

Oak Harbor City Council
Special Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2016

Location: Oak Harbor Public School Board Room,
350 South Oak Harbor Street, Oak Harbor, WA 98277

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bob Severns called the meeting to order at 5:32 p.m.

ROLL CALL

City Council Present:

Mayor Bob Severns
Councilmember Rick Almberg
Councilmember Jim Campbell

Staff Present:

City Administrator Dr. Merriman
Public Works Director Cathy Rosen
Development Services Director Steve Powers
Economic Development Director Barbara Spohn

1. Comments and Welcome – Mayor Bob Severns, City of Oak Harbor

Mayor Bob Severns welcomed the attendees at the Special Housing Forum Meeting.

Mayor Severns explained that the purpose of this meeting is to educate the public on the number of new squadrons and their families coming to NAS Whidbey. The upcoming presentations will show the impact of the additional families moving to Oak Harbor on our housing availability, school room space, and the City as a whole. There will also be discussion of additional growth opportunities for the City impacting retail and merchants as well.

2. NASWI Projected Growth – Captain Geoffrey Moore NAS Base Command

Captain Geoffrey Moore, CO of NASWI presented an update on the squadrons and the number of Navy personnel relocating to Whidbey. He provided additional information that non-Navy contractors will be assigned to NASWI in order to support the base growth in terms of constructing additional buildings and new aircraft. However, the Navy does not plan to add housing units on Whidbey.

3. OH School District Growth – Dr. Lance Gibbon, Superintendent OHSD

Superintendent Dr. Lance Gibbon spoke regarding the recent influx of students and the anticipated growth over the next few years. He provided images of the twenty portable classroom units utilized at this time and predicted that the School District will need over twenty-eight more portable classrooms to accommodate families moving to Oak Harbor School District. The School District will also need to hire additional teachers and employees to operate the expanding school system. The increase in student population presents an opportunity to offer many new jobs to the Oak Harbor area.

4. Land and Housing – Steve Powers, Development Services Director

Development Director Steve Powers spoke on Land and Housing, giving a presentation showing our available zoned properties for development. He explained the urban growth area and our City limits, and discussed the permitting process as well. Mr. Power's presentations drew many questions from the audience.

5. Closing Statements – Mayor Bob Severns, City of Oak Harbor

Mayor Severns closed by thanking everyone for attending the Special Meeting and showing their interest in supporting the Navy and the City of Oak Harbor. He welcomed anyone to discuss any of the issues related to this subject with him.

ADJOURN

The meeting adjourned at 6:47 p.m.

Anna M. Thompson, City Clerk