



TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE
TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

February 12, 2013
Sharp

Mayor Leider called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

PRESENT: Mayor Richard Leider, Councilmembers John Gillem, Mike Hillberg, Matt Leber, Aaron Sharp, and Tom Stowe.

EXCUSED: None.

STAFF: Clerk-Treasurer Sue Ann Spens.

GUESTS: John White, WSDOT; Jeanne Acutanza, PRR; John Urquhart King County Sheriff, WABA President Paula Dix, Sylvia Hobbs.

MINUTES: Councilmember Sharp moved to approve the January 8, 2013 minutes, as amended. Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

WARRANTS: Councilmember Stowe moved to approve the February 12, 2013 warrants, numbers 9233 through 9257 in the amount of \$15,816.01. Councilmember Hillberg seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

SHORELINE MASTER PROGRAM (SMP): Clerk-Treasurer Spens reported that Dept of Ecology (DOE) requested additional materials in support of the SMP recently submitted. She and Town Planner Green are collecting the requested materials and expect to submit them no later than February 15, 2013.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: No report.

WATER REPORT: No report.

WABA REPORT: WABA President Paula Dix reported that the Winter Dinner was successful. She also reported that work on the most current building permit to repair dock pilings is complete, leaving only nine pilings to be repaired as part of WABA's ongoing maintenance. The second C-15 dock work is also complete. Among current projects, WABA is reviewing their insurance policy for the beach, and Julia Morse, WABA's Woodlands Manager, is seeking advice for bank stabilization along a path.

APPEARANCES: Resident Sylvia Hobbs appeared before the Council to express concern about three things:

- That no notice is required when permission is given to cut trees on the Town ROW. She explained that two trees were removed legally across the street from her property, but no notice was posted. When trees are cut on private property, the Town posts notices to notify the neighbors of the permitted cutting. She would like the Town to make similar postings for Town tree removals.
- That contractors are storing construction materials and equipment on Town ROWs during construction rather than storing them on site.
- That a property owner was allowed to replace a fence on the ROW without having to seek permission from the Council to do so. She understands that the prior owner obtained the Council's permission to build the original fence and that they executed an encroachment agreement for it. She just thinks the fence encroaches too far onto the ROW and makes walking in the vicinity difficult.

Mayor Leider thanked Mrs. Hobbs for her comments and noted that the Council will give them full consideration.

I-90 TOLLING ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT: John White with the Washington State Dept of Transportation (WSDOT) introduced Jean Acutanza with PRR and then began his presentation. Mr. White explained that WSDOT's challenge is to fund transportation improvements, both new construction and maintenance, in an era of improving gas-mileage efficiency and the resulting declines in gas-tax revenues. One of the methods under consideration is to impose tolls on highways.

Mr. White explained that while the SR-520 Bridge and the I-90 Bridge are two separate structures, they combine to form the area's cross-lake corridor, and anything that affects one, usually affects the other. Thus, the imposition of tolls on SR-520 has caused drivers who can easily choose between the two bridges to opt for the untolled I-90, resulting in increased traffic congestion along I-90 (15,000 vehicles, an 11% increase). So one reason to consider tolling on I-90 is to balance the volume of traffic each bridge handles.

In addition, construction on SR-520 is not fully funded. The State Legislature chose to start replacing that bridge, even though the project wasn't fully funded, because of its extremely poor structural condition. WSDOT's current position is that if the funding gap to complete work on SR-520 cannot be otherwise filled by 2014, they must consider adding tolls to I-90, though I-90 tolling has been under review since 2006.

WSDOT has noted that since tolling began on SR-520, there is a 25% increase in transit use in the cross-lake corridor. Most of those who choose to drive are paying their tolls with Good-to-Go accounts, so electronic tolling is working well after some initial challenges.

Mr. White then explained the decision-making process for I-90 tolling as follows:

- WSDOT is using scoping meetings to present various "build alternatives", which are focused on tolling on I-90, though there is a "no toll" alternative included also.
- The Federal Highway Administration (FHWA) must concur with WSDOT's request for

tolls.

