

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF STUDY SESSION

Monday, June 6, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

PRESENT: Deputy Mayor Hall, Councilmember Eggen, Councilmember McConnell,
Councilmember Roberts, Councilmember Scott, and Councilmember Winstead

ABSENT: Mayor McGlashan

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 p.m., the meeting was called to order by Deputy Mayor Hall, who presided.

2. FLAG SALUTE/ROLL CALL

Mayor McGlashan led the flag salute. Upon roll call by the City Clerk, all Councilmembers were present.

3. CITY MANAGER'S REPORT AND FUTURE AGENDAS

Julie Underwood, City Manager, provided reports and updates on various City meetings, projects, and events.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Eggen discussed the SeaShore meeting that he and Councilmember McConnell attended. He noted that they discussed tolling on Highway 520 and the Burke-Gilman Trail closing.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

a) Ezra Eickmeyer, Chimacum, favored having a medical marijuana "model" in the City of Shoreline and the State of Washington. He urged the Council to support medical marijuana dispensaries (MMD) and its patients. Mr. Eickmeyer responded to an inquiry from Councilmember Eggen.

b) Laura Healey, Lake Stevens, owner of Green Hope Patient Network discussed

operating a MMD. She asked for the assistance of the Council to properly regulate medical marijuana in Shoreline. Ms. Healey replied to an inquiry from Councilmember Eggen.

c) Greg Logan, Shoreline, on behalf of the Highland Terrace Neighborhood Association, favored the use of medical marijuana and felt a solution should be sought by the government concerning the health and welfare of patients.

d) Dennis Ryder, Everett, expressed support for the Green Hope Patient Network and said that medical marijuana helps his arthritis pain.

e) James Burleigh, Kenmore, supported the Green Hope Patient Network and said the organization is a safe, responsible point of access for patients that need the resource.

f) John Florio, Seattle, discussed his medical history and spoke in support of the Green Patient Network, urging the Council to work with them so patients can get help.

g) Illian Faleca, Bothell, discussed her medical history and favored the Green Patient Network, noting that cannibus allowed her to get off narcotics and other dangerous drugs.

h) Wes Abney, owner of Northwest Leaf magazine, highlighted the professional manner of the staff at Green Hope Patient Network and discussed the tax benefits of MMDs to the state.

i) Ric Smith, Shoreline, spoke in support of the Green Hope Patient Network and the improvements they have made to the local community in terms of lighting, safety, and tax revenues.

j) Roberto Rodriquez, Edmonds, outlined his criminal history and explained that medical marijuana has helped him cope with problems in his life.

Councilmember Eggen inquired about the status of the business license appeal in Shoreline. Ian Sievers, City Attorney, responded, noting that the hearing has been continued to July 25, 2011, and the business can continue to operate until that date. Upon further questioning by Councilmember Eggen, Mr. Sievers explained that much of the detail could not be discussed at this time because it is potential litigation. However, he noted that there is some relief in the legislation for patients, but the business models are not well written.

There was Council consensus to schedule time to discuss the MMD topic prior to July 25.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Councilmember McConnell, seconded by Councilmember Winstead and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.

7. STUDY ITEMS

(a) 2012 – 2017 Capital Improvement Plan (CIP)

Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager, noted that the CIP is derived from policies and direction that came from the Comprehensive Plan and is a six-year projection that allows the City to coordinate projects. She highlighted that the plan is an estimate, a prediction, and a forecast. She noted that there are forty projects in the CIP and most are related to the Aurora Project. She reviewed revenues and expenditures, the General Capital Fund (11 projects), facilities major maintenance, the Roads Capital Fund (10 projects), and the Surface Water Utility (14 projects). Ms. Tarry continued and reviewed policy issues, the declining Real Estate Excise Tax (REET), and alternative revenue sources. She added that revenues would not return to levels shown in baseline years until 2013; therefore, there are fewer projects. The City has had to reduce the workforce by 2.5 full-time equivalents (FTE). Other changes are in the gambling tax policy, which reflects a reduction in the amount of taxes going to the capital plan. She said this would be brought forth as part of the proposed CIP.

Councilmember Eggen noted that some of the transportation planning revenue is moving from the capital plan to operations. He congratulated the City staff for their work in securing “Safe Route” grant funds. Deputy Mayor Hall noted that the surface water fee was charged on a flat rate, which is not fair to lower income residents. He noted his preference for a progressive system that is based on the size of individual properties. Councilmember Roberts said he would like to know how much additional revenue could be generated with a surface water fee increase and/or a gambling tax increase. Councilmember Winstead encouraged the City staff to think about future funding of sidewalk and pedestrian paths. She concurred with Deputy Mayor Hall and said there have been enough fee and tax increases and she felt cutting back is a better option. Councilmember Eggen concurred with the surface water fee and agreed that regressive taxes should be avoided.

Ms. Tarry communicated that there are legal limitations on the usage of surface water revenues.

Councilmember Eggen continued and explained that charges should be based on the amount of impervious surface per a lot. Deputy Mayor Hall added that the Council discussed a graduated surface water fee but it was not implemented because the system would be complicated.

Ms. Tarry explained that the surface water management fee is based on a policy of inflation plus a half of a percent.

(b) Continued Discussion of Amendments to the Fee Schedule and Use of Shoreline Facilities

Julie Underwood, City Manager, explained that the purpose of this item is to review the Amendments to the Fee Schedule and Use of Shoreline Facilities. She introduced Eric Bratton, Management Analyst. Mr. Bratton discussed the fee waiver, which is included in Ordinance No. 602 that gives the City Manager the discretion to grant fee waivers. He also stated that the 20% gross revenue concession fee has been replaced with a tiered concessionaire permit fee. He added that the concessionaire permit fee would not be charged to non-profit organizations and the youth discount rates will only apply to non-profit organizations; for-profit youth organizations will need to pay the full rates. The senior discount rate has been removed and there will be discounted synthetic field rates, which are subject to usage levels. He added that there would be an instructor permit for people who instruct others utilizing Shoreline facilities, such as tennis, weight room, dance, and fitness instructors.

Councilmember Roberts said he is leery about the instructor's permit because the City has not made much revenue in concessions. He was concerned instructors could just go elsewhere. Dick Deal, Parks, Recreation and Cultural Services Director, replied that this permit involves professionals utilizing the parks and recreation system for private gain. He added that it assists the City in knowing who is utilizing its parks, so revenue generation is not the objective. Councilmember Roberts also inquired if the City charges to use electricity and Mr. Deal responded that the fields are billed at \$17.00 per hour.

Councilmember Eggen inquired about liability concerns regarding the instructor permit and Mr. Sievers responded that the City would not be held liable under the Washington State Recreational Immunity Statute. Councilmember Eggen confirmed with staff that proof of insurance would be required for the instructor to obtain an instructor's permit.

Deputy Mayor Hall questioned the implication of the Director having discretion with the fee schedule and stated that he would prefer having a note stating the hours and times included in the language.

After further discussion, Mr. Deal noted that a revised ordinance would be brought back to the Council reflecting Council's suggested changes.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 7:58 p.m., Deputy Mayor Hall declared the meeting adjourned.

Scott Passey, City Clerk