

CITY OF SHORELINE
SHORELINE CITY COUNCIL
SUMMARY MINUTES OF STUDY SESSION

Monday, October 17, 2011
7:00 p.m.

Council Chamber - Shoreline City Hall
17500 Midvale Avenue North

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

ABSENT: None

1. CALL TO ORDER

At 7:00 pm., the meeting was called to order by Mayor McGlashan, 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

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

Responding to Councilmember Eggen, Ms. Underwood reported on the ongoing work on the Point Wells agreement and second legal opinion. She added that the letter of intent is out there and the biggest interest is in the traffic corridor study. She also said the City is pushing the developer to start a public process, including the distribution of a newsletter to the neighborhood. Ms. Underwood replied to an inquiry from Councilmember McConnell and stated that there is the possibility that an agreement could occur before the traffic study. Councilmember McConnell added that the public should know the Council is accessible by phone and email.

4. COUNCIL REPORTS

Councilmember Winstead reported on the Suburban Cities Association (SCA) Public Issues Committee Meeting where Initiative 1183 was introduced but the committee postponed it until the next meeting.

Councilmember Eggen displayed a plaque issued by King County in recognition of the Regional Transit Task Force. He noted that the Municipal Solid Waste Advisory Committee discussed

taking away the ability to recycle cans, paper, and glass as a budget cutting measure since people can recycle individually.

Mayor McGlashan said he was selected to be on the Emergency Medical Services Advisory Task Force. He discussed the Council's proposed SCA bylaw changes, noting that he suggests the Council pull the letter from Shoreline because the SCA will discuss their bylaws at their retreat. Councilmember Roberts noted that the amendments were time sensitive and any revisions would take a year or two to be adopted.

Deputy Mayor Hall added that SCA's rationale is for SCA to try to be effective in influencing the organization. He said the concern is that there is not adequate time for people to understand the value of the amendments now. He said if the measure went straight to a vote in November it would be susceptible to the current voting rules and the voting outcome would be predictable.

Councilmember Winstead inquired if SCA was putting together a task force. She confirmed with Mayor McGlashan that the amendments are moving forward and that the new board would look into them. She also suggested that the Council check back with SCA in a few months to follow up. Deputy Mayor Hall confirmed that the board is informing the full SCA membership at the general meeting in November that there would be a focused reevaluation of the bylaws to see if there is a way for the organization to be more representative of the larger cities like Shoreline.

Mayor McGlashan said he attended the Shorewood High School groundbreaking ceremony, which was well attended.

5. PUBLIC COMMENT

No public comment was given.

6. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Upon motion by Deputy Mayor Hall, seconded by Councilmember McConnell and unanimously carried, the agenda was approved.

7. STUDY ITEMS

(a) 2010 Census Update

Steve Cohn, Senior Planner, and George Smith, Human Services, provided information on the 2010 Census. Mr. Cohn informed the Council that the City's population has been relatively unchanged since 2000. He noted that the City's population went from 14th largest to 19th largest in the State of Washington. He added that household sizes are continuing to drop. Mr. Smith communicated that Shoreline is a predominantly 1-2 person household city with almost a third of its residents living alone. He noted that the number of elderly residents has increased and the number of teens under 18 has decreased.

Mr. Cohn discussed the implications of the census results. He noted that the growth in the City will occur in multi-family housing and there will be more homes freed up as people age. However, it will be a long-term process.

Councilmember Roberts inquired about the percentage of rental units vs. owner-occupied rentals, to which Mr. Cohn replied that it has only increased slightly.

Councilmember Eggen commented that it appears that the number of rental units has increased, so he wondered if people are renting their properties and moving to the suburbs. He wondered about the demographic cause of the significant increase in Seattle's school-age population. He also inquired about foreclosure rates. Mr. Cohn responded that the demographers predicted the school-age population increase and guessed that for some reason the older families chose to move out to different living arrangements in Shoreline. He stated that King County might have the data on foreclosure rates.

Councilmember Scott noted that Shoreline's population fell from 13th to 19th largest and wondered if the annexations of other cities was the reason for the difference. Mr. Cohn replied that south King County tends to grow faster than north King County. Additionally, there is more undeveloped property in south King County and it is easier to build on undeveloped property. Councilmember Scott pointed out that the Shoreline School District consists of 42.5% students of color.

(b) Sound Transit Light Rail Guiding Principles

Ms. Underwood introduced Alicia McIntyre, Senior Transportation Planner, who highlighted the Sound Transit light rail scoping meeting. She stated that Sound Transit has begun the environmental scoping process and there are two alignments. She stated that the alignments serve different neighborhoods and have different impacts. She explained that the guiding principles will help shape the preferred alignment. She noted that the principles have been posted on the website and the City continues its public outreach. She said the City has received four comments as of tonight.

Deputy Mayor Hall suggested that the Council oppose the shifting of tax revenues generated in Shoreline's subarea to another subarea. Councilmember Eggen supported the suggestion. Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Program Manager, shared information he heard from Sound Transit today. He said he was told that the Sound Transit Board directed Sound Transit Executive Director Joni Earl to have the Shoreline stations and the North King Subarea fully funded before any transfers occur. Therefore, if the money was not there, no transfers would occur. Deputy Mayor Hall said he still does not think that it is acceptable for them to take North King Subarea funds after the stations are built and transfer them to the eastside.

Ms. McIntyre and Mr. MacColl replied to Councilmember Roberts that they do not know Sound Transit's strategy in the event that Tim Eyeman's initiative passes and impacts east link.

