

Oak Harbor City Council  
Workshop Meeting Minutes  
January 22, 2014

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**CALL TO ORDER**

Mayor Scott Dudley called the meeting to order at 3:03 p.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Present:

Mayor Scott Dudley  
Mayor Pro Tempore Danny Paggao  
Councilmember Rick Almberg  
Councilmember Jim Campbell  
Councilmember Tara Hizon  
Councilmember Joel Servatius  
Councilmember Beth Munns

Staff Present:

City Administrator Larry Cort  
Finance Director Doug Merriman  
Development Services Director Steve Powers  
Fire Chief Ray Merrill  
Police Chief Ed Green  
Planning Director Cathy Rosen  
City Engineer Joe Stowell  
City Attorney Nikki Esparza  
City Clerk Anna Thompson  
Police Department Officers  
Fire Department Officers  
Fire Department Admin Angela Braunstien

Councilmember Bob Severns was excused.

**DEPARTMENTAL BRIEFINGS**

1. Costs for Taping Meetings – Finance

Finance Director Doug Merriman provided the Staff report.

Finance Director explained categories of the video finance chart.

2. Impact Fee Reduction Ordinance – Planning

Development Director Steve Powers provided the staff report and provided handouts.

The purpose of discussing this issue is to ask whether the Council would like to extend this ordinance as it is currently sent to expire in February.

Councilmember Munns asked what other cities were doing regarding this issue.

Councilmember Servatius asked whether the City has benefitted from this ordinance.  
Councilmember Munns suggested providing a notice to Impact Fee applicants if the City

does not renew the ordinance.

The Mayor suggested preparing information reporting on other counties' impact fees before the Council makes a decision to extend the ordinance.

### 3. Marijuana Code Update – Planning

Development Director Steve Powers provided the staff report and provided handouts.

There is an existing moratorium. Steve advised that the council extend the moratorium to observe what happens with neighboring cities regarding Initiative 502.

Some cities are drafting ordinances to completely ban marijuana and place additional local requirements on them.

A new letter from the Attorney General regarding on I-502 found that nothing in I-502 can limit the cities' authorities to ban marijuana outright.

Steve providing three options – continue with preparing for marijuana hearings and extend just the medical marijuana moratorium; Extend both moratoriums for an additional 6 months, or contemplate the new letter from Attorney General

Councilmember Munns was wondering whether the taxes from sales of marijuana will help pay for the new PD requirements for DUI of marijuana blood draw. She is also concerned that Navy members will be heavily tempted to use recreational marijuana and get kicked out of the Navy as a federal offense.

Steve powers explained that the zoning areas for marijuana production distribution and retail are in industrial zoning areas.

Councilmember Hizon asked whether the city has the authority to ban alcohol retailers. She is in favor of advocating for marijuana distribution.

Mayor asked that we see the marijuana vote break-down of the City of Oak Harbor.

Mayor Pro Tem Paggao was interested in the cost-benefit analysis of banning or maintaining marijuana production in our City.

Councilmember AlMBERG advocated staying the course with the marijuana ordinances as previously voted and look into the details in the future.

Mr. Powers closed by stating that there will be a public hearing on the marijuana uses on February 4th, 2014.

4. WWTP Property Acquisition – Public Works

City Engineer Joe Stowell provided the staff report.

Councilmember AlMBERG concerned about the costs of trenching.

Joe Stowell's goal is to have the Agenda Bill ready the February 18<sup>th</sup> Council meeting.

Councilmember AlMBERG verified that an archeologist will investigate the property before building and trenching begins.

5. Traffic Complaints – Public Works and Police

City Engineer Joe Stowell provided the staff report.

Joe Stowell informed the Council that some citizens have asked that specific traffic signs be erected in various problematic areas. He informed the Council that they have a plan in place to address the citizens' traffic concerns and will investigate thereafter.

6. RV Park Temporary Closure – Public Works

Public Works Director Cathy Rosen provided staff report.

Public Works would like to close RV park from February 10 - March 31 to make some improvements such as put gravel, automated pay stations, and other improvements. Public Works proposes to place notice out this week to provide sufficient notice to the public and reopen no April 1<sup>st</sup> when the new rates will begin.

### **PENDING AGENDA ITEMS**

1. Special Event Permit Code Amendments (2/4/2014)

Police Chief Green provided the staff report.

Chief Green informed the Council of the proposed amendments to the special events permit and pointed out obsolete sections of the current code. The changes will be minor but necessary.

2. Lifting Fiscal Emergency (2/4/2014)

Development Director Doug Merriman provided the staff report.

Currently, sales and property taxes have leveled out and are no longer falling behind such as during the recession and have adjusted our budget accordingly.

Mr. Merriman advised considering rescinding the fiscal emergency in order to move forward. This will not change the status of our stabilization fund.

### **EMERGING ISSUES**

1. Fire Station Long-Range Planning

Fire Chief Merrill provided the staff report.

The Fire Department's scope of work has drastically expanded over the years.

Fire Department has predicted building a second station off of Ft. Nugent, which is owned by the City. Infrastructure already exists.

The intent of this new station is to be a satellite of the main fire station and not to replicate the same equipment as the head fire station.

The Fire Department suggested purchasing a "Quint" which is a smaller fire engine. The finances may be obtained through bonds or grants. The FD is currently working on a grant with the Federal Government.

Councilmembers AlMBERG, Munns and Paggao asked follow-up questions to Chief Merrill.

2. 2014 Work Plans – Biennial Budget and Capital Improvement Program

City Administrator Dr. Cort provided the staff report.

Dr. Cort discussed need for the 20 year comprehensive plan as required by State law. Within the comp plan there is a 6-year CIP plan which requires a financing plan for every anticipated project within the 6 year period. The annual and bi-annual budgets and CIP plan should match and are generally adopted at the same time among other cities.

Priorities of projects should be located before implementing the bi-annual and CIP plans.

Finance Director Doug Merriman stepped up to explain the priorities budget process used in the City. The budget steps include: Outreach/goals, Identify Reserves, and allocate funds to meet goals.

Dr. Cort resumed the presentation. When projects need to be implemented, the City's goal is to set out costs in advance in order to be prepared to afford them and organize priorities accordingly.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 5:40 p.m.

Anna M. Thompson, City Clerk