- State statutes require that tolling be authorized by the Legislature.
- Within the Federal highway system, there is only one program applicable to the situation where tolls on an existing bridge are diverted to support construction of a new bridge under a "value pricing" argument: the Downtown-Midtown Tunnels in Virginia.
- As for timing, it is possible that FHWA will render their decision and the State Legislature will take action sometime in 2014.
- Questions remain regarding whether there will be one of two gantries and where they will be placed.
- Questions also remain about the tolling rate, which must be set by the State Transportation Commission. This commission must also decide if the toll is collected in one direction or both, or if the tolling is segmented.

Mayor Leider asked when the public will have the opportunity to review specifics about the proposals and weigh in with comments, concerns, etc. Mr. White answered that WSDOT will hold several open houses to collect data for findings on the tolling question and then hold public hearings to review these findings. The timing for these meetings is not yet set. He added that WSDOT is working to develop an email distribution list to keep interested parties informed.

STRATEGIC PLANNING SESSIONS: Mayor Leider reminded the Council that there are two sessions scheduled at Mercer Island Community Center on February 27 and 28 from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. He asked the Council to bring their many ideas for discussion to those sessions.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

4Q2012 TREASURER'S REPORTS: Councilmember Leber reported that he has completed his review of the Fourth Quarter Treasurer's Reports and supporting documentation and found them to be complete and accurate. He has signed them to indicate his approval.

2012 PAVING PROJECT: Councilmember Sharp reported that the last bit of last summer's paving project, which is painting a crosswalk, is not yet complete due to inclement weather. He confirmed with Clerk-Treasurer Spens that final payment had NOT yet been sent to the contractor.

SPEED HUMP ON 107TH: Councilmember Stowe reminded the Council that a condition for approval of the Brookharts' request to remove a speed hump on 107th that conflicted with their new driveway entrance was that they would pay to replace the hump if the neighbors on the street decided that a new hump was needed. He reported that the majority of neighbors agree that the speed hump needs to be replaced and should be located north of the sewer manhole cover north of the Stowe's driveway but south of the storm drain that is south of the Deitrick's driveway.

In addition, the top of the speed hump near Hillberg/Matsudaira needs to be lowered several inches as too many cars scrape bottom on it.

TOWN STREET DESCRIPTIONS: Councilmember Stowe reported that works continues apace on this project. He may have several ordinances to bring to the Council for approval as early as next month.

PSE TREE TRIMMING: Councilmember Stowe spoke with a PSE Representative to learn if crews would trim around the signal wire running from the water tank to the well. PSE will not be doing this trimming. He will contact Comcast and CenturyLink for assistance.

REGIONAL MEETINGS: Councilmember Stowe reported that he attended the following meetings:

- Enatai Neighborhood Association where he suggested that the group include BAV as both neighborhoods share many common goals.
- Bellevue City Council Meeting as they discussed light-rail through Enatai.
- Sound Cities Association where he attended meetings of both the Public Issues Committee and the Small Cities Subcommittee.

He added that he will be attending next week's Puget Sound Regional Council meeting for the Eastside Corridor Task Force.

COMPREHENSIVE EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT PLAN: Councilmember Gillem continues his work reviewing the CEMP in earnest, because it is now due for an update. He expects to have an updated version available for Council action in a couple of months. He is looking at the Medina website for examples of emergency-response tools.

WHATMORE: Mayor Leider reported that the Whatmore Estate responded to the Town's letter, and he believes most of the issues are resolved, except for the encroachments on the water-tower property. He will be responding to them in the next week.

KING COUNTY SHERIFF: John Urquhart, newly elected Sheriff of King County introduced himself to the Council and commented on having a "beat" in the Village in his early days with the Sheriff's Office. Mayor Leider commented that he hears good feedback on the land-patrol but marine-patrol services last summer were less visible. Sheriff Urquhart thanked Mayor Leider for the feedback.

NEXT MEETING: Clerk-Treasurer Spens reminded the Council that the next Council meeting will be held at 7:00pm on Tuesday March 12, 2013 at Tom Stowe's house.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Stowe moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:30 pm. Councilmember Sharp seconded.

Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ann Spens
Clerk-Treasurer