Councilmember Roberts said that at the joint meeting with the Planning Commission, there was discussion about development surrounding light rail stations. He noted that there was discussion about how the City wants to communicate how the redevelopment plans would be handled. He inquired if there has been any City staff discussion about where to put that statement. Ms. Underwood stated that a transit-oriented policy statement would be a part of the Comprehensive Plan update. Ms. McIntyre added that that has been discussed with Sound Transit and they believe the City is on the right path. Ms. Underwood summarized the discussion and recommended that the City proceed with the Comprehensive Plan in 2012, including transit-oriented policies.

Deputy Mayor Hall suggested adding the following statement under land uses and redevelopment: "We believe future land uses around light rail stations should support a transition to transit-oriented communities over time and in partnership with the local neighborhood." Councilmember Roberts felt it should be a stand-alone statement, and the Council agreed.

Councilmember Eggen discussed the "maximizing ridership" language, noting that the City has Bus Rapid Transit (BRT). He added that maximizing ridership on Sound Transit means it may need to be on Aurora Avenue. He questioned whether this needs to be written so transit service, including light rail, serves the greatest number of Shoreline residents. Ms. Underwood pointed out that one of the reasons the Highway 99 alignment did not rate high on its numbers is because of BRT and duplicity. Councilmember Eggen suggested the language, "We support the development of a light rail system that ensures the greatest number of Shoreline residents are served by high quality transit."

Councilmember Roberts suggested the following language under the second bullet point under ridership: "A complete transit and light rail system and ridership development of a transit and light-rail system."

Councilmember Winstead pointed out that the guiding principles are supposed to focus on light rail. Councilmember Eggen noted that his recommendation is intended to avoid competition between light rail and transit.

Deputy Mayor Hall said he does not see any harm in adding it and agreed that the discussion should include both. Ms. Underwood suggested adding "transit and light rail system", under "travel time." Councilmember Winstead noted that focusing too much on transit might water down the City's light rail system. Councilmember Roberts stated that it may be better to have a statement at beginning that says the Council supports two stops in Shoreline.

The Council directed staff to take the comments and prepare the draft proposed light rail guiding principles for the Council to adopt in the future.

RECESS

At 8:10 p.m., Mayor McGlashan called for a five minute break. The meeting resumed at 8:16.

(c) Jail Services Update

Scott MacColl, Intergovernmental Program Manager, provided an update on jail services. He stated that the Snohomish County jail contract is predicted to save the City \$315,000. He noted that the police like the facility and the video court system works well. The contract with Snohomish County and King County are “no minimum” contracts, so the City pays for only the beds it uses. He explained that the market has changed a lot and King County has decided they were charging a little too much. The City of Seattle negotiated an agreement with King County and said they are only paying their proportional share and King County had to offer the same agreement to cities. The contract says the City has to stay with King County through 2020, on a space-available basis. The City will then sit at the regional table later to decide if it wants to buy into the regional jail system. He noted that the rates King County is offering are significantly lower and the City staff is looking for direction from the Council on how to respond to King County concerning a 2020 contract.

Councilmember Eggen said that it seems reasonable to maintain a presence in King County. Mr. MacColl replied that the City staff needs direction to determine if the City wants to buy into the system with either the 2020 option or the 2030 option. He added that the City staff thinks it is prudent to be at the table, but the contract would not fulfill all of the cities needs, particularly when we are saving funds through the Snohomish County contract.

Councilmember Winstead discussed travel time and said it is important to make sure the City is using officers effectively. She felt utilizing the Snohomish County facility is preferable. Councilmember Roberts confirmed that misdemeanants go to King County.

(d) Presentation of 2012 Proposed Budget

Julie Underwood, City Manager, presented the 2012 Proposed Budget. Ms. Underwood touched upon the 2012 Budget and Council Goals, the City Manager Recommendations, the 2012 Budget Highlights, the process, and the budget schedule. She noted that this budget also contains the ten (10) year financial strategy. She communicated that the budget has a new look and is \$54.7 million, balanced, and features a 35% decrease compared to the 2011 budget. She noted the operating budget totals \$36.2 million, a 1% decrease from the 2011 budget. She discussed the strategic objectives, guiding principles, and the Council Goals. She discussed the proposal to hire a City Engineer, the implementation of an Asset Management System, sidewalk projects, the purchase of GIS software, and new programs related to Healthy City, Surface Water, equipment purchases, and staffing changes. Debbie Tarry, Assistant City Manager, highlighted budget resources, expenditures, the budget process, and schedule.

Councilmember Roberts noted that previous budgets recommended less funding for ongoing maintenance on vehicles. Ms. Tarry noted that he is correct and the life of the City vehicles was extended for a year.

Deputy Mayor Hall commented that the City’s share of state-shared revenues went down due to the City failing to keep up with state average population shifts. He noted that the City has done a

good job at cutting costs and finding efficiencies. He added that economic development and new construction is struggling with decreased business revenues and sales tax.

Councilmember Winstead communicated that the moderate increase in health benefits is great. Councilmember Eggen highlighted that the City's assessed value increase is low, which is due to having a stable population. Councilmember McConnell commented on the painful staff decisions Ms. Underwood had to make.

Mayor McGlashan and the Council thanked the City staff for their work on the budget.

8. ADJOURNMENT

At 9:12 pm., Mayor McGlashan declared the meeting adjourned.

Scott Passey, City Clerk