

**CITY OF UNIVERSITY PLACE
MINUTES
Regular Meeting of the City Council
Tuesday, July 5, 2022**

1. CALL REGULAR MEETING TO ORDER

Mayor Worthington called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:30 p.m.

2. ROLL CALL

Roll call was taken by the City Clerk as follows:

Councilmember Keel	Present
Councilmember Wood	Present
Councilmember McCluskey	Present
Councilmember Flemming	Excused
Councilmember Belleci	Present
Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa	Present
Mayor Worthington	Present

Staff Present: City Manager Sugg, City Attorney Kaser, Community and Economic Development Director Briske, Police Chief Premo, Public Safety Manager Hales, Communications Specialist Kleber, Parks Maintenance Supervisor West, Engineering and Capital Projects Director Ecklund, Finance Director Blaisdell and City Clerk Genetia.

3. PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Mayor Worthington led Council in the Pledge of Allegiance.

4. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

MOTION: By Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Belleci, to approve the agenda.

The motion carried.

5. PUBLIC COMMENTS – None.

6. CONSENT AGENDA

MOTION: By Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa, seconded by Councilmember Belleci, to approve the Consent Agenda as follows:

- A. Approve the minutes of the June 21, 2022 Council meeting as submitted.
- B. Receive and File: Payroll for period ending 06/30/22; and Claims dated 06/15/22.
- C. Receive and File: 2022 First Quarter Financial Report.
- D. Receive and File: Proclamation in recognition of 16th Combat Aviation Brigade Colonel D. Shane Finison.
- E. Authorize the City Manager to enter into a Professional Services Agreement with Otak, Inc. to create a Northeast Business District Plan and provide retroactive approval for any action consistent with such authorization.

The motion carried.

7. CITY MANAGER & COUNCIL COMMENTS/REPORTS

City Manager Sugg presented the Public Safety video put together by the City's Communications team. Police Chief Premo provided a recap on fireworks statistics.

Councilmember Keel reported that he concluded his term as the Association of Washington Cities' (AWC) Board President. He also provided an update on Sound Transit's West Seattle-Ballard alignment project.

Councilmember Wood encouraged the public to attend the Public Safety listening session scheduled for July 14 to learn about the public safety levy.

Councilmember Belleci announced the Curran Apple Orchard summer concert series starting this Thursday.

Mayor Pro Tem Figueroa reported that he attended the AWC conference and attended a session on ARPA and shared the information he gathered from the workshop. He also attended the Puget Sound Regional Council Operations Committee meeting and will be attending the Central Puget Sound Economic Development District Board meeting on July 13.

Councilmember McCluskey reported on a session she attended during the AWC conference. She congratulated Councilmember Keel for completing his tenure as AWC's President. Additionally, she announced the Teddy Bear Picnic on July 14 at the Curran Apple Orchard and shared information on what transpired at the South Sound Housing Affordability Partnership meeting she attended. Lastly, she encouraged the public to attend the Public Safety forum on July 14 or preview the two past sessions on YouTube.

Mayor Worthington reported that he attended the City's exit audit conference and completion. He attended the Ken Grassi's Scholarship Foundation event and attended the AWC conference. Mayor Worthington informed Council of Tacoma Mayor Woodard's step to becoming the National League of Cities' incoming President and inquired if the City should consider sending a delegation to its upcoming conference. Additionally, he inquired if there was any interest in cancelling the August 15 Council meeting. He reported that he did a Fourth of July ride-along with the U.P. Police Department and shared his perspective on fireworks activity. Lastly, he thanked Councilmember Keel for representing the City in his role as AWC President.

STUDY SESSION

8. CITY ADVISORY COMMISSION REPORTS

Public Safety Advisory Commission Co-Chair Booth shared some the highlights of the Commission's 2022 work, various activities and community outreach participation.

Park Advisory Commission Chair McClain updated Council on its 2022 mid-year goal progress, recommendations and accomplishments. The Commission met with the advocacy group on the Inclusive Playground proposal.

9. PIERCE TRANSIT BUS RAPID TRANSIT REPORT

Pierce Transit's Principal Planner Darin Stavish, Senior Planner Amber Stanley, and Consultant Paul Leitman provided a briefing on the Stream Bus Rapid Transit System Expansion study, highlighting key elements on network of stream corridors, equity index analysis, evaluation framework and process, scoring snapshot, evaluation summary (results, readiness criteria, refinement of selected corridor, and interim service improvements), funding options and implementation.

Mayor inquired about the deadline for feedback from the City and asked to define the mission/objective for the Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). Councilmembers provided comments and feedback with regard to right-of-way design to support BRT; BRT/Stream routes and new opportunities; impact on back-in parking along the corridor; service frequencies and demand; route designations/connections; future growth potential; ridership and aging population; and security issues.

10. PUBLIC SAFETY LEVY

Christian Sinderman of NWP Consulting provided an overview on the survey result conducted in March to determine the community's primary public safety concerns and priorities. Approximately 70 percent of

respondents supported the idea of a property tax levy to address the community's public safety concerns. Police Chief Premo provided a recap on the two Public Safety forums held over the last couple of months and shared what was presented to the public as options to address growing property crime incidents; improve officer availability and police visibility and to enhance community and officer safety. As presented to the public, Option A of the proposal will add 7 staff to the current staffing level of 16 (1 detective/supervisor, 1 investigator, 4 uniformed officers and 1 Community Outreach Officer) to the University Place Police Department and will cost \$14/month to the average homeowner. The additional staff will help towards improving criminal investigations, improving patrol services, traffic enforcement, and community/patrol support.

Working with NWP Consulting, the Public Safety team has engaged in extensive outreach efforts which include one stakeholder meeting, two community meetings (with another scheduled for July 14), meetings/presentations with the City's advisory commissions, meeting with businesses and community groups, and development of a dedicated website, creative video, social media content and several printed materials and mailings.

Police Chief Premo presented the proposed staffing level options (A, B, and C) and the financial impacts of these options. He indicated that feedback received from the community during the public presentations has been supportive of the Police Department. There were concerns that staff and service levels are inadequate and supported an increase in staffing and funding.

City Attorney Kaser provided information on levy limit and exceptions and explained the concept on levy lid lift rules. He stated that the draft legislation included in the packet is what is referred to as a levy lid lift in which Council can increase the levy limit by more than 1% up to the statutory maximum rate for a specific period of time. As a rule, a levy lid lift requires voter approval of a simple majority, no validation is required, and it must go into effect within 12 months of voter approval. He explained the ballot requirements and indicated that the proposed measure is within the requirements. Attorney Kaser also provided information on the senior/disabled property tax exemption should Council decide to consider it. He presented and explained the proposed ballot question and provided deadlines for the submission of the ballot measure and statements.

At 8:56 p.m., a motion was made and was carried to extend the meeting to 9:20 p.m.

Discussion followed regarding interests in pursuing to increasing the funding option beyond what Police Chief Premo has proposed; concerns/anticipation for future growth/adequate funding to cover future hiring/recruiting; negative effect of not having enough time to share/communicate with the public the other funding options; providing for the opportunity for Option C as a premier Police service; concerns with what citizens are willing to pay; gaps in funding options; and overreach.

The Public Safety Levy proposal will move forward to the July 18 Council meeting for consideration.

11. ADJOURNMENT - The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m. No other action was taken.

Submitted by,

Emy Genetia