegiance.

### C. Special Statement

1. **Mayor Muri** made a special statement about the continued use of virtual meetings.

### D. Approval of Agenda

1. **Councilmember Neal** moved and **Councilmember Crumley** seconded to approve the Council Agenda of August 16, 2022.
  - i. **All:** Yes

### E. Presentation

1. **South Sound 911 – Deborah Grady, Executive Director and Julie Door, Board Chair**
  - i. Deborah Grady and Julie Door gave a presentation on how South Sound 911 is run and the services they offer.

### F. Consent Agenda

1. **Minutes of August 2, 2022**
2. **Approval of Payroll Checks #118380 - #118385 in the amount of \$251,456.42**
3. **Approval of Claims Checks #118387 - #118427 in the amount of \$322,961.25**
4. **6-Year Transportation Improvement Plan, Request to Set Public Hearing for September 6, 2022 (AB 3187)**
  - i. **Councilmember Franklin** moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to approve the items on the consent agenda.
    1. **Yes:** All

### G. Audience Input on Non-Agenda Items

1. **Theda Braddock** – She quoted a response Town Administrator Loveless made to Rick Clark on the Town's continued state of emergency. She claimed he misconstrued the authority the state of emergency gives the Town and that the emergency no longer exists. She finds the continuation of the state of emergency to be a cynical misuse of authority and called for action to rescind it be taken immediately.

## H. Action Items

### 1. *Countywide Planning Policies Resolution 1200 (AB 3182)*

- i. **Town Planner Fortner** delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.
- ii. **Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Grasher** seconded to approve Resolution 1200, authorizing the Mayor to sign the Interlocal Agreement on behalf of the Town of Steilacoom, thereby approving the proposed Countywide Planning Policies attached thereto.
  1. **Yes:** All

## I. Introduction

### 1. *Rigney Rd. Non-Motorized Improvement Project, Gray & Osborne Inc. Supp. #2 for Construction Management (AB 3186)*

- i. **Public Works Director Burlingame** delivered the staff report and answered questions from the Council.
- ii. **Councilmember Franklin** moved and **Councilmember Neal** seconded to approve the attached supplement #2 for construction management service as part of the Rigney Road Non-motorized Improvements Project, and authorize the Mayor to sign the necessary approvals, subject to WSDOT concurrence of the agreement.
  1. **Yes:** All

## J. Reports

### 1. *Staff*

- i. **Town Administrator Loveless** reported the following:
  1. Tomorrow will be the next Farmers' Market. The Town is transitioning to a new coordinator, Jenny Harte, who will largely be in charge of tomorrow's market. It will run from 3-7 p.m. in downtown Steilacoom. Joey Jewell - Sinatra in the Sands will play at 6:30 p.m. at the bandstand.
  2. Tomorrow the bi-annual audit on financials, legal compliance, and accountability begins. The state auditors will be auditing federal funds amongst other things. They will likely be reaching out to councilmembers.
  3. Tomorrow the Town will be in contract mediation for Public Safety. It will likely be a lengthy process.
  4. Tomorrow night the Public Safety Advisory Committee will be meeting at 5:30 p.m. This is a special time requested by the Chair.
- ii. **Attorney Hoffman** reported no new litigation.
- iii. **Chief Yabe** reported the following:
  1. Earlier this week, our officers used force upon a dog. Our officers responded to a report of the dog having bitten one of the children within the home. Following the bite, the dog was surrendered to Lakewood Animal Control by the family. While animal control was attempting to seize the dog, it broke loose from control and began approaching one of our officers. Our officer fired a Taser at the dog, which startled the dog into a confined area, after which the dog was seized by animal control. There were no injuries suffered on scene by anyone other than the original dog bite to the child.
  2. Over the past weekend, our officers have experienced at least three incidents of vehicles fleeing from our officers. Regionally, this trend shows no signs of slowing down.
  3. Our body camera vendor visited yesterday and provided initial training for Public Safety supervisors. They are still awaiting our replacement in-car cameras.

