



MONROE CITY COUNCIL

Regular Business Meeting
Tuesday, January 26, 2021, 7:00 P.M.
Zoom Online Meeting Platform

Mayor
Geoffrey Thomas

Councilmembers
*Heather Rousey, Mayor Pro Tem;
Patsy Cudaback; Kevin Hanford;
Jason Gamble, Jeff Rasmussen;
Ed Davis, & Kirk Scarboro*

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

The City Council meeting was held virtually via Zoom. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, and Proclamation 20-28 issued by Governor Jay Inslee, in-person attendance is not permitted at this time.

Mayor Thomas called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

ROLL CALL

Councilmembers present:

Rousey, Cudaback, Hanford, Davis, Gamble, Rasmussen, and Scarboro

Staff present:

Knight, Hasart, Swanson, Feilberg, Warthan, Farrell, Jolley, Haley, Criswell, Roberts, Peterson, Huebner, Christian, Klinkers, and City Attorney Lell

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Junelle Lewis (guest) and her family.

ANNOUNCEMENTS/PRESENTATIONS

Mayor Thomas proclaimed the month of February as Black History Month and read the proclamation into the record (attached).

Mayor Thomas invited Junelle Lewis and her family to sing "Lift Every Voice and Sing," the Black National Anthem, for the Council meeting.

Mayor Thomas thanked Ms. Lewis and her family for the performance and expressed how much he values the gift they gave us this evening by sharing the song "Lift Every Voice and Sing" with us.

Councilmember Hanford mentioned recognizing Ms. Lewis and her family since they marched together in June. Was nice to see them again and loved the song.

Councilmember Gamble stated this was beautiful, fantastic. He also liked their virtual background of the kids dressed up in Bear Cat ware as a Bear Cat coach himself. Stated that football players can sing and it was fantastic.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

There were no comments from the public.

CONSENT AGENDA

- 6.1. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for 01/12/2021
- 6.2. Approval of City Council Meeting Minutes for 01/19/2021
- 6.3. December Payroll Warrant Approval
- 6.4. Accounts Payable Approvals
- 6.5. AP Approval 01/26/2021



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- 6.6. Accept Project Lien Period for 154th Street Overlay Project
- 6.7. Approval and Adoption of the DRAFT 2021 CHSAB Schedule and Work Plan
- 6.8. Authorize the Mayor Pro Tempore to Sign the Interagency Agreement for Jail Services between Snohomish County and the City of Monroe
- 6.9. Resolution No. 001/2021 Establishing Parking Restrictions in the City of Monroe (Main St); Authorizing Installation of Signage
- 6.10. Approval of 2021 City Clerk Salary Scale as a 2021 Budget Amendment
- 6.11. Authorize Mayor to Sign Agreement with The Blueline Group for 2021 Annual Road Maintenance Design Services

Motion: Move to approve the consent agenda. Councilmember Scarboro moved. Councilmember Rousey seconded. Motion passed 7-0.

COUNCILMEMBER REPORTS

Councilmember Gamble gave an updated on the 01/19/2021 Finance/HR Committee meeting.

Councilmember Rousey gave an update on the 01/26/2021 P3 Committee meeting. Councilmember Rousey will be attending the Snohomish County Tomorrow on Wednesday evening. It is the annual assembly meeting.

Councilmember Cudaback thanked staff for the clean up after the recent windstorm. They did it quickly and it was greatly appreciated.

Councilmember Hanford also thanked staff for the windstorm clean up and the clean up after the associated flooding. Staff was quick to put out Road Closed signs and it was appreciated.

Councilmember Gamble mentioned the upcoming Monroe Schools Foundation (MSF) auction scheduled for March 20, 2021. This year's event will be virtual and on-line. This event supports scholarships and emergency needs funding. Can go to the MSF website to check announcements and register. MSF will try to work with local businesses to help them as well, thus Double the Difference.

STAFF/DEPARTMENT REPORTS

- 7.1. Police Report – Chief Jolley presented the report as included in the meeting packet.

Councilmember Scarboro commended the outreach team for their work and commended the administrative staff and officers for their years of service. Councilmember Scarboro inquired about the physical location regarding the thefts at a local business (inside or out back). Staff responded.

