



TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

November 8, 2022

Stowe

PRESENT: Mayor Aletha Howes, Councilmembers Paula Dix, Tom Stowe, Brad Wheeler, and John Gillem (who attended remotely).

EXCUSED: Councilmembers James McCarthy.

STAFF: Clerk/Treasurer Sue Ann Spens, Town Engineer Stacia Schroeder.

GUESTS: Water Dept Supervisor Bob Durr.

Mayor Howes called the meeting to order at 7pm and asked for a moment of silence recognizing the passing of Chuck Lowry, who not only served the Town as a member of the Council and as Mayor for more than a decade but also volunteered for numerous Town projects after leaving the Council.

She then asked to add an Executive Session to the end of the meeting to review of personnel performance for salary increases under RCW 42.30.110(1)(g). The Council agreed to this agenda change.

MINUTES: Councilmember Gillem moved to approve the October 11, 2022 minutes as amended. Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLAIMS: Councilmember Wheeler moved to approve the final November 8, 2022 Claims Register for check numbers 16160 through 16178 in the amount of \$63,155.68.

Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

CLERK'S REPORT:

PUBLIC DEFENDER: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that Town Attorney Linehan has reviewed the agreement for public defense services submitted by Stein, Lotzkar & Starr and on his advice, Mayor Howes has signed the agreement. David advises that the Council should ratify the contract in case the annual cost should exceed her approval authority.

MOTION: Councilmember Dix moved to ratify the Agreement for Public Defense Services. Councilmember Stowe seconded.

Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Nothing to report. Mayor Howes mentioned that she and Town Marshal Jochums plan to meet with the Clyde Hill Police Chief to discuss the possibility of contracting with them. Councilmember Stowe noted that King County Sheriff occasionally uses deputies from other contract cities to man our patrols, adding that it takes about 18 months to fill vacancies.

WATER REPORT: Water Det Supervisor Bob Durr reported that he and Water Superintendent Roger Lillejord met with Doug Lane, an engineer with City of Bellevue Utilities to review the intertie between our water lines and Bellevue's. The intertie consists of two pressure-based valves, on 2" and one 6", and the vault that they sit in was installed in 1972. We are responsible for their maintenance, while Bellevue is responsible for reading the meters. Bellevue installed a remote-reading meter on the 2" line and reads the 6" line, which doesn't get much use, on an as-needed basis. Mr. Durr commented that Mr. Lillejord needs both meter readings monthly.

He also mentioned that Bellevue has expressed an interest in a reverse supply (from Beaux Arts to Bellevue) in the event of an emergency; however, Mr. Durr noted that we probably don't have enough volume for their needs.

He reported that Bellevue plans some work on their distribution line in the vicinity of 104th/105th and SE 30th. There is only a small entry into the Town.

WABA REPORT: WABA's annual Winter Bonfire is scheduled for Tuesday December 13th at 7pm. They are also working to finalize the date of their Winter Dinner and developing an interim plan for the Dockmaster role.

APPEARANCES: None.

COMPREHENSIVE PLAN UPDATES: Town Planner Stacia Schroeder commented that while this is her first time through the process, she has reviewed former Planner Green's previous work. In addition, she is monitoring the work being done by the Yarrow Point planner for additional information and will request his help if needed.

She added that she has reviewed the Dept of Commerce checklist and determined that most of what they list does not apply to us, but she has compiled a rough schedule of those items that do apply, which Clerk/Treasurer Spens used as part of the Town's grant application. That checklist has already been shared with the Planning Commission to help them get up to speed on the process.

She noted that she has asked Town Attorney Linehan for specific help with changes in the State regulations concerning Accessory Dwelling Units; however, Dept of Commerce does not yet have final rules posted. She is also waiting for a final outline of any changes to the current code that may be needed for other Comp Plan elements.

Councilmember Stowe mentioned that previous updates offered a number of opt outs. Ms. Schroeder stated that those have been eliminated; the only elements that can be omitted are those that do not apply to our Town.

Councilmember Gillem commented that we need to be smart about our timing, since comments from the Dept of Commerce can be slow in coming back.

Ms. Schroeder asked if the Council is willing to assign a liaison with the Planning Commission for this project. Councilmembers asked to think about the idea.

PARKS LEVY PROJECT IDEAS: Councilmember Dix noted that the total the Town will receive over the five years of the tax is about \$125,000 and asked Council to rank the projects in order of importance to them. After this discussion, it was the consensus of the Council that the Glen Path project is their first choice with improvements along 108th second.

PUBLIC HEARING: PROPOSED 2023 BUDGET AND PROPERTY-TAX LEVY: Mayor Howes opened the public hearing at 8:30pm and asked for public comments. As there were none, she closed the public hearing at 8:31 pm.

Because the Council had discussed the property-tax levy in some detail last month, the consensus was to stick with no increase for 2023. Other budget line-items were adjusted slightly with the focus being reducing the scope of or delaying certain capital projects in light of cost increases in other areas.

MOTION: Councilmember Stowe moved to pass Ordinance No. 459 setting the 2023 Property-Tax Levy. Councilmember Wheeler seconded.
Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

PROPOSED SHARED TREES POLICY: It was the consensus of the Council to postpone this discussion for a month. Councilmember Stowe did note that he provided easement language to Deputy Clerk Tych to use for work on and removals of shared trees. Mayor Howes added that one aspect of this topic is to decide if the cost of removal should be borne by the Town, in recognition of the benefit of protecting the Town's infrastructure from damage caused by a fallen tree.

POSSIBLE WATER-RATE INCREASE: Councilmember Stowe agreed to help Councilmember McCarthy complete a water-rate study for the Council to consider in 2023.

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

GREAT SHAKE OUT: Councilmember Gillem reported that the Town's Great Shake Out took place and included a quick review of the Town's emergency-management plan and a check on our emergency supplies.

GARDEN CYCLES: Councilmember Dix reported that Garden Cycles has completed the first round of landscape maintenance work, and she felt it was well done. She found that Monarch Landscaping was far less responsive.

TOWN CLEAN-UP: Councilmember Dix reported that the Fall Clean Up went well. She mentioned special thanks to Aaron Sharp, Fritz Johnson, Tom Garvey, Bruce Young, and Keith Mange for their work cleaning up a fallen tree and its debris.

FRANCHISE REVIEW: Councilmember Stowe noted that he is beginning work on reviewing the Town's franchise agreements.

PSE POWER: Councilmember Stowe commented that a recent power outage highlighted the need to work with Puget Sound Energy to review and revise the arrangement of distribution lines serving the Town. He noted that the current set up seems to have no rhyme or reason.

NEXT MEETING: The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday December 13, 2022 at Councilmember Wheeler's house; however, this date conflicts with WABA's Annual Winter Bonfire. It was the consensus of the Council to move the meeting to Thursday, December 15th. This will again be an in-person meeting; Clerk/Treasurer Spens will bring her Town computer to accommodate remote participation.

ADJOURN FOR EXECUTIVE SESSION: Mayor Howes announced that the Council would adjourn the general session at 9:25pm for about 10 minutes to discuss personnel performance. At 9:35 pm, Mayor Howes adjourned the executive session and reconvened the regular session noting that decisions made during the session will be incorporated into the 2023 Budget.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Dix moved to adjourn the meeting at 9:35 pm. Councilmember Stowe seconded.
Vote: 4 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ann Spens
Clerk-Treasurer