4. Partnerships
  - a. Public Works – Their most consistent partner in service to our community
  - b. South Sound 911 – Receives emergency calls from our citizens and coordinates our officers in responding to those emergency calls
  - c. Lexipol – Assists in crafting legally defensible policy to ensure our department operates in accordance with federal and state regulations, as well as industry best practices
  - d. West Pierce Fire and Rescue – Provides advanced life support and fire suppression to our residents
  - e. Both the West Pierce Emergency Management Coalition and Pierce County Department of Emergency Management – Assist in planning for emergency response before the emergencies happen
  - f. PublicSafetyTesting.com – Assist in finding and testing potential public safety officer applicants
  - g. Teamsters local 117 – Represent our officers in bargaining and negotiations
5. Larger public safety organizations can accommodate many of these services in-house. Smaller organizations, such as Steilacoom, must meet the same challenges as our larger partners, but with increased cooperation and adaptability to our specific circumstances. They continue to value all of our partners who work with us to serve this community.

iv. **Public Works Director Burlingame** reported the following:

1. They are continuing to work with the erosion engineering specialist on the Sunnyside Seawall Project. The design is coming together, but not in time to make the construction window for this year. They will aim to finish the design and apply for permits in order to make next year's fish window.
2. They are working on designing replacement playground equipment for Webber Court Park. They have been able to include concepts requested by a local Brownie troop. He hopes to bring this before Council at the next meeting.
3. A draft of the 6-Year TIP was in the Consent Agenda. He highlighted the addition of a pedestrian safety improvements plan in the form of flashing crosswalks.

2. **Council**

i. **Councilmember Crumley** reported the following:

1. He asked for a status update on the marina building and profitability of the parking. The Town continues to make money on parking lots and the building will likely be demolished next year.
2. He requested a report on a possible speed limit reduction on Union Avenue. Joint Base Lewis-McChord has completed their traffic study and are discussing possibilities.

ii. **Councilmember Franklin** reported the following:

1. He suggested notifying the public of the delay on the Sunnyside Seawall Project via the Around Town.
2. He asked for an update on fixing the Sunnyside Horn. The parts needed are on order.
3. He noted that Mayor Muri mentioned we cannot do hybrid Council meetings until the Town has the necessary technology in place and asked when that might happen. The current answer is October.

iii. **Councilmember Grasher** reported the following:

1. She thanked everyone who had a hand in making National Night Out (NNO) a success. She asked everyone to save Tuesday, August 1, 2023 on their calendars for the next event.
2. The Apple Squeeze is a go this year. They are not ready to put out details yet, but they are looking for about 100 volunteers. She thanked those who are organizing the event.
3. She is glad to see speeding and pedestrian safety being addressed. She reminded citizens that school is starting soon and asked drivers to please slow down and look out for kids and parents.
4. The next Sunnyside Beach cleanup is on Saturday, September 10 from 8-9:30 a.m.
5. She is still receiving emails about herbicides and reminded Council of some of her suggestions.
6. She also reminded Council that on May 3 she brought up the possibility of partnering with Pierce County TV. She believes the cost might be money well spent in order to host quality hybrid meetings.

iv. **Councilmember Henderson** reported the following:

1. She thanked Councilperson Grasher, L.J. Rohrer and the other captains of NNO.
2. She thanked several citizens for their participation in a spontaneous cleanup at Saltar's Point Park.
3. She mentioned the Parks, Community Service, and Environment Advisory Committee and one of their current projects: mapping trails in Steilacoom. She believes it will yield helpful information.
4. She gave a shout out to Carol Saynisch's leadership on the community garden located in Dupont. They are still looking for a suitable location in Town.
5. She suggested a nature camera at the beaver dam so people can watch beavers in real time for enjoyment and security.
6. On the topic of noxious weed control, she suggested that areas of known need be addressed by volunteers willing to do manual eradication.
7. She thanked the Town for the policy that the Town will now post signage on where noxious weed spraying will take place.
8. She will have some additional suggestions in the study session.

v. **Councilmember Neal** had no reports.

3. **Mayor**

i. **Mayor Muri** reported the following:

1. The 9<sup>th</sup> Annual National Drive Electric event will take place September 10, from 11 a.m.-3 p.m. They expect about 100 vehicles to participate.
2. He asked for an update on pickleball upgrades. One site at Cherrydale will be restriped for pickleball, hopefully before weather turns this year. The downtown court will remain a multipurpose court but will be recoated and striped after the farmers' market ends.
3. He reminded people that Covid is still with us and impacting vulnerable populations.

K. Adjournment of Regular Meeting

1. **Councilmember Henderson** moved and **Councilmember Crumley** seconded to adjourn the Town Council Meeting of August 16, 2022.

2. The August 16, 2022 regular meeting of the Steilacoom Town Council adjourned at 7:46 p.m.

L. Study Session

1. 2023-2024 Biennium Budget

- i. A study session to discuss 2023-2024 Biennium Budget was convened at 8:00 p.m. and adjourned at approximately 8:31 p.m.

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Town Administrator

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Mayor