Chief Jolley updated Council regarding the incident on Highway 2 and Officer Patton. While Officer Patton was on routine patrol, he was struck from behind at a high rate of speed by a DUI driver. Washington State Patrol did the investigation and arrest. The Chief expressed thanks and gratitude that the Officer is okay and is home with his family.

Councilmember Hanford offered prayers for Officer Patton's family and also thanked everyone in the Police Department for their service.



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Councilmember Gamble also thanked everyone for their service and looks forward to when we can do a barbeque to thank the staff properly.

- 7.2. Finance Report – Ms. Hasart presented the report as included in the meeting packet.
- 7.3. Community Development Staff Report December 2020 – Mr. Criswell presented the report as included in the meeting packet.
- 7.4. Human Resources/Information Technology Report – Mr. Christian presented the report as included in the meeting packet.
- 7.5. Parks Department Report – Mr. Farrell presented the report as included in the meeting packet.
- 7.6. January 2021 Economic Development Report – Ms. Knight presented the newsletter as included in the meeting packet. Presented Economic Regional Demand Analysis was presented to Economic Development Advisory Board and the Planning Commission. This will come to Council on February 16th. Mr. James Palmer is working with Lowes regarding the current land covenants on the North Kelsey site. Ms. Knight informed Council that the Choose Monroe magazine will be distributed in April instead of May this year. Also have new banners provided by CARES Act funding installed throughout town.

MAYOR/ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

City Administrator Update. Ms. Knight reviewed the extended agenda as presented in the meeting packet. Ms. Knight mentioned the need for an alternate to serve on the SCT Steering Committee. Councilmember Gamble volunteered. There was no objection from Council.

Ms. Knight gave a legislative update to include efforts associated with parks funding (HB1025/SB5006 voter approved sales tax), public safety bills (HB1202, HB1203, and HB10540), and transportation (hearing for Senator Hobbs proposed package), of which the hearing is scheduled for Thursday morning, January 28th. Ms. Knight invited Chief Jolley to provide additional information on the various public safety bills. Chief Jolley began by mentioning that most in Public Safety support appropriate reforms and always welcomes the change to better ourselves and our processes. But also concerned about the rush to change things and the restrictions to being able to adequately provide safety to our constituents.

Chief Jolley mentioned the removal of qualified immunity for officers proposed in HB1202, which is something rarely used in the Ninth Circuit. This would heavily weight plaintiff cases and place liability on cities, which could cause potential fiscal hardship on cities. Insurance authorities are watching this bill closely also.

Chief Jolley mentioned the mandate in HB1203 regarding an oversight board that would be appointed by Council and what responsibilities would be exercised by the oversight board, including those regarding ongoing investigations. There is concern about how this could potentially affect investigations and the safeguarding of evidence. Also of concern is that this bill prescribes five percent of the police budget be used to fund the board, which takes money and responsibility from the City's operations.

Chief Jolley discussed HB1054 and mentioned this bill has generated the most discussion among law enforcement. It mandates the tactics and equipment that may be used by law enforcement. Chief Jolley highlighted that Section 3 eliminates the ability to use police K9 units. Chief Jolley expressed concern that the sections of HB1054 do not seem to be supported by scientific research or do not seem



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to be issues faced on the west coast of the country. Seems very random and would eliminate local concern on how a police department manages tactics and provide services. Chief Jolley gave specific examples on how the various sections of HB1054 do not apply to the Monroe Police Department. This bill could eliminate some non-lethal tools that public safety can use, thus creating concern among the public safety community. There are bills that public safety supports and Chief Jolley expressed that the public safety community would like to work together to craft legislation that better reflects the community's needs.

Councilmember Cudaback asked about HB1203 – how is the board chosen. Chief Jolley responded that he has researched this and currently there is nothing to indicate how that will be done.

Mayor Thomas inquired about the timing of testimony for these bills and mentioned this was a topic of discussion at the recent Mayors' meeting. The Mayors' group is working on a presentation to that group on the public safety bills, possibly for later this week or early next week. This would help the group understand what should be supported. Chief Jolley responded that sometimes there is not a lot of notice for public testimony; this is fluid. There are over 65 potential bills.

Mayor Thomas mentioned he thinks it would be good to know when comments need to be made on these bills and asked about when the next Monroe Legislative Committee meeting is scheduled, which is February 9, 2021 at 6:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Councilmember Hanford concurred with the Chief's concerns. Councilmember Cudaback agreed with the Mayor in that she would like more information and time to understand the various public safety bills before she could decide on whether she could support these. Councilmember Cudaback appreciated the Chief's concerns but would like more time to understand the issues before Council votes or comes to a consensus on these bills.

