



TOWN OF BEAUX ARTS VILLAGE

TOWN COUNCIL MINUTES

January 10, 2023

Dix

PRESENT: Mayor Aletha Howes, Councilmembers Paula Dix, John Gillem, James McCarthy, Tom Stowe, and Brad Wheeler.

EXCUSED: None.

STAFF: Clerk/Treasurer Sue Ann Spens.

GUESTS: Julia Morse.

Mayor Howes called the meeting to order at 7pm.

MINUTES: Councilmember Dix moved to approve the December 15, 2022 minutes as amended. Councilmember Gillem seconded.

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

CLAIMS: Councilmember Stowe moved to approve the final December 31, 2022 Claims Register for check numbers 16202 through 16213 in the amount of \$7,272.21.

Councilmember Wheeler seconded.

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

Councilmember Dix moved to approve the final January 10, 2023 Claims Register for check numbers 16214 through 16223 in the amount of \$24,213.28. Councilmember Gillem seconded.

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

CLERK'S REPORT:

FALLEN TREE LIMB: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that during the week between Christmas and New Year's Day, a limb from a Doug fir on the right-of-way fell on the adjacent property owner's lot and hit a car parked in the driveway. She has alerted our insurer of the incident and sent them photos. In addition, Town Arborist Holly Iosso has visited the site and should have a report ready early this week.

EMERGENCY CONTRACTS FOR BELLEVUE FIRE: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that Bellevue Fire Department is currently using the Town phone as an emergency contact number and they are asking if there is another number that would be better for after-hours contacts. Mayor Howes noted that she has an emergency app on her phone that they can use as the 24-hour connection.

MAILSTAND KNOCKED OVER: Clerk/Treasurer Spens reported that the mailstand at the top of the North Beach Road was knocked back and the carrier will not deliver mail to it until it is repaired. She has contacted a couple of people with boxes on the stand to let them know

that it is their responsibility to make the repairs. The stand should be fixed within the week.

MARSHAL'S REPORT: Nothing to report.

WATER REPORT: Councilmember Wheeler commented that the Town was on Bellevue water for about 24 hours when electricity to the pump was disrupted.

WABA REPORT: WABA's Annual Winter Dinner is scheduled for February 5th, and invitations will be mailed shortly.

APPEARANCES: Julia Morse offered a question and a comment. She has access to a number of raspberry starts and wonder if the Town would like to plant them in the right-of-way at the corner of SE 29th and 106th SE. Councilmembers asked who would take care of the area and water the plants; they also reminded Ms. Morse that nothing should be allowed to grow into the view corridor of that intersection. Mayor Howes reminded everyone that when planting this area was last discussed, the Council decided to wait until the recently removed laurel has completely died back. It was the consensus of the Council to stick with that plan.

Ms. Morse also expressed concern about noise levels in the Village during the day. She noted that most of the excessive noise comes from commercial leaf blowers. She asked that the Council consider setting clear rules for allowable noise levels not to exceed the NIOSH limit of decibels, adding that NIOSH has a Sound Level Meter (SLM) app that can be used on any phone to measure ambient noise. The Council agreed to discuss this further as a future agenda item.

PROPOSED RESOLUTION NO. 324 APPROVING THE ARCH BUDGET AND WORK PROGRAM FOR 2023: Councilmembers noted that the Town's contribution increased significantly year-over-year (29%) due mainly to ARCH increases in staffing, but also noted that, with no real options for providing affordable housing, the Town relies on this consortium to help meet state-mandated affordable housing targets.

MOTION: Councilmember Wheeler moved to adopt Resolution No. 324 approving the ARCH Budget and Work Program for 2023. Councilmember McCarthy seconded.

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

MAYOR AND COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS:

GIS DATABASE FOR TOWN TREES: Councilmember Dix reported that she has finished updating the Town's GIS-based tree inventory.

GLEN PATH DESIGN: Councilmember Dix reported on the following for the Glen Path project:

- She has an estimate from Lumo Landscaping to design the Glen Path Improvements. Lumo is the firm that designed the Academy Path improvements a couple of years ago. Clerk/Treasurer Spens will put together a services contract for Mayor Howes signature.

- Water Superintendent Roger Lillejord is reviewing the cost to install a water spigot along the path.
- She would like to have the area surveyed and staked to clearly establish the boundaries between Town and private property and estimates that will cost about \$1,000.

TREE WORK: Councilmember Dix reported that there is a standing dead tree at the intersection of SE 29th and 106th Ave SE. She asked what she needs to do if a Town tree must be accessed through private property for tree work. Councilmember Stowe answered that he has given the Building Department information for processing temporary easements.

WEEDING AND VEGETATION MAINTENANCE: Councilmember Dix reported that she was not satisfied with the work Monarch performed for the Town last Fall, and she has someone else lined up for a tryout.

STATE LEGISLATURE ACTIVITY: Councilmember Stowe expressed extreme concern about a number of bills under consideration in the current session of the Washington State Legislature. The bills are related to increasing housing density to address housing affordability, rent controls, regulating vacant/rental homes, housing assistance, tree protection. He is particularly concerned about HB 1110 and its companion SB 5190, which seek to override local zoning regulations and force significant increases in housing density by allowing four- and six-plexes to be built on lots currently zoned single-family residential. He asked that Villagers be warned about this pending legislation and given directions for offering comments if they wish.

Councilmember Stowe will send a list of the bill numbers to Mayor Howes and Clerk/Treasurer Spens, both of whom will review the text of the bills and determine the appropriate course of action.

COMCAST FRANCHISE: Councilmember Stowe reported that he is reviewing the materials prepared by Eileen Keiffer for updates to this franchise and will offer his comments directly to her when ready.

STREET LIGHT NEAR WATER TOWER: Councilmember Stowe commented that PSE has installed a new LED bulb in the streetlight near the water tower, and that the light it emits is exceptionally harsh. He has asked Town Engineer Schroeder to contact PSE to have it replaced with a bulb that emits a warmer light in keeping with other streetlighting in the Village.

POINTS CITIES MAYORS' MEETING: Mayor Howes reported that the other Points Cities have seen an uptick in zoning-code issues recently.

COMP PLAN UPDATES: Mayor Howes mentioned that the 2024 update to the Town's Comprehensive Plan begins in earnest with the Planning Commission's January meeting. She would like to see updates on their progress via a status report in the Council's packet every other month, beginning in February. Clerk/Treasurer Spens will contact Town Planner Schroeder and let her know.

NEXT MEETING: The next Council meeting is scheduled for Tuesday February 14, 2023 at Councilmember Gillem's house. This will be an in-person meeting with a remote option if any Councilmembers are only able to attend remotely. Councilmember McCarthy noted that he will not be able to attend the meeting.

ADJOURN: Councilmember Wheeler moved to adjourn the meeting at 8:25 pm.
Councilmember McCarthy seconded.
Vote: 5 For, 0 Against, 0 Abstain. Motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Ann Spens
Clerk-Treasurer