Mayor Thomas asked Ms. Knight to provide information to the Council prior to next week, where this issue can be discussed at the February 2, 2021 Council meeting. Mayor Thomas expressed there is a lot to understand and a lot that is intended to help with reform/a lot of opportunities being presented. It is good to understand what the bills address and how that relates to evidence-based support. Would also help to know which of these bills are most likely to move forward and may need public comment from the Council. These same issues were addressed at the Mayors' meeting.

Councilmember Scarboro inquired if anyone thought if the number of bills moving forward so rapidly has to do with conducting legislative business remotely. Mayor Thomas responded that he feels it is more in response to events over the last year and that a remote environment has facilitated the ability to meet with legislators more easily.

Councilmember Rousey expressed appreciation for the summary regarding the public safety bills and looks forward to receiving more information. These bills are alarming and if they pass through committee, the City should have statements ready to comment on them.

Mayor Thomas reiterated this issue will be on the agenda for the February 2, 2021 Council meeting and thanked everyone for their thoughtfulness regarding this issue and thanked staff, specifically Ms. Knight, Chief Jolley, and Trevor Justin for working together to bring this information forward.

Mayor Thomas mentioned that transportation was also discussed at the Mayors' meeting. Discussion ensued regarding the pause to transportation projects, specifically to the I-5 project. The concern was



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the decrease in transportation capital revenues due to more people working from home or those that may no longer be working due to the pandemic. The loss of revenue is causing changes on what projects can be done. While some changes don't affect our region directly, Mayor Thomas wanted to inform Council these discussions are happening.

Mayor's Report. Mayor Thomas mentioned again his meeting with the Mayors' group and the law enforcement bills were a topic of discussion. The group is compiling more information for later this week so they can formulate their position and provide information to their respective Councils. The Mayor's group also discussed the pause in transportation projects already mentioned tonight. Mayor Thomas will meet with Representative Del Bene later this week. Discussion will include COVID and recovery, vaccines, and Highway 2 and local transportation issues. Mayor Thomas invited Council to let him know if there are other federal level issues they would like him to address.

Mayor Thomas invited Mr. Feilberg to give an Emergency Management update. Mr. Feilberg informed there is a wind advisory for Tuesday evening, shared the Roadmap to Recovery as provided in the Council packet, and provided an update on the County's vaccination efforts. Councilmember Cudaback asked about number of vaccines received. Mr. Feilberg responded.

EXECUTIVE SESSION

Mayor Thomas noted the need for an executive session and provided the following information:

The City Council will convene an executive session for the purpose of discussing the pricing of property pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(c), property acquisition pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(b), and potential litigation with legal counsel pursuant to RCW 42.30.110(1)(i) for 5 minutes. The Mayor will notify the Interim City Clerk (Ms. Hasart) if the executive session has been extended; and the Interim City Clerk will notify the public. Council is anticipated to take action following the executive session. For purposes of the executive session, the Council will leave the current, publicly accessible Zoom meeting and will join a new Zoom meeting, for which the dial-in information has been separately provided to the Council Members.

The Council meeting was recessed to executive session at 8:19 p.m. for 5 minutes.

At 8:24 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:30 p.m.
At 8:30 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:32 p.m.
At 8:32 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:33 p.m.
At 8:33 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:34 p.m.
At 8:34 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:36 p.m.
At 8:36 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:37 p.m.
At 8:37 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:39 p.m.
At 8:39 p.m. the executive session was extended to 8:41 p.m.

The executive session ended at 8:41 p.m.

The Council meeting reconvened to regular session at 8:42 p.m.

Councilmember Rasmussen exited the meeting before the executive session and did not return.



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ADJOURNMENT

Motion: Move to adjourn. Councilmember Scarboro moved. Councilmember Davis seconded. Motion passed 6-0.

MEETING ADJOURNED: 8:43 p.m.

Geoffrey Thomas (Feb 10, 2021 16:22 PST)

Geoffrey Thomas, Mayor

Rabecca R. Hasart, Interim City Clerk









MCC Minutes 01-26-2021

Final Audit Report

2021-02-11

Created:	2021-02-10
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